

# Informed Consent Form for Acupuncture Treatment

Please read the following and note that if you sign below it indicates that you have read and understood this document and that you are aware of the risks associated with receiving treatment.

**Acupuncture includes a number of other types of treatment:** I hereby request and consent to Dr. Danielle Baert, Registered Acupuncturist, performing acupuncture and any additional treatment procedures that are within the scope of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) upon me. These additional TCM procedures may include acupuncture with or without electrical stimulation, moxibustion, fire cupping, gua sha (skin scraping), tui na (Chinese medical massage), prick to bleed technique, plum blossom needling, and the prescription of traditional Chinese herbal medicine. I wish to rely upon the professional judgement of Dr. Baert in choosing which treatment procedures are in my best interests, based upon the facts known about me at the time. I understand that as with any type of health care treatment, results are variable and are not guaranteed.

**Risks of acupuncture:** I understand that there are some common minor risks inherent to treatment with acupuncture, but not limited to, slight bleeding, light bruising, and some local discomfort including aching or an electrical shooting sensation at the location of the needle. There are also less common risks which include fainting, temporary local numbness, local infection, and bent or stuck needles. Unusual risks of treatment are nerve damage, organ perforation, pneumothorax (puncture of the lung), or a broken needle embedded in tissue. I understand that if I move during the treatment that I increase the possibility that these risks may occur.

**Risks of the other types of treatment listed above:** I am aware that should Dr. Baert suggest keeping acupuncture needles in my scalp for up to 72 hours after insertion that, though rare, there is a remote risk of possible infection, bent or broken needle. During moxibustion, it is possible for ash to fall on the skin which may cause a burning sensation or if you move while you are resting it could cause you to get burned, in which case you may be left with a permanent scar. Fire cupping can cause temporary dark bruising and sometimes blistering and because fire is being used to create the suction, an accidental burn is possible. Fire cupping, gua sha, bloodletting, and plum blossom needling can all cause temporary red marks or bruising that typically go away in 3 to 5 days, but may take longer depending upon the person.

**Pregnancy:** I understand that I must advise Dr. Baert if I become pregnant or think I could be pregnant as certain treatment methods are contraindicated during pregnancy.

**Pacemaker:** I understand that I must inform Dr. Baert if I have a pacemaker because acupuncture with electrical stimulation is contraindicated.

**Confidentiality:** I understand that all information collected about me is kept confidential and will not be released without my written consent.

**See your Western Physician too:** I understand that any treatment given by Dr. Baert is not a substitute for regular care with my family physician and that if Dr. Baert specifically recommends for me to seek follow-up care with my family physician for a particular symptom or condition, that it is my responsibility to do so and that Dr. Baert has the right to refuse further treatment until I do.

**Consent is also for future treatment:** I have read, or had read to me, this consent form and I understand that signing it indicates that I intend for my consent to extend for the entire course of treatment for my present condition as well as for any future condition for which I seek out treatment with Dr. Baert.

**Right to refuse treatment at any time:** I am aware that despite having signed this form that I have the right to refuse treatment and withdraw consent at any time.

You must read this document before signing it.

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Patient Name	Patient Signature	Date signed
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Guardian/Parent's Name (only sign here if patient is under 18 years old)	Guardian/Parent's Signature	Date signed
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