

### Medical Acupuncture Consent Form

Medical acupuncture involves insertion of fine, solid stainless steel acupuncture needles into the skin at specific points on the body to achieve a therapeutic effect. No drugs are injected; the needles alone create the beneficial effects of acupuncture. Once placed, the needles may be left in place for 15-30 minutes.

Medical acupuncture is a valuable treatment for general health, injury rehabilitation and chronic pain. Like any medical procedure, there are possible complications:

- Anytime a needle is used there is a risk of infection. Because we only use new, disposable sterile needles, infection is rare.
- A needle may be placed inadvertently in a small blood vessel and there is risk of bruising. This is primarily a cosmetic complication but can sometimes cause tenderness for a few days to that site.
- A needle may also be inadvertently placed in a nerve, which may cause paraesthesias (a prickling sensation). This may continue for days then resolve spontaneously.
- When a needle is placed close to the chest wall, there is rare possibility of a pneumothorax (air in the chest cavity).
- Due to heightened sensitivity of the nervous system with medical acupuncture, one might feel faint or dizzy during treatment. Although this feeling is transient, fainting is possible and fatigue may accompany or follow the treatment.

Fortunately none of these complications are fatal and all are readily reversible. While these complications are rare in occurrence, they are real and must be considered prior to consenting to the treatment.

Please note:

- You may be requested to wear a gown or shorts to adequately expose an area for examination and treatment.
- Clients are required to inform their physiotherapist of conditions such as pregnancy, pace makers, haemophilia or use of blood thinners prior to treatment.

I have read the above, understand the risks involved, and consent to medical acupuncture treatment.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_