

Title 10

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Subtitle 26 BOARD OF ACUPUNCTURE

10.26.01 Fee Schedule

Authority: Corporations and Associations Article, §§5-101—5-131; Health Occupations Article, §§1A-205, 1A-206, and 1A-302; Annotated Code of Maryland

10.26.01 (downloaded 10-11-24)

.03 Fees.

The following fees are established by the Board:

A.—I. (text unchanged)

J. Acupoint injection therapy specialist one-time registration fee — \$100;

[J.] K.—[N.] O. (text unchanged)

10.26.02 General Regulations

Authority: Health Occupations Article, §§1-211, 1A-205, 1A-101, 1A-301; Annotated Code of Maryland

10.26.02 (downloaded 6-17-24)

.02 Definitions.

A. (text unchanged)

B. Terms Defined.

(1) (text unchanged)

(2) “Acupoint injection therapy” means a form of acupuncture that stimulates acupuncture points by subcutaneous, intramuscular, and intradermal injection with approved sterile substances, specifically manufactured for non-intravenous injection.

[(2)] (3)—[(10)] (11) (text unchanged)

.08 Acupoint Injection Therapy.

A. Registration. To obtain the required registration from the Board as qualified to practice acupoint injection therapy, an applicant shall:

(1) Possess an active license in good standing to practice acupuncture and East Asian medicine in Maryland;

(2) Successfully complete an NCCAOM, or other appropriate accreditation body endorsed specialty training program in acupoint injection therapy that consists of 60-hours including:

(a) A minimum of 40-hours of theoretical training in the required topics;

(b) A minimum of 20-hours of live face-to-face clinical practical experience; and

(c) Instruction that meets the requirements of §C of this regulation;

(3) Possess a current certification by the American Heart Association or approved affiliate in basic life support;

(4) Hold a current Clean Needle Technique Certificate through:

(a) CCAHM; or

(b) NCCAOM;

(5) If licensed in Maryland for less than 2 years, possess a valid license in good standing to practice acupuncture and East Asian medicine, in any state, for at least 2 years before applying to perform acupoint injection therapy in Maryland;

(6) Complete and submit an application provided by the Board; and

(7) Pay the registration fee as set forth under COMAR 10.26.01.03.

B. The Board shall accept the documentation from a licensee that has completed the training required to perform acupoint injection therapy prior to the effective date of this regulation if the:

(1) Licensee provides a certificate, or other valid documentation, confirming successful completion of 60-hours of AIT training that complies with this regulation; or

(2) Previously completed training does not meet the requirements of this regulation, but the licensee provides documentation of completed supplemental training that, together with the initial training, fulfills the coursework requirements of §C of this regulation.

C. Training Program Curriculum. The curriculum for the acupoint injection therapy program shall include:

(1) History and development of acupuncture injection therapy;

(2) Differential diagnosis;

(3) Definitions, concepts, and pathophysiology;

(4) The nature, function, channels entered, and contraindications of the substances in §F(2) of this regulation;

(5) Diseases amenable to treatment with acupuncture injection therapy and the substances appropriate to treat them;

(6) Identification of appropriate points for treatment, including palpatory diagnosis;

(7) A review of physical examination, anatomy and referral zones;

(8) Universal precautions including management of blood borne pathogens and hazardous waste;

(9) Procedures for injections, including preparing the substances, contraindications, and precautions;

(10) 20-hours of clinical practice on a patient or patients;

(11) Administration techniques and equipment required;

(12) Administration of the prepackaged substances authorized for acupoint injection therapy, including aseptic technique, recordkeeping and storage of substances prepared and authorized for use in acupoint injection therapy;

(13) Safety and emergency procedures; and

(14) 2 hours of training in the use of intramuscular epinephrine and emergency oxygen to count toward the required theoretical and clinical training hours.

D. In addition to the requirements of NCCAOM, or other appropriate accreditation body, an instructor for acupoint injection therapy shall:

(1) Meet the training requirements set forth under §C of this regulation;

(2) Be a licensed practitioner in acupuncture in good standing and registered to practice acupoint injection therapy;

(3) Possess at least 5 years of experience in the practice of acupuncture that includes acupoint injection therapy;

(4) Retain proof of compliance as set forth under this section for as long as training is provided; and

(5) Provide proof of compliance to the Board upon request.

E. All training programs shall provide each successful student with:

(1) A certificate of successful completion of the program;

(2) A course syllabus outlining the schedule and curriculum of the program; and

(3) The testing requirements and performance measure for successful completion.

F. Practice. To practice acupoint injection therapy, the licensed acupuncturist:

(1) Shall:

(a) Possess a registration for acupoint injection therapy from the Board;

- (b) Explain acupoint injection therapy to the patient in advance of treatment;*
- (c) Obtain written informed consent specific to acupoint injection therapy that shall be included in the patient's medical record;*
- (d) Only perform subcutaneous, intradermal, or intramuscular injection in accordance with the principles of acupuncture;*
- (e) Have an adverse event or emergency plan in place for allergic reactions to injected substances;*
- (f) Maintain professional liability coverage for this procedure; and*
- (g) Only use prepackaged and sterile acupoint injectable therapeutic substances that are:*
 - (i) Acquired from an appropriately licensed entity in compliance with federal and state law; and*
 - (ii) Stored securely and in accordance with manufacturer's specifications;*
- (2) May only use the following listed therapeutic substances for acupoint injection therapy and for which they have been trained:*
 - (a) Sterile and bacteriostatic water;*
 - (b) Saline solution;*
 - (c) Alkalizing agents such as sodium bicarbonate;*
 - (d) Nutritional or dietary substances which include:*
 - (i) Vitamins and minerals, such as B-12, B-complex, C, cyanocobalamin, hydroxocobalamin, and methylcobalamin;*
 - (ii) Proteins, enzymes, and amino acids, such as methionine, choline, inositol, and glutathione; and*
 - (iii) Sugars, such as dextrose and glucose.*

(e) Ozone;

(f) Procaine and lidocaine;

(g) Natural substances which include:

(i) Herbal and botanical extracts, such as astragalus and Sarapin;

(ii) Biological products, such as hyaluronic acid and epinephrine; and

(iii) Homeopathic substances, such as Traumeel and Zeel;

(3) May not:

(a) Administer substances other than those specified under §F(2) of this regulation and for which the licensed acupuncturist has not been appropriately trained in accordance with this regulation;

(b) Give an injectable substance to a patient for self-injection; or

(c) Administer intravenous injections.

G. The Board shall maintain a list of all:

(1) Licensed acupuncturists registered by the Board as qualified to practice acupoint injection therapy; and

(2) Acupoint injection therapy training programs endorsed by the NCCAOM, or other appropriate accreditation body updated at least annually.

H. On or after the effective date of this regulation, unless the person is registered by the Board as qualified to practice acupoint injection therapy, an individual may not:

(1) Represent to the public that the individual is an acupoint injection therapy registered acupuncturist; and

(2) Practice acupoint injection therapy.

I. Violation of this regulation constitutes unprofessional conduct and may result in disciplinary action as set forth in Health Occupations Article, §4-315, Annotated Code of Maryland.