



COLLEGE OF
ACUPUNCTURISTS
OF ALBERTA

Notice to Members – One-on-one Restriction Update and Guidelines

March 26, 2021

Dear members,

The College of Acupuncturists of Alberta (CAA) has received several inquiries regarding the one-on-one service restriction. The one-on-one service restriction was issued in December 2020 as a recommended practice measure to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Since then, the Government of Alberta has been easing restrictions gradually and have moved into Step 2 of A Path Forward. As such, the CAA reexamined the guidelines and would accept seeing patients in separate treatment rooms as one-on-one care. Acupuncturists must be cautious about the risk that is created when there are more patients present in the clinic, such as when running more than one treatment room at a time. All of the restrictions outlined by the CMOH orders are applicable and must be adhered to. In addition, the following requirements must be met:

- Community style or group acupuncture is not considered as one-on-one service and hence is **not** permitted at this time.
- Seeing only one patient at a time is highly recommended.
- Acupuncturists must review and comply with the [CAA Guidelines regarding Reopening of Acupuncture Clinic](#) (the Reopening Guidelines) if they wish to run more than one treatment rooms at a time. Requirements of the Reopening Guidelines include, but are not limited to:
 - Practice Alberta Health Services 4 Moments of Hand Hygiene;
 - Conduct patient screening at the time of booking and again in-person before entering the clinic;
 - Perform thorough cleaning and disinfection, including cleaning and disinfection of the treatment room after each patient visit;
 - Use appropriate PPE at all times, including the continuous use of a surgical/procedure mask and the recommended use of eye protection;
 - Practice physical distancing whenever possible;
 - Complete the Fit for Work Screening Questionnaire prior to attending work; and
 - Establish a clearly defined COVID-19 prevention protocols and policies.
- Appointments must be staggered to minimize contact and traffic in the clinic.
- Running more than one treatment room at a time increases traffic in the clinic and therefore may increase risk of exposure. Acupuncturists who run more than one treatment room at a

time must have robust Covid-19 infection and prevention control protocols in place to mitigate such risk. The protocol must clearly define the duties and responsibilities for each individual/role working in the clinic.