

Performance of Restricted Activities

Standard

The **regulated members**¹ of the College of Acupuncturists of Alberta perform only **those restricted activities** that they are authorized and competent to perform, within the context of acupuncture practice, in compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements.

Regulated members may perform the restricted activities of cutting a body tissue or performing other invasive procedures on body tissue below the dermis or mucous membrane for the purposes of practising acupuncture.

A student who is enrolled in an approved acupuncture education program and in the course of that program is receiving training in the performance of a restricted activity, is permitted to perform the restricted activity under the supervision of a regulated member who:

- (a) has consented to supervise the performance of the restricted activity,
- (b) is competent and authorized to perform the restricted activity being supervised, and
- (c) is not prohibited from supervising the restricted activity.

Expected Outcome

Patients will receive safe and effective acupuncture services from regulated members who are authorized and competent to perform restricted activities.

Definitions

(for the purpose of this standard)

Direct Supervision means that the regulated member providing supervision is physically present at the point of care, observing and directing when students provide care, services, or perform restricted activities.

Indirect Supervision means that the regulated member providing supervision is onsite at the clinic, available for consultation, and provides assistance when needed, but is not required to be physically present at the point of care.

Informed consent refers to obtaining permission from a patient, based on reasonable disclosure by the regulated member and understanding by the patient, of the facts, risks and alternatives, to use identified intervention procedures.

Patients are recipients of acupuncture services, and may be individuals, families, groups, organizations, communities, or populations. In some circumstances, patients may be represented by their substitute decision-makers.

Regulated member means an individual registered on the general, provisional, or courtesy register with the College of Acupuncturists of Alberta.

Restricted activity means a high-risk activity listed in section 1.3 of the *Health Professions Act*.

Performance Expectations

Regulated members must:

- Perform restricted activities that they are competent and authorized to perform, and comply with all relevant provincial legislation and regulatory requirements.
- Only perform restricted activities that are appropriate to the regulated member's area of practice and the procedures being performed.
- Refrain from doing any restricted activities that they are not fully competent to perform, despite any authorization to do so.

¹ Words in the Definitions are **bolded** the first time they appear in this Standard.

- Maintain the competence necessary to perform restricted activities relevant to their practice.
- Be responsible and accountable for safely performing restricted activities relevant to their practice.
- Only supervise those restricted activities that they are competent and authorized to perform.
- Supervise restricted activities in accordance with all relevant provincial legislation and regulatory requirements.
- Assess the risks and benefits associated with the restricted activity, communicate these to the patient, and obtain the patient's **informed consent** before initiating care, service, and/or performing restricted activities.
- Ensure that a risk management and emergency plan is in place to address any adverse events associated with the application of restricted activities.
- Inform the Registrar of any restricted activity that they are not authorized to perform according to relevant provincial legislation and are performing under the authority and supervision of another regulated health professional.

Regulated members in an educator role must:

- Ensure that students only provide care, services, and/or restricted activities within the scope of their training, competency, and proficiency.
- Employ **direct supervision** or **indirect supervision** that is consistent with students' training and competency.