

Standard

The **regulated members**¹ of the College of Acupuncturists of Alberta (College) abstain from procuring or performing **female genital mutilation**.

A **regulated member**'s duty to report in accordance with the *Health Professions Act* and this Standard in no way affects any other reporting requirements they may have under legislation such as the *Youth and Family Enhancement Act*.

Expected Outcome

Patients can expect that their rights to life, physical integrity, and health are respected, and they will receive professional and ethical care from **regulated members** that comply with applicable legislation and regulatory requirements.

Definitions

(for the purpose of this standard)

Female Genital Mutilation means the excision, infibulation, or mutilation, in whole or in part, of the labia majora, labia minora, clitoral hood or clitoris of a person, except where valid consent is given, and

- (i) a surgical or other procedure is performed by a regulated member of a College under the *Health Professions Act* for the benefit of the physical health of the person or for the purpose of that person having normal reproductive functions or normal sexual appearance or function, or
- (ii) the person is at least 18 years of age and there is no resulting bodily harm.

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.

Performance Expectations

Regulated members must:

- Abstain from procuring or performing **female genital mutilation**.
- Report to the College, or other applicable regulatory authorities, if they have reasonable grounds to believe that another regulated member of any college has procured or performed **female genital mutilation**.

Resources

- [Child, Youth and Family Enhancement Act](#)

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