Dora NEWSLETTER
Department of Regulatory Agencies
Division of Registrations
November 2009

OFFICE OF ACUPUNCTURE LICENSURE

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor
Greg Ferland
Acting Executive Director
Cindy Klyn
Program Director

USE OF TITLES

A licensed acupuncturist may use the title "Licensed Acupuncturist", or "diplomate of acupuncture" or use the designation "L.Ac.", or "Dipl.Ac." If a licensed acupuncturist has been awarded a doctorate degree from an acupuncture or oriental medicine academic or educational institution, they may use the title "Dr." or "Doctor" only when accompanied by the words "Doctor of Acupuncture" or letters "D.Ac."; "Oriental Medicine Doctor" or letters "OMD"; "Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine" or letters "D.Ac.OM"; "Doctor of Traditional Chinese Medicine" or letters "DTCM"; "Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine" or letters "DAOM".

INACTIVE LICENSE

When an acupuncturist moves their license to inactive status, they are no longer allowed to treat patients. The acupuncturist must submit a reactivation application, fee, mandatory disclosure statement, and proof of malpractice insurance to move their license back to active status. The license must be active before any patient treatment occurs.

PERSON IN TRAINING

The Acupuncturists Practice Act, section 12-29.5-105(2), C.R.S. states that a person in training may practice acupuncture without a license if the training is part of a bona fide training program. Rule 4 requires this training program to be a training or apprenticeship program with an accredited school of acupuncture. The training must be under the direct, on-site supervision of the licensed acupuncturist in the same building where the person in training is practicing. The supervising acupuncturist is responsible for maintaining documentation of when the bona fide training program began and for ensuring that within 30 days, the name and current address of the supervised person in training and the training termination date are reported to the Office of Acupuncture Licensure in writing.

Inside This Issue... On Page ...

Mandatory Disclosure Statements	2
Renewal Information	2
Complaints and Discipline	3

Have You Moved Lately?

It is imperative that all licensees keep their mailing address updated with the Office of Acupuncture Licensure.

The office mails renewal information to the licensee at the last address furnished to the Office of Acupuncture Licensure.

Failure to receive such a renewal notice does not relieve the licensee of the obligation to submit a timely renewal.

You may update your mailing address at https://www.doradls.state.co.us/

Contact us:

Office of Acupuncture Licensure
1560 Broadway, Suite 1350
Denver, Colorado 80202

http://www.dora.state.co.us/acupuncturists

For more information contact:
Cindy Klyn
Program Director
Tel.: 303.894.7898
Email:
cindy.klyn@dora.state.co.us

You may also contact:
Vaña Montgomery
Administrative Assistant
Tel.: 303.894.7429
Email:
vana.montgomery@dora.state.co.us

Consumer Protection

Consumer protection is our mission

AFFIDAVIT OF ELIGIBILITY

Effective January 1, 2007, all applicants requesting original license, renewal of an active license, or reinstatement of a lapsed license must complete and sign the Affidavit of Eligibility Form.

No license can or will be issued without this form.

The good news is that you can complete this form online when you use Registrations Online Services!

You must possess at least one secure and verifiable document and include information about that document on the Affidavit itself (or provide the information during online renewal).

The list of secure and verifiable documents is available to you when you renew online.

We also have a web page where you can read the law, look at the Affidavit, and see the list of acceptable documents.

www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/Affidavit.htm

NICKNAMES

The Office of Acupuncture Licensure requires that applicants be licensed in their legal name. When you use a nickname in your practice, your clients may be misinformed into thinking that you are unlicensed because they are unable to find your license in the Automated Licensure Information System Online (ALISON) under your nickname.

MANDATORY DISCLOSURE STATEMENTS

Acupuncturists are required to provide each patient with a copy of their mandatory disclosure statement during the initial patient contact. This form must be signed and dated by the patient during the original visit. The mandatory disclosure statement shall be retained by the acupuncturist from the time of the initial evaluation until at least three years after the termination of treatment.

A current mandatory disclosure statement must be on file with the Office of Acupuncture Licensure at all times. When there is a change in the information on the mandatory disclosure statement, the mandatory disclosure statement shall be updated within five days of said change and submitted to the Office of Acupuncture Licensure by mail, fax or email.

RULEMAKING

The Office of Acupuncture Licensure went through rulemaking this year. The rules were updated and rules added regarding reporting of convictions and other adverse actions, and the director's review of initial decisions. Notices of rulemaking along with the proposed changes are posted on the website during the rulemaking process at www.dora.state.co.us/acupuncturists. The new rules were effective October 1, 2009 and are posted on the website. Please visit the website and review the changes.

UPCOMING RENEWALS

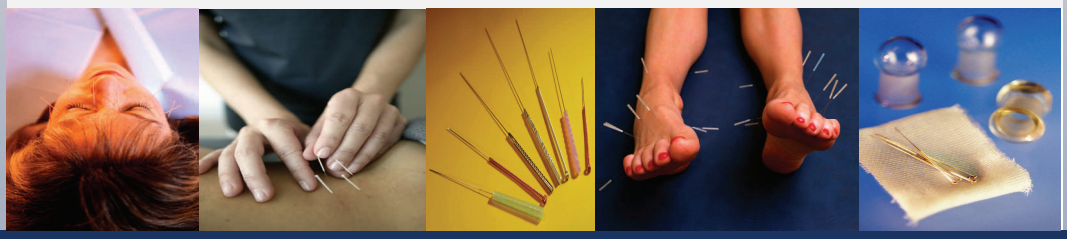
Licenses are set to expire on December 31, 2009

Please renew your license online using Registrations Online Services. Renewals are generally made available 6 to 8 weeks prior to the license expiration date. Please make sure you complete your renewal prior to December 31, 2009. There is a 60-day grace period after the December 31st deadline. Any license not renewed prior to February 28, 2010 will be considered lapsed. Once a license is in lapsed status, a reinstatement application must be filled out and additional fees must be paid.

This renewal period you will receive a yellow **RENEWAL NOTICE POSTCARD.** There is no personal information on this postcard (other than your name, address and license number). This is the only notice you will receive. Let other people in your household know that this yellow postcard is not junk mail!

You can pay your renewal fee using a credit card, debit card or a prepaid credit card.

Acupuncturists Renewal 2009 click here.



SELF REPORT

When you receive a felony conviction or pled guilty or nolo contendere to a felony the information needs to be reported to this office. Include a copy of the court documents along with your license information.

If your acupuncture license is disciplined in another state, you need to self-report to this office. Include a copy of the disciplinary document along with your licensure information in Colorado.

All documents should be sent to: The Office of Acupuncture Licensure, 1560 Broadway, Suite 1350, Denver, CO 80202.

COMPLAINTS AND DISCIPLINE

Between October 2007 and August 2009, 27 new complaints were filed against acupuncturists in Colorado. The allegations include improper supervision of unlicensed person, no insurance, practicing on an inactive license, unsanitary conditions, dirty needles, injury to patient, improper needle disposal, sexual contact, unlicensed practice, practicing beyond the scope, insurance fraud, patient abandonment, and improper use of titles. In the period from October 2007 through August 2009, 3 Cease and Desist Orders, 1 Letter of Admonition, 1 Voluntary Surrender, and 1 Stipulation were issued. 17 complaints were dismissed. Six complaints are still open. The following licensees were disciplined since last years newsletter was issued:

Licensee's Name	Date	Conduct	Disciplinary Sanction
Hibbert, Dove	09/24/08	Unlicensed practice; improper supervision of unlicensed person	Cease and Desist
Kwon, Oh Chang	10/25/07	Insurance fraud; practicing beyond the scope; patient abandonment	Voluntary Surrender
Renna, Joanne	10/12/07	Improper disposal of needle	Letter of Admonition
Woduik, Heidi	08/18/08	Unlicensed practice	Cease and Desist
Wu, Helin	05/21/08	Practicing on expired license	Cease and Desist
Wu, Helin	10/23/08	Failure to provide mandatory disclosure statement	Stipulation

If you are interested in viewing the disciplinary action documents, please visit Registrations Online Documents (ROD), found at www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/ROD.htm.

REGISTRATIONS ONLINE DOCUMENTS

The Department of Regulatory Agencies' **Registrations Online Documents (ROD), found at:**

www.dora.state.co.us/registrations/ROD.htm

ROD is a website that allows the consumer to view images of scanned disciplinary documents through the Internet. In reviewing a licensee's information, it is important to know what is and is not available from the agency about Colorado licensees.

The following information WOULD appear on a record under Board or Program Actions if applicable to the licensee:

1. If a licensee had been disciplined or formally accused of wrongdoing by the Board or Program.
2. If the Board or Program has taken some other non-disciplinary action against the licensee that restricts or limits the individual's license.

Board/Program Action Documents available via Registrations Online Documents (ROD)

- All **Stipulations, Final Agency Orders**, and **Suspensions** that were in effect in February 2000 plus any that became effective since that date. Child support suspensions are not available online but may be obtained by contacting the appropriate Board.
- Any document **Revoking** or agreeing to a **Voluntary Relinquishment/Surrender** of license or registration, **Cease and Desist Orders** and **Letters of Admonition** from January 1, 1999 to the present.
- All **Injunctions.**
- All **Notice of Charges** or **Formal Complaints**, if the information is a public record, for cases that were pending hearing as of February 2000.
- **Jury verdicts** against a physician or physician assistant in a civil medical liability trial that occurred after August 3, 2004.