

MOST COMMON ACUPUNCTURE BOARD VIOLATIONS LEADING TO ENFORCEMENT VIOLATIONS

The following are the most frequent violations in rank order based upon the incidence of complaints received that have resulted in administrative citations or disciplinary actions. Please refer to the [Laws and Regulations Relating to the Practice of Acupuncture](#) for all requirements.

1. CONVICTIONS AND ARRESTS:

- Multiple DUIs
- Sexual battery or assault
- Insurance or health care fraud

2. UNLAWFUL PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE:

- Delinquent or cancelled licensees still in practice
- Advertising acupuncture or specialist without a valid license
- Dry needling or acupuncture performed by unlicensed individuals
- An unlicensed individual owning all or part of an Acupuncture Professional Corporation

3. FAILURE TO REGISTER AN ADDRESS CHANGE:

- Moved residence without notifying the board
- Moved practice without notifying the board

4. UNREGISTERED PRACTICE LOCATION/DISPLAY OF LICENSE:

- Failure to register one or all practice locations
- Failure to properly display wall license

5. NEGLIGENCE/INCOMPETENCE:

- Failure to remove needles from patient after treatment

- Caused adverse reaction (burns, bruising, etc.)
- Practicing beyond scope of practice
- Needling through clothing

6. MALPRACTICE SETTLEMENTS:

- Pneumothorax
- Burns/blisters

7. SEXUAL MISCONDUCT:

- Inappropriate touching
- Romantic relationship with a patient
- Exposing or treating patient body parts without establishing consent

8. FAILURE TO FOLLOW INFECTION CONTROL:

- Improper disposal of needles
- Failure to sterilize instruments
- Unclean and unsanitary conditions

9. DISCIPLINE BY PUBLIC AGENCY:

- Revocation or probation of other healing arts license (in-state and out-of-state)

10. FAILURE TO NOTIFY BOARD OF FALSE/ASSUMED NAME:

- Use of nickname or AKA different from licensed name without notifying the board

Please note, this material is for informational purposes only, is general in nature, and is not intended to and should not be relied upon or construed as legal advice regarding any specific issue or factual circumstance.



1625 North Market Blvd., Suite N-219
Sacramento, CA 95834
P (916) 515-5200
F (916) 928-2204
www.acupuncture.ca.gov