



Circle of One ♦ 501c3 Holistic Healing Center ♦ www.circleofone.org

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Dear insurance provider:

This is to inform you that your client has come to me seeking acupuncture treatment. Acupuncture is a legitimate medical treatment, recognized by the *National Institute of Health* and the *World Health Organization*.

You may not be aware that the *Code of the Commonwealth of Virginia* mandates that any insurance carrier which includes acupuncture as a covered service must pay for any class of provider licensed by the state to deliver this service.

The *Code of Virginia* reads as follows:

&& 38.2-3408. Policy providing for reimbursement for services that may be performed by certain practitioners other than physicians.

- A. If an accident or sickness insurance policy provides reimbursement for any service that may be legally performed by a person licensed in this Commonwealth as a chiropractor, optometrist,....., certified nurse midwife, or licensed acupuncturist, reimbursement under the policy shall not be denied because the service is rendered by the licensed practitioner.
- B. This section shall not apply to Medicaid, or any state fund.

&38.2-4221. Services of certain practitioners other than physicians to be covered.

A non-stock corporation shall not fail or refuse, either directly or indirectly, to allow or to pay to a subscriber for all or any part of the health services rendered by any doctor of podiatry, doctor of chiropractic,...., or acupuncturist licensed to practice in Virginia, if the services rendered (i) are services provided for by the subscription contract and (ii) are services which the doctor of podiatry, doctor of chiropractic,...., or acupuncturist is licensed to render in this Commonwealth.

Licensed Acupuncturists in Virginia are licensed by the Virginia Board of Medicine and must pass the national board exam administered by the *National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine* (NCCAOM). Their education must consist of a minimum of 1725 hours, 1000 of which must be didactic and 500 of which must be clinical. By comparison, physicians and chiropractors are not required to pass the national boards and can practice acupuncture in Virginia with only 200 hours of training. Therefore, aside from the legal requirement to cover acupuncture services provided by licensed acupuncturists, your client will be receiving acupuncture from a more qualified practitioner. In addition, the fees charged by L.Ac.'s are often less than those charged by M.D.'s for similar services. Covering services provided by L.Ac.'s will serve your bottom line.

I do hope you will take the above information under consideration and appropriately cover the acupuncture services that would assist your client. Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information.

Sincerely,

Kourosh Kashani

Virginia State Acupuncture License # 0121000108

Circle of One, Inc., Employment Identification Number: 54-1976745