



COVID-19 MN update from the MN Acupuncture Association  
For immediate release

March 14, 2020

To all of our members,

In light of recent events and the outbreak of COVID-19 the MAA is recommending the following:

Universal precautions for all clinicians and patients should be implemented.

Screening of suspected cases should be referred. COVID-19 requires specific diagnosis and in most cases quarantine over treatment is recommended.

Early signs and symptoms include fever, dry cough and shortness of breath. Patients should be screened for these signs and recent travel upon entering clinic.

While studies show that integrative therapies of TCM herbals and pharmaceuticals has been helpful, avoiding further transmission is of paramount importance to our community. Practitioners are advised to refer for screening rather than treat. Remember, always work in an integrative way, not an “alternative” way

Personal Protective Equipment should be donned in proximity of individuals suspected of infection.

Ensure that you and your staff follow proper hand washing procedures. We recommend holding a safety meeting with all personnel to review proper procedures.

As always with acupuncture treatments, All Clean Needle Technique (CNT) protocols should be strictly adhered to. Review and refresh practitioners of the current processes.

Social gatherings in acupuncture clinics are recommended to follow government guidelines recently distributed:

Gatherings of 250 should be canceled or rescheduled.  
Gathering spaces should allow for 6 feet of personal space for all individuals.

In accordance with this, all MAA events have been canceled until further notice for the remainder of March 2020.

Above all, the MAA wishes your safety and continued good health. Please reach out to us or your local resources for further questions. We are also coordinating with our national organizations on information regarding small business relief. We will share that information as soon as it is available.

Kind regards, stay safe,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nick Dougherty". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Nick Dougherty DAOM, Dipl Ac (NCCAOM), L. Ac  
President, MN Acupuncture Association