



SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE

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Narragansett, Rhode Island 02882
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Health History Questionnaire and Registration

PATIENT INFORMATION

Date _____
Name _____
Address _____
City State Zip _____
Age _____ Birthdate _____
Occupation _____
Company name _____
Primary physician _____
Physician phone number _____
How did you hear about us? _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Home phone _____
Work phone _____
Other/cell phone _____
Email _____

Another person we may contact if needed:
Name _____
Relationship _____
Home phone _____
Work Phone _____

HEALTH HISTORY

What are your primary concerns for coming in for treatment?

1 _____
2 _____
3 _____

How is your sleep? _____

How is your digestion? _____

List medications or food supplements you are taking.

List serious illnesses, accidents or surgeries.

Check illnesses that have occurred in blood relatives.

__ Diabetes __ High blood pressure __ Stroke
__ Cancer __ Heart disease __ Kidney disease

How long has it been since you have had a complete medical exam? _____

Check symptoms you have or have had in the last year:

- Depression
- Difficulty in focusing
- Dizziness
- Easily startled
- Excessive worry
- Excessive anger
- Excessive fear
- Fatigue/tiredness
- Headaches
- Loss of sleep/poor sleep
- Loss or gain of weight
- Nervousness/irritability
- Overwhelmed by life

Check conditions you have or have had in the past:

- AIDS
- Allergies
- Anemia
- Arthritis
- Bleeding disorders
- Breast lump
- Cancer
- Diabetes

Health History...Continued

Check symptoms you have or have had in the last year:

MUSCLE/JOINT/BONES

- Tremors c Cramps
- Swollen joints
- Pain, weakness, numbness in:
 - Arms or Hips
 - Back Legs
 - Feet
 - Neck
 - Hands
 - Shoulders
 - Other _____

EYES/EAR/NOSE/THROAT/RESPIRATORY

- Asthma/wheezing
- Blurred or failing vision
- Difficulty breathing
- Earache
- Enlarged glands
- Eye pain
- Frequent colds
- Hay fever
- Hoarseness
- Gum trouble
- Nose bleeds
- Loss of hearing
- Persistent cough
- Ringing in ears
- Sinus problems

SKIN

- Boils
- Bruise easily
- Dry skin
- Itching/rash
- Sensitive skin
- Sore won't heal
- Sweats

GENITO/URINARY

- Blood/pus in urine
- Frequent urination
- Inability to control urine
- Kidney infection/stones
- Lowered libido

CARDIOVASCULAR

- Chest pain
- Hardening of arteries
- High or low blood pressure
- Pain over heart
- Poor circulation
- Previous heart attack
- Rapid/irregular heart beat
- Swelling of ankles

GASTROINTESTINAL

- Belching, gas or bloating
- Colon trouble
- Constipation
- Diarrhea
- Difficulty swallowing
- Distention of abdomen
- Excessive hunger
- Gall bladder trouble
- Hemorrhoids (piles)
- Indigestion
- Nausea
- Pain over stomach
- Poor appetite
- Vomiting

FOR MEN ONLY

- Erection difficulties
- Penis discharge
- Prostate trouble

FOR WOMEN ONLY

- Bleeding between periods
 - Clots in menses
 - Excessive menstrual flow
 - Extreme menstrual pain
 - Irregular cycle
 - Menopausal symptoms
 - PMS
 - Previous miscarriage
 - Scanty menstrual flow
- Could you be pregnant? _____

SIGNATURE

The information on this form is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Signature _____ Date _____

Welcome to South County Community Acupuncture!

Please take a minute to read this introduction to our clinic and to our community. We are delighted that you are interested in joining us!

What is different about the South County Community Acupuncture (SCCA) clinic?

• **We treat in a community setting -**

Most US acupuncturists treat patients on tables in individual cubicles. This is not traditional in Asia, where acupuncture usually occurs in a community setting. In our clinic we primarily use recliners, clustered in groups in a large, quiet, soothing space. Treating patients in a community setting has many benefits: it's easy for friends and family members to come in for treatment together; many patients find it comforting; and a collective energetic field becomes established which actually makes individual treatments more powerful. In some styles of acupuncture, the needles are removed after only a few minutes or after a half hour at most. The style of acupuncture we practice at SCCA allows patients to keep their needles in as long as they want, and the "right" amount of time varies from patient to patient. Most people learn after a few treatments when they feel "done"; this can take from twenty minutes to a couple of hours! Many people fall asleep, and wake feeling refreshed.

• **We have a sliding scale -**

Most US acupuncturists also see only one patient per hour and charge \$65 to \$175 per treatment. They tend to spend a long time talking with each patient, going over medical records, asking many questions. We don't. The only way that we at SCCA can make acupuncture affordable and still make a living ourselves is to streamline our treatments and see multiple patients in an hour, so we have returned to the traditional approach; instead of asking you lots of questions, we rely on pulse diagnosis to decide how to treat you. This is exactly how acupuncture is practiced traditionally in Asia -- many patients per hour and very little talking.

Please see the enclosed form that explains our sliding scale. Because we have a sliding scale, we cannot do insurance billing (that's the insurance companies' rule). If you have insurance that covers acupuncture, we'll be happy to give you a payment receipt, and you can submit it; that's OK with the insurance companies.

Our Commitment to You

We want to make it possible for you to receive acupuncture regularly enough and long enough to get better and stay better. We want our community to be welcoming to all different kinds of people. We want to give you the tools to take care of your own health so that you will not need to rely on corporations like Big Insurance or Big Pharmaceuticals for costly, high-tech interventions. We will provide a safe environment with skilled practitioners.

What We Need From You

◆ **Responsibility**

SCCA does not provide primary care medicine! Acupuncture is a wonderful complement to Western medicine, but it is not a substitute for it. If you think you have a problem that is not "garden variety" (meaning, you are worried that you might have a serious infection, a malignant growth, or an injury that won't heal), or if you want someone knowledgeable to go over the details of your medical history with you, you need to see a primary care physician (ND, MD, or DO). We can provide some excellent, affordable referrals, even if you have no insurance coverage. But you cannot expect us to diagnose and treat something really serious. We *can* provide complimentary care for conditions which require a physician's attention -- for instance, we often treat patients for the side effects of chemotherapy. But we need you to take responsibility for your own health.

SCCA does not receive grants, state or federal money, or insurance reimbursement. SCCA exists because patients pay for their treatments – it a sustainable community business model.

◆ **Flexibility**

The community setting requires some flexibility from you. For instance, many patients have a favorite recliner. When we are busy, someone may be sitting in yours. Similarly, we have a few patients who snore. Other patients who dislike snoring bring earplugs to their treatments. We are grateful for this! Some of our patients even bring favorite pillows or blankets from home with them, because they prefer theirs to ours. That's fine with us. Basically, we need you to participate in making yourself comfortable in the community room before we arrive to treat you.

In terms of how long you want to stay -- tell the receptionist, when you check in, if you need to be somewhere at a certain time! If you want to be unpinned at a specific time, ask her to make a note and give it to the acupuncturist. We'll make sure you're out on time. In general, if you feel done, open your eyes and give us a meaningful look -- if your eyes are closed, we think you're asleep and we won't wake you up.

◆ **Community-Mindedness**

The soothing atmosphere in our clinic exists because all of our patients create it by relaxing together. We appreciate everyone's presence! This kind of collective stillness is a rare and precious thing in our rushed and busy society. Maintaining this reservoir of calm requires that no one talk very much in the clinic space. If you would like to speak to a practitioner one-on-one at any length, please let us know. If you want to have a substantial conversation, we will probably need to schedule that separately and might need to do it by phone.

Part of our success is that our patients learn the "routine" and take on a lot of responsibility for the appointments. Re-scheduling and making payment happens at the front desk BEFORE each treatment, so you can relax and enjoy treatment. Please take all personal belongings, (bags, shoes, etc.) with you back into the treatment room. And of course, please turn off your cell phone.

◆ **Commitment**

Acupuncture is a PROCESS. It is very rare for any acupuncturist to be able to resolve a problem with one treatment. In China, a typical treatment protocol for a chronic condition could be acupuncture every other day for three months! Most of our patients don't need that much acupuncture, but virtually every patient requires a course of treatment, rather than a single treatment, in order to get what they want from acupuncture.

One big reason that we are able to keep our prices so low is because of the extraordinary amount of marketing our patients do on our behalf -- we don't have to advertise. We cannot express how grateful we are for this. Our patients are such effective marketers because they have first-hand experience of how well acupuncture works. All of our satisfied patients basically made a commitment to a course of treatment.

On your first visit, your acupuncturist will suggest a course of treatment, which can be anything from "we'd like to see you once a week for six weeks" to "we'd really like to see you every day for the next four days". This suggestion is based on our experience with treating different kinds of conditions. If you don't come in often enough or long enough, acupuncture probably won't work for you. The purpose of our sliding scale is to help you make that commitment. If you have questions about how long it will take to see results, please ask us, or if you think you need to adjust your treatment plan, please let us know. We need you to commit to the process of treatment in order to get good results.

And, last, but not least....enjoy the space. We do, and hope that South County Community Acupuncture can be an important part of your community. Thank you,

South County Community Acupuncture Staff

SOUTH COUNTY COMMUNITY ACUPUNCTURE
FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

Our goal is to offer high quality acupuncture treatment at affordable rates in a supportive community setting. Research in the U.S., as well as thousands of years of tradition in Asia, has shown that acupuncture is most effective when done frequently and regularly—once per week is usually the minimum required to make progress on any kind of health problem.

The purpose of our sliding scale is to separate issues of money and treatment. You are the most effective manager in matters affecting your health and well-being. We want you to be able to come in often enough to really get better and stay better, and that needs to be an affordable option. The table below presents suggested guidelines for what you might pay depending on your income. We recognize that income is only one factor that determines "affordability" for any one person, so these are guidelines only. The rest is up to you.

Income	1st appointment paperwork fee	Acupuncture treatments	Additional treatments within a week
Under \$20,000	\$10	\$15	+ \$15 each
\$20,000 to \$25,000	\$10	\$25	+ \$20 each
\$25,000 to \$30,000	\$10	\$30	+ \$25 each
\$30,000 to \$50,000	\$10	\$35	+ \$30 each
\$50,000 +	\$10	\$40	+ \$35 each

FINANCIAL AGREEMENT

SCCA makes every attempt to make alternative healthcare, as acupuncture and Chinese medicine, available to as many people possible at affordable rates.

In order to maximize our available appointments for other patients, please give us at least 24 hours notice in advance of an appointment to cancel or reschedule.

Any appointment cancelled or rescheduled with fewer than 24-hours notice will be charged \$20 for that appointment. If appointments have been purchased in a package, the missed, cancelled, or rescheduled appointment will be deducted from the number of remaining appointments in that package.

Payment is expected at time of treatment.

Signed _____ Date / /

Print Name _____ Staff Initials _____