

## **Patient Information and Consent Form for Acupuncture and Auriculotherapy**

*Please read this information carefully and ask your acupuncture provider if there is anything that you do not understand.*

### **What is acupuncture?**

Acupuncture is a form of therapy in which fine needles are inserted into specific points on the body. Auriculotherapy involves inserting needles on one or both ears.

### **Is acupuncture safe?**

Acupuncture is generally very safe. Serious side effects are very rare – fewer than 1 in 10,000 treatments.

### **Does acupuncture have side effects?**

Yes, the common side effects of an acupuncture treatment are listed below.

- Drowsiness may occur after a treatment. If you are so affected, you are advised not to drive.
- Minor bleeding or bruising may occur when the needles are removed.
- Indwelling ear needles can become painful or inflamed. If this occurs, promptly remove the needle(s) involved.
- Symptoms can get worse after a treatment. Be sure to tell your doctor about this at your next appointment.
- Fainting may occur in certain patients, particularly at the first treatment.

In addition if there are particular risks that apply in your case, your doctor will discuss these with you.

### **Is there anything your doctor needs to know?**

Apart from the usual medical details, it is important to tell your doctor

- if you have ever become faint or had a seizure,
- if you have a bleeding disorder,
- if you are taking anticoagulants or any other medication,
- if you have a damaged heart valve or other cardiac problem,
- if you have any other particular risk of infection.

**Only single-use, sterile, disposable needles are used in the clinic.**

### **Statement of Consent**

I confirm that I have read and understood the above information. I consent to having acupuncture treatment. I understand that I can refuse treatment at any time.

Signature

Print name in full

Date