

Murdo, Patricia

From: Warren Smith DC <warrensmith@healthsourcechiro.com>
Sent: Monday, August 24, 2020 8:42 AM
To: Murdo, Patricia
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Chiropractic Dry Needling

Patricia Murdo,

Please distribute the following brief email to the hearing committee on Sept 10.

Dear Members of the Economic Affairs Interim Committee.

My name is Dr. Warren Smith DC and I am writing to ask you to keep dry needling in the scope of practice for the chiropractic profession. Please do not renew your objection to the rule, as passed by the State Board. I have practiced in Montana for over 20 years and since adding dry needling to my clinic have seen the amazing potential of using this modality on patients that had otherwise been much slower progressing through care.

The argument of a lack of hours in education is a gross oversight by the acupuncturists: Chiropractors endure 4 years of post graduate education, and our knowledge of the musculoskeletal system we work on is extensive. I truly appreciate the amount of education acupuncturists have, and their specialization into eastern medicine. Dry needling is not acupuncture: we do not engage in treatment from the standpoint of eastern medicine and meridians. Instead, chiropractic dry needling is focused on treating musculoskeletal conditions, trigger points, spasm and adhesions with a western view of direct manipulation of the affected tissues in a similar manner as deep tissue massage therapy, but with the use of acupuncture needles to disrupt the spasm cycle.

Removing dry needling from our professional use is a dis-service to our communities, one that will decrease access to care, and cost patients more money to seek care from multiple providers for services they could safely and effectively receive from board certified, trained, educated and compassionate providers in a chiropractic setting.

Thank you for your consideration,

Warren Smith DC

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"A healthy man has 1000 dreams. A sick man has only one"