

Memorandum of Understanding

Montana Chiropractic Association (MCA)

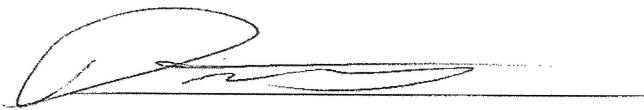
And

Montana Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MAAOM)

This document memorializes an understanding between the Montana Chiropractic Association ("MCA") and the Montana Association of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine ("MAAOM") (collectively referred to as "the Parties") regarding an Administrative Rule (MAR Notice No. 24-126-37) that was adopted by the Montana Board of Chiropractic that specifically included Dry Needling into the Scope of Practice for the Chiropractic profession subject to the completion of training and education specific to Dry Needling.

The State Chiropractic Board adopted the Rule and began offering Dry Needling classes that were taught by a nationally recognized and accredited instructor. 40 chiropractors and 2 physical therapists have become certified over the last 1.5 years. The Rule was written by the state Board of Chiropractic with the assistance of counsel from the Montana Dept. Of Labor and was intended to closely mirror the Physical Therapy Rule which allowed Dry Needling. (See Admin. R. Mont. 24.177.413). The MAAOAM objected to the Rule on the grounds that the new rule should require an exam and more hours of training. The Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) has issued an "informal objection" to the rule, effectively putting a hold on the adoption of the rule. This agreement is meant to resolve the impasse between the two associations. The Parties hereby agree to the following terms:

1. The MAAOAM will request that the Legislative Committee at issue (EAIC) will not renew its objection to the rule, thereby allowing the rule (MAR Notice No. 24-126-37) to take effect. This MAAOAM acknowledges and understand that the 42 practitioners that have already completed the Dry Needling training will be permitted to continue the practice of Dry Needling.
2. The Chiropractic Association (MCA) will:
  - a. Work in good faith during the next year to promulgate and put into effect a new rule that provides for more hours of training and a practical examination permitting chiropractor to engage in the practice of Dry Needling.
  - b. The MCA will not sponsor or promote any further Dry Needling Certification classes until the new rule is adopted with the new requirements.



Mike Welker, President, MCA



Jennifer Holloman, President, MAAOM