

Page 2 **PART IV. PRACTICE OF ACUPUNCTURE**

**§1356. Definitions**

As used in this Part the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Acupuncture" means treatment by means of mechanical, thermal or electrical stimulation effected by the insertion of needles at a point or combination of points on the surface of the body predetermined on the basis of the theory of the physiological interrelationship of body organs with an associated point or combination of points, or the application of heat or electrical stimulation to such point or points, for the purpose of inducing anesthesia, relieving pain, or healing diseases, disorders and dysfunctions of the body, or achieving a therapeutic or prophylactic effect with respect thereto.

The practice of acupuncture shall be construed to be the practice of medicine as defined by R.S. 37:1261.

(2) "Acupuncture detoxification", also known as acu detox, means the treatment by means of the insertion of acupuncture needles in a combination of points on the ear.

(3) "Acupuncture detoxification specialist", known as an A.D.S., means an individual certified to practice acupuncture detoxification.

(4) "Acupuncturist" means an individual certified to practice acupuncture pursuant to the provisions of R.S. 37:1357.

(5) "Acupuncturist's assistant" means an individual certified by the Board of Medical Examiners pursuant to R.S. 37:1358.

(6) "Board" means the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

(7) "NADA" means the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association.

(8) "Physician" means an individual licensed to practice medicine in Louisiana.

(9) "Supervising physician" means a physician who exercises supervision and control over an acupuncturists' assistant when said assistant is engaged in the practice of acupuncture.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1; Acts 2007, No. 452, §1.

**§1357. Practice of traditional Chinese acupuncture; certification**

The board shall certify as an acupuncturist of traditional Chinese acupuncture a physician licensed to practice medicine in Louisiana who has successfully completed either of the

following:

- (1) Six months' training in traditional Chinese acupuncture in a school or clinic approved by the board.
  - (2) Three hundred credit hours of continuing medical education in acupuncture designated as category one continuing medical education hours by the American Medical Association.
- Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1; Acts 2001, No. 849, §1.

**§1357.1. Practice of acupuncture detoxification; certification; promulgation of rules; public health emergency**

A. The board shall certify as an acupuncture detoxification specialist an individual who works under the general supervision of a physician licensed by the board to practice in the state, or under the general supervision of an acupuncturist's assistant certified by the board to practice in the state and has successfully completed the following:

- (1) NADA training by a registered NADA trainer.
- (2) NADA certification.
- (3) Registration with the board.

B. Pursuant to the provisions of this Section, the board shall promulgate rules and regulations in collaboration with its Integrative and Complementary Medicine Committee that it deems necessary to regulate the certification of acupuncture detoxification specialists and the practice of acupuncture detoxification in the state. Such rules and regulations shall include but not be limited to the following:

- (1) Provisions regarding the adoption of fees.
- (2) Provisions regarding the action to deny, suspend, revoke, or place on probation individuals who act beyond the scope of practice or engage in unprofessional conduct.
- (3) Provisions regarding the general supervision of acupuncture detoxification specialists.

C. Acupuncture detoxification specialists from other states who are certified by NADA shall be allowed to practice acupuncture detoxification in Louisiana during a public health emergency and for such periods thereafter as the Department of Health and Hospitals deems the need for emergency services to continue to exist, and under rules and regulations set forth by the board.

Acts 2007, No. 452, §1.

**§1358. Acupuncturists' assistants**

A. The board shall certify as an acupuncturist's assistant any of the following:

(1) An individual to practice in Louisiana who has successfully completed thirty-six months' training in a school or clinic of traditional Chinese acupuncture approved by the board.

(2) An individual who has been appointed or employed at a licensed or accredited Louisiana hospital, medical school, or clinic to perform acupuncture for research purposes.

(3) An individual who has successfully passed the certification examination given by the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine.

B. The acupuncturist's assistant shall work under the direction, control, and supervision of a physician and shall perform such duties, services, and functions pertaining to acupuncture as assigned by the supervising physician.

Added by Acts 1975, No. 665, §1; Acts 2001, No. 849, §1; Acts 2003, No. 62, §1; Acts 2007, No. 452, §1.

**§1359. Annual report by board to legislature; administrative data**

The board shall establish procedures and systems for the compilation, transmission, correlation, storage, and analysis of data relative to the administration of acupuncture in this state and shall report annually to the legislature concerning the status of acupuncture practice in the state beginning February 1, 1976. Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners Louisiana Revised Statutes Title 37 Source: <http://www.legis.state.la.us/> accessed 7/27/09 Page 3