

WAC 246-803-040 Education and training for point injection therapy. Acupuncturist or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioners employing point injection therapy shall use only those substances and techniques for which they have received training.

(1) The education and training for point injection therapy must:

(a) Consist of a minimum total of 24 contact hours of training in the topics required in this section;

(b) Include at least eight hours of clinical practical experience; and

(c) Be administered by an instructor that meets the requirements of subsection (4) of this section.

(2) A curriculum for a point injection therapy training program must include:

(a) Review of physical examination, contraindications and universal precautions, and differential diagnosis;

(b) Compounding and administration of the substances authorized for point injection therapy under WAC 246-803-030, including aseptic technique, recordkeeping and storage of substances authorized for use in point injection therapy;

(c) Use of local anesthetics, such as lidocaine and procaine, for reduction of pain during point injection therapy, consistent with the practice of acupuncture and Eastern medicine;

(d) Emergency procedures to include the use of oxygen and epinephrine for potential emergency purposes, such as an allergic or adverse reaction, for patient care and safety;

(e) Point injection therapy techniques and contraindication within the acupuncture or Eastern medicine scope of practice relative to the authorized substances listed in WAC 246-803-030 (13)(a)(i) through (vi).

(3) All training must be delivered in person and not through webinar or other online or distance learning method.

(4) An instructor for point injection therapy must have:

(a) A health care credential in good standing with a scope of practice that includes point injection therapy; and

(b) At least five years of experience in a health care practice that includes point injection therapy.

(5) In addition to point injection therapy meeting the requirements of subsections (1) and (2) of this section, acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioners using point injection therapy must complete a minimum of two hours of training specifically in the use of intramuscular epinephrine, local anesthetics and oxygen.

(a) The training may be taken separately from the training in point injection therapy.

(b) The minimum of two hours of training count towards meeting the requirement for 24 hours of contact training as required in subsection (1)(a) of this section.

(c) An acupuncturist or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioner who holds an active credential with a scope of practice that includes the authority to prescribe, dispense or administer epinephrine, local anesthetics, or oxygen does not need to meet the requirements of (a) of this subsection.

(6) To qualify under this section, the training program shall provide each successful student with a:

(a) Certificate of successful completion of the program; and

(b) Course syllabus outlining the schedule and curriculum of the program.

(7) The requirements of subsections (1) through (6) of this section do not apply to an acupuncturist or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioner who has provided point injection therapy prior to June 9, 2016. Acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioners using point injection therapy prior to June 9, 2016, must have completed training and education in point injection therapy.

(8) Prior to administering local anesthetic, epinephrine, or oxygen in providing point injection therapy services, an acupuncturist or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioner must satisfy the education and training requirements set out in this section.

(9) Any acupuncturist or acupuncture and Eastern medicine practitioner performing point injection therapy must be able to demonstrate, upon request of the department of health, successful completion of education and training in point injection therapy.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.06.160, 18.06.230, chapter 18.06 RCW, 2021 c 87, and 2020 c 80. WSR 22-12-018, § 246-803-040, filed 5/23/22, effective 7/1/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.06.160, chapter 18.06 RCW, 2019 c 308, 2020 c 229 and 2020 c 76. WSR 21-09-008, § 246-803-040, filed 4/8/21, effective 5/9/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.06.230, 18.06.160, and 18.06.010. WSR 17-15-006, § 246-803-040, filed 7/5/17, effective 7/5/17.]