

News in Brief

Editorial Staff

CAB Institutes New Regulations for Licensed Acupuncturists

The California Acupuncture Board has approved a series of changes pertaining to the regulation of the acupuncture profession. Among the changes are new regulations for single-use needles and continuing education hours for practitioners.

With regard to single-use needles, the board has approved "emergency regulations" requiring that such needles be used by all licensed acupuncturists in California effective immediately. The regulations prohibit needles from being used more than once, and require that all needles be labeled "for single use only."

Concerning continuing education hours, new regulations effective Jan. 1, 2006 require licensed acupuncturists to complete four hours of training in herb-drug interaction every two years as a condition of license renewal. In addition, limits have been placed on the number of hours of credit licensed acupuncturists will receive for courses related to "acupuncture research and evidence-based medicine," "practice management and ethics," and "breathing and other exercises" such as *qigong* and *tai chi*, to a maximum of four hours every two years. Practitioners are welcome to take more hours and courses as they see fit, but credit will only be granted for up to four hours. Acupuncturists will also be required to maintain records of all continuing education programs for a minimum of four years.

Specific language regarding the new regulations can be accessed at the California Acupuncture Board's Web site (www.acupuncture.ca.gov).

New Dean of Integrative Medicine at AIMC-Berkeley

The Acupuncture & Integrative Medicine College-Berkeley has named Yoon Hang Kim, MD, MPH, as its new dean of integrative medicine. In his role as dean, Dr. Kim will direct the school's program in integrative medicine, along with its integrative medicine clinic.

"Having Dr. Kim aboard propels us toward fulfilling our vision of becoming a leader in the advancement of integrative medicine," said AIMC President Skye Sturgeon, LAc. "I am extremely impressed with what he has been able to accomplish in just a few short months."

Dr. Kim is a graduate of the Medical College of Wisconsin, where he was honored as a Howard Hughes Fellow. He also completed a two-year fellowship at the University of Arizona's integrative medicine program. He is board-certified in preventive medicine, medical acupuncture, and holistic medicine, and has served on the boards of various integrative health organizations, including the American Holistic Medical Association.

Bastyr Welcomes New Chair to Board of Trustees

Julie Tall, LAc, has been appointed as chair of the board of trustees of Bastyr University. She has served on the board since March 2004, and is the first acupuncture practitioner to be named board chair in the university's history.

"This is an exciting time for Bastyr University and natural medicine," said Tall. She added that she was "thrilled to help provide vision and oversight" in helping shape the direction of the university.

In addition to being a licensed acupuncturist, Ms. Tall is a 1981 graduate of Wellesley College. She is also an active volunteer in several community organizations, including Achievement Rewards for College Scientists, the American Heart Association, and the Dean's Circle at the University of Washington Medical School.

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