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## CONSENT TO TREATMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby acknowledge that being treated with traditional Chinese Medicine can include any of the following techniques:

1. Insertion of various styles and sizes of acupuncture needles into my body at various depths and locations.
2. Heat treatments using *Artemisia vulgaris* (moxibustion) or a conventional heat lamp may be placed on or near any part of my body. For indirect moxibustion treatments, a moxibustion pole is used above the skin or the moxa is placed on the head of the needle or on top of a barrier (such as a slice of ginger, fuzi or salt) which rests on the skin. When direct moxa is used, moxa is placed on a protective cream or water on the skin. The heat generated from the moxa treatments may involve slight discomfort or leave a small blister or scar on the skin. With any type of heat, there is always a risk of a burn.
3. A massage technique called “gua sha” may produce red or purple discoloration of the skin (similar to a bruise) which may remain for 1 to 7 days. There may also be a slight tenderness in the area treated.
4. A method called “cupping” involves placing glass cups over the skin to produce a vacuum and promote the circulation of “qi”, or energy, through the meridians. Cupping may also produce skin discoloration and tenderness 1 to 7 days after the treatment.
5. Electro-acupuncture may be performed in cases of pain or stagnation in order to facilitate the movement of qi and blood. This technique involves clipping a wire to the body of the needle in order to deliver a mild electrical current. I acknowledge that I may experience a slight buzzing or tingling sensation around the needle, and the area of discomfort may get slightly worse before getting better.
6. The practitioner may leave press-balls, press-tacks, press-seeds, interdermals, or magnets on my body. I will receive directions on how to care for, how to and when to dispose of these healing adjuncts.
7. I may also receive herbal prescriptions or recommendations pertaining to nutrition, diet, exercise, or other life-style habits. I understand that I am not required to take these herbal substances recommended, but must follow the directions for administration and dosage if I do decide to take them. I am aware that certain adverse side effects may result from taking these substances. These could include, but are not limited to: changes in bowel movement, abdominal pain or discomfort, and the possible aggravation of symptoms existing prior to herbal treatment. Should I experience any problems, which I associate with these substances, I should suspend taking them and call Pacific Healing Acupuncture as soon as possible.

The acupuncture practitioner must be advised if the patient has a pacemaker or a bleeding disorder, might be pregnant or has a contagious disease. If the patient has a potentially serious condition that is out of the practitioner’s scope of practice, the patient will be referred to the emergency room or to a licensed physician with regard but not limited to: cardiac conditions including uncontrolled hypertension; acute, severe abdominal pain; acute undiagnosed neurological changes; unexplained weight loss or gain in a three month period; suspected fracture or dislocation; suspected systemic infections; any serious undiagnosed hemorrhagic disorder; and acute respiratory distress without previous history.

I have been informed that I have the right to refuse any form of treatment and that I have the right to terminate our treatments at any time. I understand the nature of the treatment, have been informed of the risks and possible consequences

involved with this treatment, and was given the opportunity to ask questions pertaining to my treatment. I also understand that there is always the possibility of unexpected complication and I understand that no guarantee can be made concerning the results of the treatment. I am aware that acupuncture or traditional Chinese medicine does not substitute for appropriate advice and care from a licensed medical doctor.

I have carefully read and understand all of the above information and fully aware of what I am signing. I give my permission and consent to treatment.

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Your signature (parent or guardian if minor)

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Print your name (parent or guardian if minor) and patient name

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Date