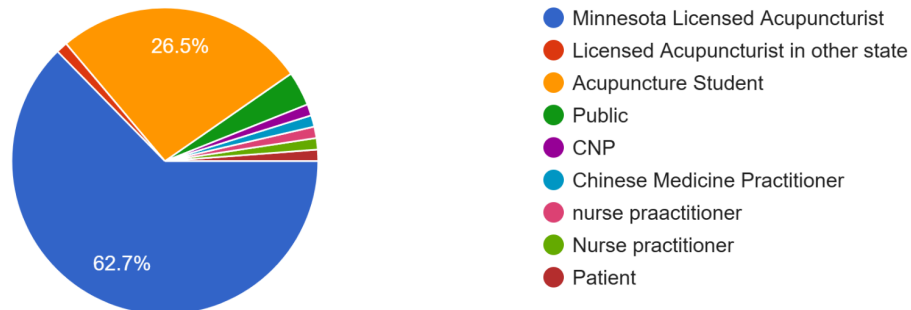


Acupuncturists for a Healthy Minnesota Annual Survey 2021

How do you identify? Practitioner, student or public

83 responses



What is the number one issue that you believe as an Acupuncturist or acupuncture student that we can help Minnesota be a healthier state? 76 responses

Make TCM care more accessible and affordable.

Stress

Public education

Try to teach more people about the acupuncture and how it works

Health insurance coverage

Insurance contracts and coverage for providers and patients

Expanding insurance coverage for acupuncture to include everything it can treat

Educating the public about how acupuncture can help them

common sense

Lack of access to our care. Barriers with insurance companies. Cost for out of pocket services

Healing people mind, body and spirit.

Chronic pain

Education? Become recognized as primary care. Bring herbs into the light more.

Pain management and sleep problems

Opioid crisis

A program using TCM diet and exercise that teaches families how to take care of each other.

pain

Making Acupuncture (and associated in scope practices) covered and accessible to people.

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educating the public about acupuncture vs. dry needling

1. Better support from insurance companies (rates, number of visits, and expanding their networks for more acupuncturists) 2. Public awareness 3. referrals from MDs and nurses

Increased access to acupuncture services

Increase awareness of acupuncture benefits

affordable alternative care for all patients

promote this medicine

Improved immunity

protect our scope of practice to ensure the safety and integrity of our field of medicine

Insurance reimbursement for any licensed acupuncturist that chooses to participate. Health Insurers should not be able to choose which acupuncturists that can participate in their insurance plans.

Motivate people to think of pharmaceuticals as a last option for many ailments as opposed to the first option

Mental Health

herbal and supplement use to build immune system.

Eat right and exercise.

Having acupuncture be affordable and accessible to all, meaning that it can be covered with insurance. So many people tell me they want to try acupuncture, but it just isn't financially a possibility because normally you need at least a few acu treatments to feel it's effect.

more media exposure to natural health

They are not taught how to have a successful clinic

chronic pain and mental health treatment (adjunctive and first line treatment)

Access to functional medicine.

Become stronger as a team; get involved in legislation; keep personal politics off the table.

Pain management, mental health, hormonal health (pain management is #1)

More education about the benefits of eating healthy and preventative care.

the use of acupuncture to address pain issues and trauma

pain, education, nutrition

Letting the general public know of the tremendous amount of alternative options for treatment that acupuncture offers.

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Treating chronic underlying conditions (such as diabetes and obesity), reducing stress, anxiety and depression in order to give support to patients to eat healthy and support strong digestion with a more balanced emotional support with acupuncture.

PAIN!

To prevent diseases from starting and healing at the root level.

Preventive health- specifically become first line of referrals for pain patients to prevent need for opioids

Helping people with pain reduction.

Difference between chiro acu and licensed Acu.

Right now, long term COVID recovery

managing many health conditions without chemical and biomedicine.

Greater recognition of the profession as a significant provider of health care services. i.e. stop other professions from performing acupuncture techniques for example dry needling

Recovering from Covid

Making it mandatory to be Licensed Acupuncturists in our state

Mental health

Pain control

Require that services are covered by all insurance

Access to acupuncture

Acknowledge The profession as licensed practitioners for insurance pay

Wider coverage of different health conditions for acupuncture services

Public education, insurance inclusion like WA or CA, etc. More options for people esp those with health disparities

Pain relief, daily movement/stretching& mental health/stress.

Access to acupuncture and a lack of understanding of our scope of practice

Increase insurance coverage for acupuncture, including Medicare and Medicaid

Patient access

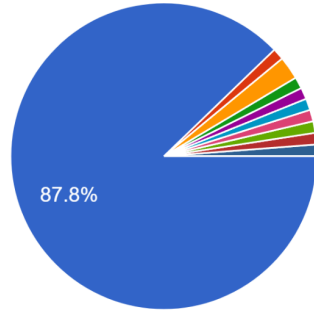
Increase who we are seeing/getting better coverage by insurance (wider scope and for preventative medicine)

Insurance coverage!

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Would you support expanding acupuncture coverage for acute and chronic pain in billing insurance, as a response to the opioid epidemic?

82 responses



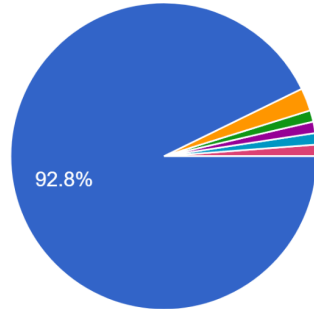
- Yes
- No
- Undecided, please say more. What w...
- Yes for insured. But insurance keeps...
- I am concerned about insurance comp...
- I dont think insurers are even close
- Of course, if it was consumer driven.
- If we were to be paid adequately for o...

▲ 1/2 ▼

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Would you support legislation that would provide loan forgiveness opportunities for acupuncture students by providing care in participating areas of need in Minnesota?

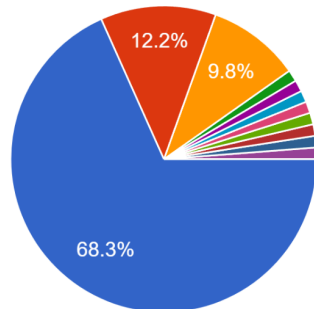
83 responses



- Yes
- No
- Undecided, what additional information would interest you?
- Why do we deserve a handout of money stolen from other's wages?
- I do, but would need more detailed information as to how that debt gets p...
- What about those of us who struggled...
- I'd love to more what this entails!

Would you support insurance parity for full scope of acupuncture practice when covered by other providers? For example non needling techniques are...her providers can bill and receive reimbursement.

82 responses



- Yes
- No
- Please share more about your why or...
- Yes!! Acupuncturist should have been...
- If it is market driven.
- question is not clear
- I do not know enough about this to co...
- More than likely yes, but would need...

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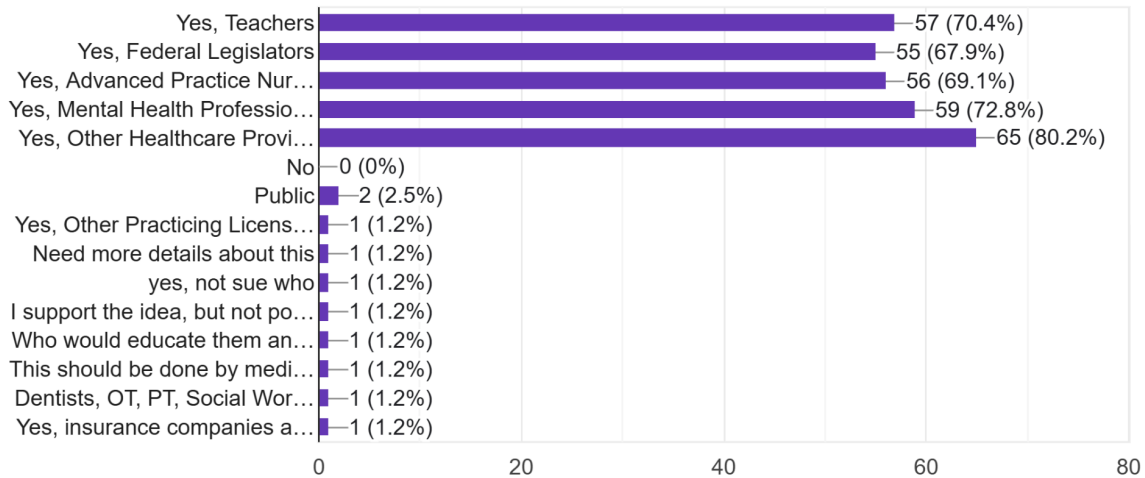
Would you support increased coverage of Medicaid/Mncare/Medical Assistance to 30 units of acupuncture and 2 evaluations per year?

82 responses



Would you support a public education effort directed at specific influencers about Licensed Acupuncturist's education, scope of practice and s... more people than doing a direct public education.

81 responses



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Would you support legislation that would recognize Licensed Acupuncturists, as independent practitioners, in the federal Medicare program to provide acupuncture to patients for chronic lower back pain?

82 responses



Where do you see Licensed Acupuncturists creating or making an impact on the patients, friends, and family impacted by the pandemic? 75 responses

Hospitals, clinics, yoga studios

Yes I'm sure there are

Not sure

So many patients suffers some sequences from the COVID-19 and get help from the acupuncture

Improving immune health

Virtual sessions, Chinese herbs, acupuncture

Patients still needed face to face hand on health care. We're not interested in going to a high traffic clinic for care. Face to face with a caring practitioner was the only person outside of their home they saw.

Boosting peoples immunity as well as calming now their nerves by providing regulate treatment

Mental health - stress and anxiety

sleep, eat exercise rest recovery

Not sure

Prevention and recovery from Covid 19. And all the health maintaining we usually do.

Traditional Chinese medicine has a variety of treatment methods and most importantly herbs that can be used for both COVID disease prevention and management, should one get sick. Very few are aware of it. LAc have been very underused in the USA through this pandemic.

Providing care to help combat the negative effects of chronic high stress that almost everyone has been feeling for a long time now.

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Educating on the herbal effects of turning an "invasion" around.

Anxiety, depression and lingering effects from covid

depression and weight gain

Stress reduction and ability to vent/talk to someone.

Blog

clinic

Mental health

supporting emotionally and physically. Giving them a sense of normalcy

Prevention and virtual consults for herbal treatment

Mental health support

unsure

Treating pain and cold/flu symptoms.

Post COVID syndrome and working to improve immunity with more research.

Our preventative care

Helping people feel there are alternatives to living in fear of COVID and by taking action to take care of their over health to avoid possible hospitalization or death

Mental Health

Supposedly, we are all impacted. But, how can we convince them that they can come out and see us, personally, if they are still in fear? I think that those who practiced having more than one patient at a time, even in different treatment rooms, maybe should put that on hold, for now, and treat only one person, at a time. That would eliminate people waiting for their turn; thus, less people around exposing, or being exposed to the possible threat of covid. Help them understand that rooms are cleaned thoroughly before the next person comes in. Space appointments to give enough time to clean properly. Educate them so that they can feel safe.

By providing quality medical care and possibly a voice of calm reason amongst the constant fearmongering.

Hospitals, doctors offices, and urgent care offices are overwhelmed right now with covid patients. So many people are having issues of anxiety, chronic pain, musculoskeletal pain, and other issues that acupuncturists and other healers can help with instead of MDs. There are of course situations where someone may need western medical care, but many times acupuncture, massage therapy, counseling, physical therapy, and so many other healing modalities can help instead. Simply put, acupuncturists can lighten the load for western practitioners. We can also help with ongoing symptoms of covid such as fatigue, anxiety, cough, etc.

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?

anti-anxiety treatments

emerging mass mental health crisis caused by forced isolation and inhumane mandates

In post covid care, in emotional support, in hospice care, in hospital

Accessibility, affordable (in contrast to conventional service fees), educational, preventative and post symptomatic care.

Stress relief, mental health, pain management

Helping with left over symptoms and stress related to Covid.

preventive health, education on health, nutrition, more support from western healthcare

Allowing the body to be healthy will alleviate any health threat

stress and pain

Many of the long term issues and systems that we see occurring in the lives of those who have contracted Covid-19 can be treated through Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Providing a safe space to come to for healing and preventive care

Helping patients recovering from Covid with different modalities of TCM.

The use of TCM for COVID symptoms/diagnosis.

I think acupuncture can and will help treat the long term side effects of COVID.

All clinics and institutions, nursing homes, and communities, homes.

Supporting healthy immune systems. Helping to recover from lingering side effects such as fatigue , loss of taste and smell, reducing stress

Help increase immunity and help with recovery

Stress management

I see a lot of substance use since the pandemic. Acupuncture could help with pain and stress

Physical and mental support

For stress

Improving quality of life by reducing pain and Anxieties

Chinese medicine is not only about Acupuncture

it's about mental emotional support and highly effective with food therapy

Stress management, pain management, exacerbation of chronic conditions, recovery from COVID illness.

Immune boosting (there is research), stress/anxiety/depression All of which impact one's family friends, workplaces, and community. Decreasing an increase in hopelessness

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Reduce stress, trauma, anxiety. Build immunity, keep people's immune systems strong, as well as help treat any of the secondary effects of covid illness.

We are living through a mass trauma event and physical, mental, and emotional health of individuals has decreased. I have seen Licensed Acupuncturists making a huge impact on patients' ability to emotionally process and weather the impacts of the pandemic. Having access to acupuncture, herbs, and other TCM modalities has noticeably helped boost the health and wellbeing of my community and I firmly believe there should be more access to this medicine during the pandemic and afterward.

Mental health maintenance. Fortifying the community shen.

Treatments to improve overall health and to address underlying health conditions

I've seen success with treating post-covid symptoms like loss of sense of taste and smell

Healthcare in a smaller setting...i.e. not going to a hospital or clinic.

Are there unmet needs in the acupuncture community that need to be addressed due to the pandemic?^{42 responses}

Unsure

Well-being/lifestyle

unsure

Mental Health

Career stability

Financial support for business owners

Not sure

Share knowledge

Yes. Many people don't know that acupuncture can reduce stress and improve immune function.

Most people think it's only for pain until they have had a treatment.

Mental health

yes, acupuncture and herb teleconsultation for public

not sure

Acupuncturists are being exploited by insurance companies.

Unsure.

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Yes,! business coaching/Insurance billing, and a better professional “blanket statement “ response to Dry Needling

Well, this has made me decide to apply with health insurance as an in network provider, but sadly, it is taking forever to hear anything back. My desire is to focus more on the vets as I am 8-10 blocks away from the VA.

I am not involved in the acupuncture community.

no

Not sure, my office wasn't really affected

emerging mass mental health crisis caused by forced isolation and inhumane mandates

Not sure.

I'm not sure

Yes, preventive and more access to those who can't afford it.

Public Awareness

PPE, insurance coverage

Yes the shared knowledge that TCM can benefit COVID patients.

Unknown

I don't know because I just started.

Why is there no public acknowledgment of the tcm treatments that have been beneficial dueinbb GF the pandemic??!!

Yes

Financial help to private acupuncturists

Yes nobody is getting personal care or touch

Acknowledge the profession as wholistic and integrative. We are not the alternative we are the compliment.

Recognition of quality of care and very good outcomes in management complex conditions

What about new grads? What about people who are not in network with insurance companies?

People are afraid of coming in for fear of becoming infected. Many do not recognize us as valid healthcare providers

The burden of cost of education in this field limits opportunities for many that would seek licensure in acupuncture in the states, in normal years and especially during this time. For those in my cohort (who all started school during 2020), worries about the cost of our education as well as having the ability to keep up with our basic living costs has impacted our start in this field in addition to forming

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fewer connections with licensed practitioners and students further along in our program due to the pandemic.

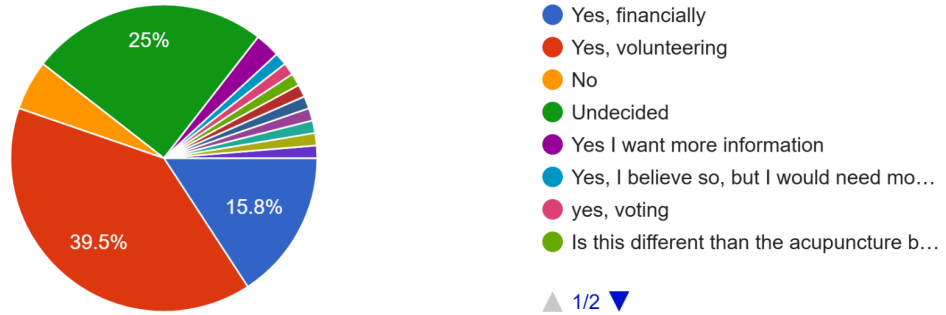
NA

How to do it safely.

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Would you be willing to support Acupuncturists for a Healthy Minnesota

76 responses



If interested in volunteering how much time would you be interested in contributing?

53 responses

