



Circular No. (13/2021)

From	Department of Healthcare Professions (DHP)\ Ministry of Public Health (MOPH)
To	All Acupuncture Practitioners in Qatar (Governmental & Private sector) All Healthcare Facilities/ focal points in the state of Qatar (Governmental & Private sector)
Subject	Update on Standards of Acupuncture Registration/Licensing in the State of Qatar
Date	16 November 2021

Greetings from the Specialized Committee for Complementary Medicine (SCCM),

In MoPH's pursuit to raise the standards of healthcare practitioners registration/licensing, and to adopt an integrative approach to complementary medicine in Qatar, the SCCM has approved new updates on the Acupuncture regulatory framework.

The SCCM has adopted the recommendations of the World Health Organization (WHO), which distinguishes between the required Acupuncture training for physicians and healthcare practitioners, and other practitioners who do not have a health/medical background. The Committee approved the requirements shown in the table below, taking into consideration the health system in the country:

Category	Academic Qualification/Training	Clinical Experience
Acupuncture Practitioner without health/medical background	An academic program of no less than 2500 theoretical and practical hours of study	Two years
Physician/Dentist limited to Acupuncture	An academic program of no less than 1500 theoretical and practical hours of study	Not required
Physician/Dentist	An academic program of no less than 200 theoretical and practical hours of study	Not required
Other Healthcare Practitioners practicing Acupuncture within his/her scope	An academic program of no less than 200 theoretical and practical hours of study	Not required



Notes:

SCCM evaluates healthcare practitioners other than physicians/dentists on a case-by-case basis, according to the appropriateness of integrating Acupuncture, academic qualifications, and clinical experience.

- SCCM evaluates the applicants who have exceeded two years after passing the academic program on a case-by-case basis, according to the curriculum, practical training, and the healthcare practitioner's profession.
- This circular is effective from the date of its issuance, and hence the paragraph of registration/licensing requirements for Acupuncture in Circular [\(2/2016\)](#) is cancelled.
- For all information about the Acupuncture scope of practice, please check the circular [\(2/2016\)](#)
- For all information about approved healthcare facilities for practicing Acupuncture within, please check the circular [\(21/2017\)](#).

For further information, kindly contact: dhregistration@moph.gov.qa

Department of Healthcare Professions /Ministry of Public Health