

Japanese Acupuncture Certificate Program

The Japanese Acupuncture Certificate Program encompasses two basic approaches to Japanese Acupuncture clinical practice: Manaka's Yin-Yang Channel Balancing Therapy and Meridian Therapy. The series covers a broad range of treatment techniques from Japan, including abdominal (hara) palpation and diagnosis, subtle needling techniques, moxibustion, use of intradermals, press tacks and press spheres, cupping and bloodletting techniques, Sotai, and non-needling pediatric (Shonishin) techniques.

The certificate program consists of 4 weekend modules of 3 days length and a 2-day clinical intensive. Although each module brings students closer to fully understanding Japanese acupuncture techniques, the first 3 modules can be taken individually as stand alone courses. Only students who have completed the first 3 modules are eligible to take the fourth and the clinical intensive.



PACIFIC RIM
C O L L E G E

Module One

Introduction to Japanese Sotai and Japanese Acupuncture & Symptomatic Control Techniques by Janette Baugh

This 3-day weekend includes a brief history of East Asian Medicine and bodywork in Japan and an overview of different Japanese therapeutic models and symptom-control approaches. Topics covered include basic Japanese style techniques such as shallow, painless needling, kyutoshin (moxa on the handle of the needle), okyu (direct rice grain moxa), chinetsukyu (cone moxa), shiraku (microbloodletting), hinaishin (intradermals), empishin (press tacks), enshin and zanshin. Most of these techniques may be applied to both the Manaka Yin-Yang Channel Balancing Therapy and Meridian Therapy as part of a multi-step treatment process. This weekend also focuses on feeling/touching with basic palpatory skill exercises as well as Sotai for self-help and for patient education.

Sotai is a unique therapeutic system of structured integration developed by Keizo Hashimoto, MD. It is a holistic approach used extensively in Japan to treat a wide variety of musculoskeletal problems, and is a perfect complement to acupuncture and bodywork. Sotai involves active and passive exercises to emphasize awareness, breathing, and subtle sensations. It is a simple system that can be applied quickly and effectively.

Module Two

Manaka's Yin-Yang Channel Balancing Therapy Level I by Brenda Loew

Yoshio Manaka's Yin-Yang Channel Balancing Therapy is a systematic multi-step treatment process that has various therapeutic options at each step of treatment. This system relies strongly on palpatory diagnosis and the use of ion pumping cords and moxibustion, as well as other symptomatic control techniques. This comprehensive treatment approach is covered in a two-part series. Level I introduces the fundamental extraordinary vessel patterns in terms of their corresponding clinical presentation and treatment protocols. Level II delves deeper into Yin-Yang Channel Balancing Therapy by introducing more complicated patterns and treatment procedures. Both levels involve hands-on learning with an emphasis on refining palpatory skills, point location and gentle needling techniques.

Module Three

Introduction to Meridian Therapy by Martin Feldman

Meridian Therapy is Japan's premiere model of traditional acupuncture. This five phases treatment system relies on refined pulse and palpatory diagnosis skills, combined with subtle needling technique. This weekend covers (Shudo style) Meridian Therapy theory, palpation, needling and moxibustion techniques, five phases treatment strategy, and simple and effective clinical applications. One of the 3 days is dedicated to hands-on practice for a thorough understanding of the system.

Module Four

Manaka Level II and Applications of Meridian & Manaka Therapy plus Shonishin: Japanese Non-Insertive Pediatric Acupuncture by Dan Zizza

This three-day seminar takes students deeper into the integration and expands on the clinical application of Meridian and Manaka Therapy. Balance between the root and branch treatments are considered and some symptomatic strategies are covered. Special emphasis is placed on palpation and treatment of the abdomen and back with subtle as well as stronger stimulation. One day focuses on Advanced (Level II) Manaka Treatment approaches. One half day focuses on symptom strategies and another half day serves as an introduction to Shonishin (see below).

The final day of this weekend consists of demonstrations and practice integrating the two modalities (Manaka and Meridian Therapy treatment systems).

Shonishin

Shonishin (Japanese Non-Insertive Pediatric Treatment) by Dan Zizza

Shonishin, Japanese non-insertive pediatric treatment, is a safe and gentle acupuncture for children (newborns to 12 years old), using non-insertive needles specifically developed for treatment of children whose energy systems are not fully formed. Shonishin involves the use of light touch diagnosis and non-insertive techniques such as rhythmic rubbing, tapping and scratching, as well as contact needle acupuncture. (After age 5, occasionally light insertion of a few needles may be utilized.) Shonishin pediatric acupuncture is effective in treating various diseases such as colic and other digestive problems, asthma, skin diseases, earaches, irritability, night terrors as well as maintenance of health and the improvement of growth and development in children. Actual treatment time is very quick since children's energy moves rapidly.

Clinical Intensive

This two-day clinical intensive is open to all students who have participated in one or more of the above modules during any offering of the Japanese Acupuncture Certificate Program.

Course Supplies

Recommended texts for the Japanese Acupuncture Certificate Program:

Chasing the Dragon's Tail by Yoshio Manaka

Japanese Acupuncture: A Clinical Guide by Stephen Birch and Junko Ida

Introduction to Meridian Therapy: Japanese Classical Acupuncture by Shudo Denmai; translated by Stephen Brown

A needle/moxa supply list will be emailed to all students prior to start of each module. This list does include various sizes of Seirin Needles and Gold Moxa.

Faculty

Brenda Loew, MAc, Lac

Director, Japanese Acupuncture Certificate Program

Brenda Loew specializes in Japanese-style acupuncture (particularly Toyohari Meridian Therapy), Shonishin (pediatric acupuncture) and Manaka Yin-Yang Channel Balancing Therapy. She has travelled to Japan annually since 1996 for advanced studies with senior Japanese meridian therapy teachers. She also attends annual Toyohari meridian therapy trainings in the US. In 2005 she completed the first Advanced Toyohari training offered outside of Japan (in Amsterdam). She has been an authorized Toyohari Meridian Therapy instructor since 1998 and teaches Toyohari throughout the United States. Brenda was on the faculty of the Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (NIAOM) from 1994-2002 teaching Japanese Acupuncture. She has since been on the Continuing Education faculty for Bastyr University and Wu Hsing Tao School in Seattle. She is the President of the Toyohari Association of North America (TANA) and co-founding member of the Japanese Acupuncture Institute, LLC, which offers a Certificate in Japanese Acupuncture.

Janette Baugh, MAc, LAc, LMP

Janette Baugh earned a Master's of Acupuncture from the Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Seattle and a massage degree from Brenneke School of Massage. She also holds a Master's in Education from the University of Washington. She earned her Japanese Acupuncture Toyohari Certification in 1997 and has since trained in advanced Toyohari techniques around the world. She has served as a faculty member of the Japanese Acupuncture Post Graduate Certificate Program at Bastyr University and has been teaching Japanese Acupuncture for the better part of a decade.

Martin Feldman, LAc

Martin Feldman graduated from the New England School of Acupuncture in 1982 and has been an ardent student of various styles of Japanese acupuncture ever since. He has studied Toyohari Meridian Therapy for nearly two decades, including four trainings in Japan, and serves on the Board of Directors of the Toyohari Association of North America. A nationally-renowned lecturer and teacher, Martin is the former Chair and current faculty member of the Japanese Acupuncture Department at the New England School of Acupuncture in Boston.

Daniel Zizza, LAc, MAc

Daniell Zizza is a practitioner of Acupuncture and East Asian Medicine, and specializes in Japanese Acupuncture and Moxibustion. He has trained in Shiatsu, Sotai, Cranial-Sacral Therapy, Auriculomedicine, Chinese Herbal Medicine, Reiki, and Massage. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Anthropology and Master's Degree in Acupuncture from the Northwest Institute of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine. He completed Toyohari Meridian Therapy in 1996 and has been teaching the same since 1998. He is co-founder of the Japanese Acupuncture Institute, LLC.