

VTAA: Anti-Oppression Statement
Adopted November 14, 2020

The Vermont Acupuncture Association is a dynamic group of Health Care Practitioners with a unique role to play in today's Medical landscape. As acupuncturists, herbalists and meditation practitioners, with many centuries-long lineages of healers standing behind and with us, we work to enhance the lives of our patients and ourselves. In order to facilitate true and deep healing, we must acknowledge the systems and patterns that oppress us; so we can bring to light the embedded trauma in our genetic lines.

Racism, slavery, stolen labor, forced sterilization, incarceration, poverty, and unequal access to health care, to name just a few, are some of the intentional systems created to divide us. As practitioners we must hold space for the process of rooting out these inequities, allowing our patients to be seen and heard. We support the process of healing the oppression and becoming an equal and just community.

The NCCAOM and the ASA state, "As a holistic medical community, we recognize that compassion and love for one another takes work, and that overcoming centuries of systemic racism and discrimination demands constant vigilance, action, and collaboration. We stand committed to anti-racist practices that root out bias, discrimination and oppression in the medical field. We strive to create a world that is just and safe for all, with equitable laws, social opportunities, and access to health care that meet the needs of every human being in our global community."

The VTAA stands with Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), LGBTQ+, and for anti-racism and oppression. We recognize the work it takes for us to educate ourselves and our patients about how these oppressions affect our communities and ourselves.