

POLICIES & GUIDELINES

Australian Traditional-Medicine Society

ATMS POLICY

Draping Policy

Preamble

Professional draping techniques allow the practitioner access to the areas of the body to be treated, while maintaining the privacy and safety of the client. Draping procedures must be thoroughly explained to a client prior to commencing their treatment.

Recommended Draping Protocols

- Explain the purpose of draping, any removal of clothing that may be requested, and that only the part of the body to be treated will be exposed. Obtain informed consent for all draping procedures before proceeding.
- Provide clear instructions about undressing prior to commencing the treatment, and prior to the client's removal of any of their clothing. Ask the client to leave their underpants on. Give female clients the option of leaving their bra on during treatment and obtain consent before adjusting bra straps during treatment.
- Explain clearly to the client the different ways that the draping will be used, while still allowing access to the parts of the body to be treated.
- Always allow your client to remove clothing in private, after you have left the treatment area. If a client requires assistance with dressing or undressing, always gain their consent first, and ensure their modesty and privacy is maintained.
- Explain clearly to the client how they should position themselves on the treatment table or chair, before their treatment.
- The practitioner must provide sufficient draping materials to completely cover the client, and explain to the client how to arrange this draping to cover themselves. During the treatment the client must be covered at all times, with the exception of the discrete area of the body being treated.
- During hot weather it is recommended that draping materials be light weight (e.g. a sheet).
- During the treatment, ask for your client's feedback regarding their level of comfort, to ensure that they feel safe and adequately covered.
- The practitioner should also obtain verbal consent prior to the re-adjusting of any draping materials during the treatment.
- Client's comfort, privacy and safety must be prioritised at all times. If clients prefer not to remove clothing or partially remove clothing, their preference must be respected and the practitioner must modify their treatment accordingly.

Inappropriate Client Behaviour

- In the event that the practitioner deems a client's behaviour as inappropriate, the practitioner should immediately cease the treatment.
- As soon as convenient, the practitioner is to record in the Client Notes all incidents of inappropriate client behaviour, even if the incident was seemingly resolved.