

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
COMMITTEE ON ACUPUNCTURE
POLICY STATEMENT 2001-02**

(Adopted 06/14/2001)

PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP ONCE TREATMENT HAS ENDED

An acupuncturist has an ethical duty to terminate treatment of the acupuncturist/patient relationship before initiating a dating, romantic, or sexual relationship with a patient. The following factors should be taken into consideration when considering whether a relationship is appropriate: the nature of the patient's medical problem, the length of the professional relationship, the degree of the emotional dependence on the acupuncturist, and the importance of the clinical encounter to the patient.