



International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physiotherapists

<https://world.physio/subgroups/acupuncture-dry-needling>
<https://iadapt.physio/>

Chairman: Kerry Fung (Hong Kong)
Secretary: Susan Kohut (New Zealand)
contact@iadapt.physio

IADAPT Accreditation Scheme for Trigger Point Dry Needling Education for Physiotherapists / Physical Therapists – Application Form

Basic Information

Institution:	
Country/Region:	
WP Mem. Org*:	
Program Title:	
Person in Charge*:	
Address:	
Email:	
Web Site / Social Media Account:	

* The Institution may not necessarily be a branch of the World Physiotherapy (WP) Member Organization (MO) of the Country/Region where it is located. However, the person in charge of the program must be a member of a WP MO.



International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physiotherapists

<https://world.physio/subgroups/acupuncture-dry-needling>
<https://iadapt.physio/>

Chairman: Kerry Fung (Hong Kong)
Secretary: Susan Kohut (New Zealand)
contact@iadapt.physio

Declaration

The applicant declares that the program seeking accreditation from IADAPT has **a minimum of 55 Contact Hours** with demonstration of the following mandatory contents:

1. **Basic Concepts of Dry Needling (DN).**
2. **Safe Application of DN and Related Techniques.**
3. **Practical Application of DN for Pain Management and Common Musculoskeletal Disorders.**
4. **Clinical Reasoning of DN Treatment within Physiotherapy**
5. **Knowledge of evidence-based DN treatment**

A minimum of 55 contact hours is considered the basic requirement to ensure **safe trigger point dry needling practice for Physiotherapists / Physical Therapists**. The 55 hours include: contact hours/face to face teaching or supervised internship. Online lectures are accepted practice; however, the lectures must be given in live teleconference (face to face), rather than pre-recorded. Generally, no more than 10% of the information delivered should be provided through online teaching. Practical teaching must be provided face to face to ensure quality of demonstration, practice, supervision and assessment of return demonstration. It can include up to 5% of hours where face-to-face assessment is undertaken, such as a practical exam or presentation. It does not include hours of self-directed learning, or unsupervised.

The curriculum for the program includes the following contents (please check):

- ☐ **Theories of Trigger Point Dry Needling Dry Needling (the balance of which is at the individual program designer's discretion)**
- ☐ **Safety Guidelines and Hygienic Practice of Trigger Point DN**
- ☐ **Indications and Contraindications of Trigger Point DN**
- ☐ **Diagnostic skills**
 - **Clinical reasoning**
- ☐ **Trigger Point Finding (Surface Anatomy) and Identification, including major points of the limbs, back and head.**
- ☐ **Practical Needling Techniques**

An Official Subgroup of





International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physiotherapists

<https://world.physio/subgroups/acupuncture-dry-needling>
<https://iadapt.physio/>

Chairman: Kerry Fung (Hong Kong)
Secretary: Susan Kohut (New Zealand)
contact@iadapt.physio

- ☐ **Supervised Practice**
- ☐ **Application of Evidence-based Practice to Treatment**

The following Formative or Summative assessments may be used:

- ☐ Student Presentation.
 - ☐ Written Examination.
 - ☐ Practical Examination.
 - ☐ Clinical Placement.
-
- ☐ We declare that at least one member of the faculty is a qualified physical therapist/physiotherapist with current membership of a Physiotherapy/Physical Therapy Association which is a member of World Physiotherapy.

Medium of Instruction: _____

Please attach an English version of the program details, prospectus or other description of the program to IADAPT.

Signature: _____ Date: _____



International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physiotherapists

<https://world.physio/subgroups/acupuncture-dry-needling>
<https://iadapt.physio/>

Chairman: Kerry Fung (Hong Kong)
Secretary: Susan Kohut (New Zealand)
contact@iadapt.physio

Certification

Upon successful accreditation of the program, IADAPT will issue a **“Certificate of Accreditation”** to the school, association or authority (the institution) holding the education program. The certificate is valid for 4-years and it is expected that the institution continuing to run the program should apply for an updated accreditation from IADAPT within the 4-year cycle. The institution may use the phrase **“Accredited by the International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physical Therapists, an Official Specialty-group of World Physiotherapy”** or its abbreviated or local equivalent to describe the program they offered while the certificate of accreditation is valid. The institution should inform IADAPT if there is any change in their curriculum (not timetable).

A certificate to the students who have undertaken and passed the assessments and are registered/member physiotherapists in a World Physiotherapy Member Organisation, may also be issued a “Certificate of Trigger Point Dry Needling for Physiotherapists / Physical Therapists” for the accredited program. The application for this certificate must be initiated by the Institute that offered the program. Proof of the studentship, successful completion of the program, and the physiotherapists current registration/membership with a World Physiotherapy Member Organisation must be included in the application. Certification for students cannot be provided by IADAPT if students are not physiotherapists / physical therapists currently registered/members of a World Physiotherapy Member Organisation.

Monitoring of Accredited Programs

Institutions offering an IADAPT accredited program should provide IADAPT with **basic information regarding the delivery of the accredited course**, including the course title, lecturers, links for online presentations and links to publicly available course information (e.g., course webpages or registration pages). This

An Official Subgroup of





International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physiotherapists

<https://world.physio/subgroups/acupuncture-dry-needling>
<https://iadapt.physio/>

Chairman: Kerry Fung (Hong Kong)
Secretary: Susan Kohut (New Zealand)
contact@iadapt.physio

information allows IADAPT to maintain records of accredited activities and facilitates monitoring of program delivery when required. Institutions offering an IADAPT accredited program are expected to continue delivering the curriculum, faculty structure and assessment procedures described in their accreditation application. IADAPT needs to be notified of any changes that may occur.

Annually IADAPT will request **certified membership** of at least one of the programme leaders. This is to demonstrate their ongoing membership of a World Physiotherapy Member Organisation.

During the accreditation period, the institution should notify IADAPT of any **significant changes** to the curriculum, teaching faculty, or assessment structure. Minor timetable or logistical changes do not require notification. IADAPT may periodically request confirmation that the program continues to meet accreditation requirements. This may include submission of updated curriculum outlines, teaching schedules, or other relevant documentation. Where necessary, IADAPT may conduct a **review of the accredited program**. This may include an online meeting with the course provider, review of teaching materials, or, in exceptional circumstances, an **on-site visit or observation of teaching** to ensure that the program is delivered in accordance with the accredited standards.

Complaints and Adverse Events

IADAPT may also receive and review complaints or reports of adverse events related to accredited programs (both faculty as well as students may submit these via email to contact@IADAPT.physio). Where necessary, IADAPT may request clarification or additional information from the institution. If substantial deviation from the accredited program is identified, IADAPT may request corrective actions to ensure continued compliance with accreditation standards.



International Acupuncture and Dry Needling Association of Physiotherapists

<https://world.physio/subgroups/acupuncture-dry-needling>
<https://iadapt.physio/>

Chairman: Kerry Fung (Hong Kong)
Secretary: Susan Kohut (New Zealand)
contact@iadapt.physio

Renewal of accreditation

Accreditation is valid for a period of four years. Institutions wishing to continue using IADAPT accreditation must apply for renewal prior to the expiration of the accreditation period.

The renewal application should include confirmation that the program continues to meet the IADAPT standards, along with documentation of any curriculum changes implemented since the previous accreditation.

Withdrawal or Suspension of Accreditation

In exceptional circumstances where an accredited program no longer meets IADAPT standards, IADAPT may review the accreditation status of the program. Where concerns are identified, IADAPT will first seek clarification from the institution and may request corrective actions. If significant concerns remain unresolved, IADAPT reserves the right to suspend or withdraw accreditation.

Fees

- Application for Accreditation of the Program: GBP300
- Application for issuance of Certificate of Trigger Point Dry Needling for Physiotherapists / Physical Therapists for individual students: GBP20 per certificate

Application Procedure

Fill out relevant forms and submit it via email to contact@iadapt.physio or accreditation@iadapt.physio

All fees should be paid to the account of IADAPT via Bank Transfer or Paypal. Invoice will be advised in due course.

© IADAPT

(v. 1 August 2026)