



From: Misako & Ryan
Re: Clinic Closure & Covid-19

March 16, 2020

To all patients,

After much discussion and research, we have opted to close the clinic through March. In the interim, we will be sharing [online information](#) and resources to assist you as best we can. As this is a fluid situation, we will reassess our closure in the coming weeks.

Key information that led to our decision

Fever is the most common, and often the first symptom of Covid-19. Yet, an analysis through January 2020 of ~1,100 patients from ~550 hospitals throughout China found that the **majority of patients (56%) had no fever at the initial diagnosis of Covid-19** ([see study here](#)). In our opinion, it is unlikely that a majority of people here in our community are asymptomatic carriers of the virus. However, consider that the virus from an infected individual can travel up to ~3ft during a conversation (6ft with coughing/sneezing). Since maintaining a 3ft distance is not feasible in the acupuncture setting we cannot guarantee (however unlikely), that we are not spreading the virus. We know that our care can assist the immune system, even if that is not the reason for your visit. However, knowing this information we considered the ethical dilemma of:

*“What if we are asymptomatic carriers of the virus?
Would this break our oath to ‘First do no harm’?”*

We believe that we must do our part to limit the spread and not risk infecting others. Therefore, we will remain closed through March. In the interim, here is some additional information and resources.

Some additional info...

Traditional East Asian Medicine (TEAM) has been on the forefront of providing care with acupuncture and herbal medicine to manage viral outbreaks and flu-like symptoms for centuries. In fact, this is what is occurring right now in the hospitals in China ([read more here](#)). Please understand we are not saying that TEAM can cure the disease (it cannot). What we are suggesting is that you *could* use this system of healthcare in addition to current usual care. We will be sharing additional resources for home therapies, *Qigong* and herbal treatment options on our [new webpage](#) soon.

Resources & Info

- Covid-19 resources from the [CDC](#) and the [Oregon Health Authority](#)
- [An insightful article](#) and perspective from a group of local physicians
- [Our new webpage](#) for updates re: therapies that you can implement at home