

**Committee on Public Health
Bill Summary**

Bill No.	H2415
Title:	<i>An Act relative to safer treatment</i>
Sponsor:	Representative Carole A. Fiola
Committee:	Public Health
Hearing Date:	June 23, 2025
Similar Matters:	SD2964
Prior History:	Refile of H2270 of 23-24; referred to Public Health; accompanying S1335; reported favorably and referred to Health Care Financing; accompanied a study order.
Reporting Deadline:	August 22, 2025

Current Law:

- **M.G.L. Chapter 112** pertains to the registration of certain professions and occupations.
- **M.G.L. Chapter 112 §148** lists definitions applicable to M.G.L. Chapter 112 §149 to 162.

Summary:

This bill would establish didactic and clinical criteria for non-acupuncturists and non-MDs/DOs (i.e., physical therapists) performing dry needling.

SECTION 1 amends M.G.L. Chapter 112 §148 by defining “dry needling” or “Trigger Point Acupuncture.”

SECTION 2 amends M.G.L. Chapter 112 by inserting a new section, 152A.

Section 152A:

Subsection (a) lists the criteria for licensed health care professionals practicing dry needling, trigger point acupuncture, or intramuscular therapy, including:

- Two years of post-graduate, professional experience prior to the addition of trigger point acupuncture/dry needling.
- 500 didactic hours and 150 clinical hours total of training in the practice of dry needling/trigger point acupuncture.
- Demonstration of minimal competency through a psychometrically sound, third-party examination testing not given by the course offering training.
- Maintenance of the advanced orthopedic clinical certification and continuing education for those practicing dry needling.

- Passage of the Clean Needle Technique (CNT) class and exam taught by the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM).
- Written consent for treatment must be obtained from the patient, and malpractice insurance policies must include coverage for acupuncture.

SECTION 3 requires DPH to promulgate rules and regulations necessary for the implementation of this chapter.