



## Insurance FAQ

*Kristen Burris, L.Ac.* does not bill insurance under any circumstances.

*Tony Burris, L.Ac.* will bill selected insurance carriers if you have acupuncture eligibility with your plan. Please read this carefully. There is a lot of confusion on this subject.

I will **NOT** bill the following companies:

Blue Cross of Idaho- I am a member of the local Blue Card network, yes. However, because **Blue Cross of Idaho does not allow licensed acupuncturists (L.Ac.'s) to contract as participating providers**, this pertains to Regence and Blue Cards outside of Idaho only. **I have no relationship with Blue Cross of Idaho. I will not bill them under any circumstances.** So, if you are told by Blue Cross of Idaho that you have acupuncture coverage, you will have to have that service performed by an M.D. or other medical practitioner. Yes, I am in the greater Blue Card network, and yes, I am a preferred provider, however it doesn't matter. 100% of my work with local Blue is done with Blue Shield or Blue Cross outside of Idaho (HP, for example, is Anthem Blue Cross of California). Blue Cross of Idaho requires acupuncture to be performed by anyone other than a licensed acupuncturist. Sound confusing? This is Blue Cross's policy, not mine.

Federal Blue Card- In Idaho, Federal Blue is routed through Blue Cross of Idaho. See above.

United Healthcare - You may call them and apply for "gap" coverage, which means you pay me out-of-pocket and then bill United yourself with a Superbill I provide to you. Many patients use this method.

Aetna

Select Health

Medicare

Tricare

Medicaid

I WILL bill the following insurance companies **provided you have acupuncture eligibility**:

Regence Blue Shield

Most Blue Cards outside of Idaho (Anthem, Premera, etc.)

Pacific Source

Cigna

Steps you will need to take prior to your appointment:

Please call the phone number on the back of your insurance card to find out the following:

Does your health plan have acupuncture eligibility?

If so, is Tony Burriss an in-network or out-of-network provider?

How many visits are you allowed each calendar year?

What is the co-pay or co-insurance for each visit? This is what you, the patient, owe each visit. Most range from \$10-45, and almost all plans have one. Be prepared to pay one.

Is there a deductible tied to acupuncture visits? In other words, you, the patient, may be required to pay for medical expenses out-of-pocket before your insurance will begin to participate. Find out what that number is and how much you have paid into it. If you have not met your deductible, you will have to pay me out of pocket until you have met it.

Remember: Billing insurance is not a guarantee of benefits. If your claim is denied, you will be obligated to pay for it out-of-pocket.

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