Acupuncture is one of the biggest risk factors among Asian Americans for acquiring the hepatitis C virus (HCV), according to a study published in the journal Digestive Diseases. In a statement, the researchers claim their study confirms findings from several cross-sectional studies of Asian communities across the country. Those findings show that repeated exposures to dirty needles, often in casual alternative health care settings, are to blame for the high hep C prevalence. Up to 6 percent of Asian Americans may have the virus, which is much higher than the national average of 1.3 percent.

To read the statement, click here.