



Latest Research

April 2009

Pubmed

1. [Using acupuncture for acute pain in hospitalized children.](#)
Wu S, Sapru A, Stewart MA, Milet MJ, Hudes M, Livermore LF, Flori HR.
Pediatr Crit Care Med. 2009 Feb 27. [Epub ahead of print]
2. [\[Acupuncture treatment for a patient with prolonged consciousness disturbance after a brain tumor surgery\]](#)
Tamai H, Kawamura Y, Watanabe E, Kanda M, Yamaguchi T, Kikuchi S, Fujita A, Saito K, Hyodo A, Seo N.
Masui. 2009 Mar;58(3):349-53. Japanese.
3. [Moxibustion for treating menopausal hot flashes: a randomized clinical trial.](#)
Park JE, Lee MS, Jung S, Kim A, Kang K, Choi J, Park J, Choi SM.
Menopause. 2009 Mar 13. [Epub ahead of print]
4. [A randomized controlled trial of acupuncture and moxibustion to treat Bell's palsy according to different stages: Design and protocol.](#)
Chen X, Li Y, Zheng H, Hu K, Zhang H, Zhao L, Li Y, Liu L, Mang L, Yu S.
Contemp Clin Trials. 2009 Mar 10. [Epub ahead of print]
5. [Acupuncture as pain relief during delivery: a randomized controlled trial.](#)
Borup L, Wurlitzer W, Hedegaard M, Kesmodel US, Hvidman L.
Birth. 2009 Mar;36(1):5-12.
6. [The effects of triple therapy \(acupuncture, diet and exercise\) on body weight: a randomized, clinical trial.](#)
Nourshahi M, Ahmadizad S, Nikbakht H, Heidarnia MA, Ernst E.
Int J Obes (Lond). 2009 Mar 10. [Epub ahead of print]
7. [The impact of acupuncture on assisted reproductive technology outcome.](#)
El-Toukhy T, Khalaf Y.
Curr Opin Obstet Gynecol. 2009 Mar 5.
8. [Sham acupuncture may be as efficacious as true acupuncture: a systematic review of clinical trials.](#)
Moffet HH.
J Altern Complement Med. 2009 Mar;15(3):213-6.
9. [\[The Effects of Hand Acupuncture Therapy on Pain, ROM, ADL and Depression among Elders with Low Back Pain and Knee Joint Pain.\]](#)
Yang JH.
J Korean Acad Nurs. 2009 Feb;39(1):10-20. Korean.
10. [Moxibustion and other acupuncture point stimulation methods to treat breech presentation: a systematic review of clinical trials.](#)
Li X, Hu J, Wang X, Zhang H, Liu J.
Chin Med. 2009 Feb 27;4(1):4. [Epub ahead of print]

11. **The impact of psychological factors on placebo responses in a randomized controlled trial comparing sham device to dummy pill.**
Bertisch SM, Legedza AR, Phillips RS, Davis RB, Stason WB, Goldman RH, Kaptchuk TJ.
J Eval Clin Pract. 2009 Feb;15(1):14-9.
12. **Acupuncture for treating erectile dysfunction: a systematic review.**
Lee MS, Shin BC, Ernst E.
BJU Int. 2009 Feb 23. [Epub ahead of print]
13. **Randomized Controlled Trials of Acupuncture for Neck Pain: Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis.**
Fu LM, Li JT, Wu WS.
J Altern Complement Med. 2009 Feb 13. [Epub ahead of print]
14. **Acupuncture for Menopausal Hot Flashes: A Qualitative Study About Patient Experiences.**
Alraek T, Malterud K.
J Altern Complement Med. 2009 Feb 13.
15. **Minimal acupuncture is not a valid placebo control in randomised controlled trials of acupuncture: a physiologist's perspective.**
Lund I, Näslund J, Lundeberg T.
Chin Med. 2009 Jan 30;4:1.
16. **A pilot study on using acupuncture and transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation to treat chronic non-specific low back pain.**
Itoh K, Itoh S, Katsumi Y, Kitakoji H.
Complement Ther Clin Pract. 2009 Feb;15(1):22-5. Epub 2008 Oct 23.
17. **Success of acupuncture treatment in patients with initially low sperm output is associated with a decrease in scrotal skin temperature.**
Siterman S, Eltes F, Schechter L, Maimon Y, Lederman H, Bartoov B.
Asian J Androl. 2009 Mar;11(2):200-8. Epub 2009 Jan 5.
18. **A randomized double blind comparison of real and placebo acupuncture in IVF treatment.**
So EW, Ng EH, Wong YY, Lau EY, Yeung WS, Ho PC.
Hum Reprod. 2009 Feb;24(2):341-8. Epub 2008 Oct 21.

Other databases

1. Yu W.-J. Cai S.-X.

A new idea on neovascularization approach in cerebral ischemia treated with acupuncture

Journal of Clinical Rehabilitative Tissue Engineering Research. 13(7)(pp 1375-1378), 2009. Date of Publication: 12 Feb 2009

Abstract

In the study regarding therapeutic mechanism of cerebral ischemia treated by acupuncture, stem cells, such as endothelial progenitor cells (EPCs) participate in function damage-reparation, which has become the hotspot in tissue engineering research. The data demonstrated that acupuncture could release and ameliorate the injury caused by ischemia in many pathways; neovascularization may be an important one. When ischemia-injury occurred, EPCs take part in neovascularization, and many factors, which play a role in this process, can mobilize homing of EPCs. This study shows that acupuncture can influence the factors expression, which will provide new ideas for the research of acupuncture mechanism.

2. Niemtzow R.C. Litscher G. Burns S.M. Helms J.M.

Battlefield acupuncture: Update

Medical Acupuncture. 21(1)(pp 43-46), 2009

Abstract

The update to the "Battlefield Acupuncture" technique, as recommended by Niemtzow, consists of first following the original protocol to determine the dominant ear. If, during this process, a single gold ASP needle reduces the pain several points down on the pain scale, then a silver or stainless steel ASP needle may be placed just touching the gold ASP needle to achieve an even more substantial pain reduction. Niemtzow does not recommend doubling up on the gold ASP needles if there is no pain attenuation. In the course of future description of acupoints associated with this technique, Burns suggests the use of "zone" to replace acupoint; i.e., Cingulate Gyrus zone. The rationale is that the exact point may not be exactly determinable even with an electronic point finder.

3. Finston P.

Extraordinary meridian treatment for severe mental disorders plus augmentation with psychotherapy, Indian Raga music, and essential oils

Medical Acupuncture. 21(1)(pp 27-34), 2009

Abstract

Both Western medicine and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) view severe mental disorders as chronic, difficult to treat, and caused, in part, by genetic factors. TCM scholars believe the Extraordinary Meridians to be a finer, more primary energy field that is present at conception and a reflection of DNA. The author has applied this understanding to the treatment of severe mental disorders. In a 2-step procedure, I have opened the Extraordinary Meridian, then augmented this new energetic balance. Augmentation was accomplished with local treatments and/or "energetic flooding." The latter was done with psychotherapy, Indian Raga music, and/or essential oils. Case reports describe attenuated or extinguished psychotic symptoms, in addition to what appears to be an unblocking of healthy developmental patterns. These results stimulated a reexamination of Western psychiatry's disease model, and speculation of future attempts to validate acupuncture's efficacy using this model and related double-blind studies. These results also led the author to connect my own and others' observations about the relationship between energy states and personality. Other possible models for severe mental disorders are discussed.

- 4 Dorsher P.T. Reimer R. Nottmeier E.

Treatment of urinary incontinence due to incomplete spinal cord injury with acupuncture and percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation: Two cases and literature review

Medical Acupuncture. 21(1)(pp 21-26), 2009

Background: Urinary incontinence related to thoracolumbar upper motor neuron spinal cord injuries has been reported to have poor long-term prognosis for recovery. There is limited research on the use of acupuncture for this condition.

Objective: To describe acupuncture therapy for urinary incontinence due to spinal cord injury.

Design, Setting, and Patients: Two men (63 and 84 years) presented with incontinence following back injury or chronic back pain. Both men had received pharmacological agents and surgical intervention, with minimal improvement.

Intervention: For patient 1, electroacupuncture at GB 25 (negative) to the crossed handles of BL 23 and BL 52 (positive), bilaterally, for 15 minutes, followed by Kidney-Bladder distinct meridian input focused to the crossed handles of BL 31 and BL 34, bilaterally, for another 15 minutes. BL 31 and BL 34 as well as GV 1 were also stimulated. For patient 2, an approach identical to that of patient 1 was performed bilaterally for 15 minutes. Percutaneous electrical nerve stimulation treatment was performed bilaterally for 25 minutes from the crossed handles of T9 and L1 to S1 (negative), and from the crossed handles of S2 and S4 (positive) to the ipsilateral suprapubic region.

Main Outcome Measures: Patient report of incontinence, related symptoms, and use of pharmacotherapy.

Results: At 5-month follow-up, patient 1 was completely continent of urine and could sleep up to 7 hours at night without voiding. After the third treatment, patient 2 discontinued pain medication and bowel and bladder continence were greatly improved. By the 15th treatment, his urinary incontinence had resolved. The authors review the literature pertaining to acupuncture treatment of neurogenic bladder due to spinal cord injury.

Conclusions: Although there are limited data on this topic, acupuncture in these cases produced favorable outcomes in patients with neurogenic bladder that was previously refractory to pharmacological and surgical interventions.

- 5 Di Stanislao C. Brotzu R. Franconi G.

Acupuncture for restless legs syndrome: A retrospective case series

Medical Acupuncture. 21(1)(pp 63-65), 2009

Background: Restless Legs Syndrome (RLS) is a common clinical entity that can cause considerable discomfort and negatively affect quality of life. Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) does not recognize a specific pattern of this disease, but some reports have been published in which acupuncture has been shown to have a positive effect.

Objective: To evaluate the effect of acupuncture on patients with RLS.

Design, Setting, and Patients: A retrospective case series of 30 Italian adults (19 women and 11 men) aged 29-82 years, all with RLS. Patients were treated between December 1996 and December 2007. Patients were treated according to the following pattern: Yang Deficiency (ST 25 and ST 37), Qi Stagnation (LR 1 and GB 34), Yang Stagnation (GB 32 and TB 12), and Yin and Yang Stagnation (GB 32 and LR 6). A total of 12 sessions were performed twice a week for the first 2 months, then once a week for the third month.

Main Outcome Measures: Response to treatment was assessed by comparing the number of episodes of RLS per week, number of sleepless nights, and a visual analog scale (VAS) score for sleep quality before and after acupuncture. Global patient satisfaction with the treatment was assessed via a structured interview.

Results: Yin and Yang Stagnation was present in 13 patients (aged 29-47 years), and RLS improved or disappeared in 12 patients up to 6 months after acupuncture treatment. The other patterns were present in 17 patients (aged 76-82 years), and RLS improved or disappeared in 10 patients after acupuncture treatment. Sleepless nights decreased from a mean of 3.9/wk at baseline to 2/wk at the end of treatment, and to 1/wk at 6-month follow-up. Global patient satisfaction at the end of treatment was

excellent in 24% of patients, good in 35% of patients, and satisfactory in 41% of patients.

Conclusions: Acupuncture may have a positive effect on RLS and the effect can be long-lasting. However, further research is necessary, especially given the mixed patient satisfaction in this study.

- 6 Guimaraes S.B. Da Silva A.H. Braga J.M.

Patterns of acupuncture practice and acupoint usage in Brazil: The Fortaleza experience

JAMS Journal of Acupuncture and Meridian Studies. 1(2)(pp 149-152), 2008

Objective: This study is aimed at providing quantitative data on acupoint usage in Fortaleza, Brazil.

Design: Medical records from 100 patients subjected to acupuncture treatments from January 2005 through June 2006 were randomly selected for study. Data collected included sex/age, visit numbers, acupoints used and point combination usage.

Settings: The Meireles Acupuncture Outpatient Clinic is part of the Brazilian Health System (SUS) and offers free acupuncture therapy to people living in Fortaleza, the fifth largest city in Brazil.

Results: Analysis of sex/age distribution showed that female patients were the majority (78%). Ages ranged from 15-88 years (mean, 52 years). The acupoint data were compiled to produce a histogram of the 30 most commonly used acupoints. These 30 points represented 68% of the total number of acupoints needed in Fortaleza. The same value was found in China Beijing Hospital of TCM. The total number of unique points used was 136 in different combinations, totaling 1109 acupoints (average usage, 11 points per patient). Taichong (67%) and Taixi (63%) were the most needed acupoints.

Conclusion: The data collected demonstrate that Brazilian medical acupuncturists have a clear cut preference for some specific acupoints, as do their Chinese colleagues.

- 7 Bajpai R.P. Drexel M.

Effect of colorpuncture on spontaneous photon emission in a subject suffering from multiple sclerosis

JAMS Journal of Acupuncture and Meridian Studies. 1(2)(pp 114-120), 2008

Abstract

Spontaneous photon signals from four sites of a human subject suffering from multiple sclerosis were detected in 3600 bins of 50 milliseconds by a photo multiplier sensitive in 160-630 nm, before and after a session of colorpuncture treatment. Measurements were made in 22 sessions over a period of 9 months. Each signal was analyzed to determine if it was a quantum signal in a squeezed state. The analysis first generates 10 signals of bin sizes (50 to 500 milliseconds at 50 millisecond intervals) by merging the counts at contiguous bins of the observed signal and then estimates three squeezed state parameters (r , θ and ϕ) in these ten signals and nine other combinations of signals. All estimations yield $r=2.72 \cdot 10^{-10}$, $\theta=101.91$ degrees and $\phi=69.53$ degrees for $TolX=10^{-8}$ in every signal of a healthy subject. These are normal values of the parameters. Other values of parameters in a signal of any estimation indicate some ailment. The deviation from the squeezed state description of a signal is quantified by a new property, "coherency index", which appears to be a good indicator of health. A session of colorpuncture treatment changed coherency indices of signals from different sides and provided relief to the subject suffering from multiple sclerosis. The changes in coherency indices and relief were temporary. Changes in coherency indices lasting for longer periods occurred after many sessions of treatment.

- 8 Kramer S. Zaps D. Wiegele B. Irnich D.

Changes in electrical skin resistance at gallbladder 34 (GB34)

JAMS Journal of Acupuncture and Meridian Studies. 1(2)(pp 91-96), 2008

Objective: Electrodermal screening is widely used in the acupuncture community for point location, diagnosis and therapy. However the underlying theory that electrical skin resistance (ESR) of an area corresponding to an acupuncture point (AP) is lower than ESR of the surrounding areas is yet to be proven. The objective of this study was to evaluate and quantify the phenomenon of ESR changes at the Gallbladder 34 (GB34) Acupuncture Point (AP).

Materials and Methods: In this single-blinded study GB34 was measured bilaterally in 43 healthy volunteers. Electrical skin resistance measurements (ESRMs) were performed with a specially designed array consisting of 64 (8x8) electrodes on an area of 6cm². Then the electrodes corresponding to the AP were identified and compared with those of the surrounding electrodes with Wilcoxon rank sum test. Values for p of less than 0.05 were considered statistically significant.

Results: Eighty-one ESRMs were evaluated. ESR was significantly different from the surrounding skin area in 27 (33.3%) cases with 15 (18.5%) points showing a lower and 12 (14.1%) points showing a higher ESR.

Conclusion: This shows that ESR changes at APs exist in one third of the measured points, a very low rate for a postulation that forms the basis of various diagnosis and therapy systems.