



Latest Research

June 2010

Pubmed

1. **Extent of acupuncture practice for infertility in the United Kingdom: experiences and perceptions of the practitioners.**
Bovey M, Lorenc A, Robinson N.
Fertil Steril. 2010 May 7
2. **The safety of acupuncture in children and adolescents with cancer therapy-related thrombocytopenia.**
Ladas EJ, Rooney D, Taromina K, Ndao DH, Kelly KM.
Support Care Cancer. 2010 Jun 18
3. **Acupuncture improves exercise tolerance of patients with heart failure: a placebo-controlled pilot study.**
Kristen AV, Schuhmacher B, Strych K, Lossnitzer D, Friederich HC, Hilbel T, Haass M, Katus HA, Schneider A, Streitberger KM, Backs J.
Heart. 2010 Jun 15
4. **Efficacy of acupuncture in treatment of cancer pain: a systematic review.**
Peng H, Peng HD, Xu L, Lao LX.
Zhong Xi Yi Jie He Xue Bao. 2010 Jun;8(6):501-9. Chinese
5. **Treatment Expectations and Preferences as Predictors of Outcome of Acupuncture for Chronic Back Pain.**
Sherman KJ, Cherkin DC, Ichikawa L, Avins AL, Delaney K, Barlow WE, Khalsa PS, Deyo RA.
Spine (Phila Pa 1976). 2010 Jun 8
6. **Osteoarthritis of knee joint treated with acupuncture and moxibustion**
Zhang QR, Fu WB.
Zhongguo Zhen Jiu. 2010 May;30(5):375-8. Chinese
7. **Frozen shoulder due to cold damp treated with acupuncture and moxibustion on tender points**
Wang XH, Xu YZ, Hu WB, He ZG.
Zhongguo Zhen Jiu. 2010 May;30(5):364-6. Chinese
8. **Clinical observation on plum-blossom needle on Governor Vessel and point Jiaji (EX-B 2) for treatment of cerebral palsy of involuntary movement**
Han X, Shang Q, Ma BX.
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9. **Acupuncture-ameliorated menopausal symptoms: single-blind, placebo-controlled, randomized trial.**
Castelo Branco de Luca A, Maggio da Fonseca A, Carvalho Lopes CM, Bagnoli VR, Soares JM, Baracat EC.
Climacteric. 2010 May 24
10. **Acupuncture for Hot Flashes in Patients With Prostate Cancer.**
Beer TM, Benavides M, Emmons SL, Hayes M, Liu G, Garzotto M, Donovan D, Katovic N, Reeder C, Eilers K.
Urology. 2010 May 20

11. **The role of acupuncture in the treatment of orthodontic patients with a gagging reflex: a pilot study.**
Sari E, Sari T.
Br Dent J. 2010 May 22;208(10):E19
12. **Acupuncture for pain relief in labour: a systematic review and meta-analysis.**
Cho SH, Lee H, Ernst E. BJOG. 2010 Jul;117(8):907-20
Epub 2010 Apr 28
13. **Acupuncture for frozen-thawed embryo transfer cycles: a double-blind randomized controlled trial.**
So EW, Ng EH, Wong YY, Yeung WS, Ho PC.
Reprod Biomed Online. 2010 Jun;20(6):814-821. Epub 2010 Mar 4.

Other Databases

1. Chang X.-R. Lan L. Yan J. Wang X.-J. Chen H.-M.
Efficacy of acupuncture at acupoints of Foot-Yangming Meridian in the treatment of patients with functional dyspepsia: An analysis of 30 cases
World Chinese Journal of Digestology. 18(8)(pp 839-844), 2010
Date of Publication: 18 Mar 2010

Abstract

Aim: To observe the efficacy of acupuncture at acupoints of Foot-Yangming Meridian in the treatment of patient with functional dyspepsia (FD) and to compare with that of unspecific acupuncture.

Methods: Sixty FD patients were randomly divided into two groups: control group and treatment group. The treatment group was treated by acupuncture at acupoints of Foot-Yangming Meridian, while the control group was treated by unspecific acupuncture. All patients received a total of four treatment cycles, each of which consisted of acupuncture once a day (0.5 h each time) for one week (five times). Immediately before and after the treatment and at one month after the treatment, all patients were requested to fill in several scales, such as Nepean Dyspepsia Index [NDI, including Nepean Dyspepsia Symptom Index (NDSI) and Nepean Dyspepsia Life Quality Index (NDLQI)], FD Symptom Index (FDI), and MOS 36-Item Short-Form Health Survey (SF-36).

Results: The efficacy of acupuncture at acupoints of Foot-Yangming Meridian in improving the symptoms of FD patients was better than that of unspecific acupuncture. The total response rates achieved in treating postprandial fullness, early satiation, epigastric pain, and epigastric burning were significantly higher in the treatment group than in the control groups (85.72% vs 19.23%, 78.26% vs 20.00%, 94.11% vs 6.25%, and 60.00% vs 7.69%, respectively; all $P < 0.01$). At the end of the treatment or at one month after the treatment, NDSI and FDI decreased significantly, and NDLQI and SF-36 increased significantly in the two groups compared to pretherapy values (all $P < 0.01$). NDSI and FDI were significantly lower, and NDLQI and SF-36 were significantly higher in the treatment group than in the control group (all $P < 0.01$).

Conclusion: Acupuncture at acupoints of Foot-Yangming Meridian is effective in the treatment of FD patients. Both the short-term (at the end of the treatment) and long-term efficacy (one month after the treatment) of acupuncture at acupoints are superior to those of unspecific acupuncture in FD patients.

2. Simma-Kletschka I. Gleditsch J. Simma L. Piehslinger E.
Microsystems acupuncture in craniomandibular pain syndromes - a randomised controlled trial
Revista Internacional de Acupuntura. 4(1)(pp 6-11), 2010
Date of Publication: January 2010/March 2010

Abstract

Background: Patients suffering from craniomandibular disorders describe their problems not only as toothache, but also as facial pain. Limitation of movement and a tense feeling in the temporomandibular joint as well as pain in the vertebra are also possible. To treat such symptoms, an interdisciplinary approach (myofascial, stomatognath, lymphatic system) is necessary. Relieving the patients symptoms

as quickly as possible helps to improve the compliance with the patient, thereby facilitating further therapies.

Aim: To assess the effects of acupuncture on the acute symptoms in patients with craniomandibular disorder in comparison to placebo laser treatment. Primary end points are pain intensity (quantified using Visual Analogue Scale [VAS]), functional muscle test, ability to open the mouth, axiographic evaluation as well as the palpation and treatment of sensitive acupuncture points.

Methods: 23 patients with craniomandibular disorder were recruited for the randomised controlled double blind trial. They were divided into two groups: the verum group received acupuncture in the style of "very point", as described by Gleditsch. The second group received treatment with a placebo laser on the same points as a control group. Before and after each session of treatment, the following diagnostic findings were recorded in each group: subjective pain (VAS), mouth opening ability (mm), pressure sensitivity of the face and neck muscles, and pressure sensitivity of the acupuncture areas (MAPS). The therapeutic intervention was not performed by the examiner.

Results: Muscle pain ranking from 0 (no pain) to 3 (very painful) in the acupuncture group (19,1 +/- 11,9) was significantly reduced compared to the placebo group (6,2 +/- 14,8): $p = 0,03$. Pressure-pain sensitivity of the neck and masticatory muscles was significantly reduced in most of the tested muscles ($p < 0,05$) among the acupuncture group. Patients in the acupuncture group showed a slight improvement of mandibular movement in comparison to the placebo group, but this observation remained without a statistical significance.

Conclusion: This RCT shows that acupuncture with the "very point" method can improve symptoms of craniomandibular disorders within a short period of time. Further studies are necessary and projected to prove the long term effect within a larger group of patients.

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3. Collazo Chao E.

Effectiveness of acupuncture therapy for pain relief in patients with fibromyalgia

Revista Internacional de Acupuntura. 4(1)(pp 52-58), 2010

Date of Publication: January 2010/March 2010

Abstract

Background and objective: To evaluate the effectiveness of acupuncture as a combined modality therapy in reducing pain in paired groups (before-after) of patients with fibromyalgia in conditions of clinical practice. To determine the extent to which analgesic consumption is reduced in these patients after a cycle of acupuncture and to identify the adverse reactions due to acupuncture.

Methods: We performed a quasi-experimental study in 42 outpatients with fibromyalgia. Pain was measured on a multiple evaluation scale before beginning the course of acupuncture treatment and at the end of treatment.

Results: Significant differences were found in total pain scale scores and in each of its variables (intensity, frequency, analgesic intake, disability and sleep) before and after acupuncture treatment ($p < 0,001$). After application of an acupuncture cycle, the total pain scale score decreased by 51.5%, intensity by 46.9%, frequency by 41.3%, analgesic intake by 54.3%, and disability by 46.2%; sleep improved by 64.4%. Drug intolerance was found in 26.2% of the patients.

Conclusions: Acupuncture is highly effective in the combined treatment of fibromyalgia and consumes scant resources. The reduction in drug intake in patients with fibromyalgia decreases adverse effects and healthcare costs and improves quality of life and user satisfaction.

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4. Almeyda-Gonzalez L.L. Sanchez-Ahedo R. Lizcano-Esperon F.J. Vega-Lorenzo B. Hernandez-Batista A. Grenier-Almeyda G.E.

Results of electroacupuncture treatment in gonarthrosis

Revista Internacional de Acupuntura. 4(1)(pp 59-63), 2010

Date of Publication: January 2010/March 2010

Abstract

Introduction: Gonarthrosis is the most frequent form of osteoarthritis and affects patients aged more than 40 years old, mainly women. From a social perspective, this disease affects the interaction of affected individuals with their environment, limiting their productive life and income.

Aim: The aim of this study was to compare the analgesic effects of electroacupuncture therapy with those of oral medication in patients with gonarthrosis.

Material and methods: A quasi-experimental intervention was performed in two groups of patients with gonarthrosis: one group was administered electroacupuncture (n = 97) and the other was treated with drug therapy (n = 115). This convenience sample was composed of patients selected from the Orthopedics Unit of the Balbuena Clinic belonging to the Institute of Security and Social Service of the State Workers (ISSSTE) in Mexico city.

Results: Ninety-seven patients were treated with electroacupuncture and 115 with non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs). The percentage of patients treated with electroacupuncture who showed improvement on the first day was 89.9% and that of patients treated with NSAIDs was 3.5%. Complete recovery in the first 10 sessions of electroacupuncture was achieved in 79 patients (81.4%). Those treated with NSAIDs did not show complete recovery during the 20 days when the treatment was quantified. The cost of the treatment was greater in the NSAID group. Pearson's Chi² was 66.24, showing a highly significant association between electroacupuncture therapy and pain relief.

Conclusions: In the patients with gonarthrosis analyzed, electroacupuncture therapy was more effective and cheaper than treatment with NSAIDs. These results are valid for our study. However, the literature consulted supports the effectiveness of electroacupuncture in providing pain relief and this treatment is recognized by the World Health Organization.

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5. Chau A.C.M. Fai Cheung R.T. Jiang X. Au-Yeung P.K.M. Li L.S.W.

An fMRI Study Showing the Effect of Acupuncture in Chronic Stage Stroke Patients With Aphasia

JAMS Journal of Acupuncture and Meridian Studies. 3(1)(pp 53-57), 2010

Date of Publication: March 2010

Abstract

Acupuncture is used as a treatment in stroke patients with aphasia, yet the underlying neural mechanisms are unknown. This study aims to examine the relationship between changes in language function and brain activation using functional magnetic resonance imaging in chronic stroke patients with aphasia who underwent an 8-week acupuncture protocol. Seven chronic stroke patients were identified from a stroke database of a regional acute hospital in Hong Kong between January and July 2007. Patients were treated three times a week over a period of 8 weeks. Four acupoints were stimulated on the weak side of the patient's body. No other rehabilitation was given during the study period. Changes in language function were measured by aphasia quotient (AQ) of Cantonese Aphasia Battery (CAB). Functional magnetic resonance imaging blood oxygen level dependent signals were used to demonstrate the correlation between changes in AQ and brain activation after treatment. The patients were divided into well-recovered and poorly-recovered groups based on their CAB scores at entry. The well-recovered group showed significant improvement in CAB scores after receiving acupuncture treatment. A significant correlation between changes in AQ and blood oxygen level dependent activation in the lesioned Wernicke's speech area was found. These preliminary results suggest that acupuncture may be beneficial to language recovery in chronic stroke patients.

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