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Effects of Moxibustion at Combined Acupoints of ST36, BL21 and CV12 on Small Intestinal Motility in Rats According to Sex and Age
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Abstract

Objectives: The aim of this study was to observe the effect of moxibustion at combined acupoints of ST36, BL21 and CV12 in rats according to sex and age.

Methods: This study measured small intestinal motility in rats. First, cauterization with moxa was applied 5 times each to the acupoints ST36, BL21 and CV12 in rats classified by sex and age and under enflurane anesthesia. Then, the same treatment was done to different pairs of the matched acupoints ST36, BL21 and CV12.

Results: In single-acupoint groups, cauterizing with moxa on ST36 (the ST36 group) increased at 5 and 7 weeks in females and at all weeks in males whereas that on BL21 increased at 5, 6, and 7 weeks in females and only at 5 weeks in males, and that on CV12 showed increases at 5 and 6 weeks in females and only at 7 weeks in males. In the combined-acupoint groups, cauterizing with moxa on ST36 + BL21 increased at 8 weeks in males, that on ST36 + CV12 increased at 5 and 8 weeks in females and at 5, 6, and 8 weeks in males, that on CV12 + BL21 increased only at 5 weeks in females, and that on ST36 + BL21 + CV12 increased only at 5 weeks in females.

Conclusions: Although the differences according to sex and age in rats did not allow a specific tendency to be established, the results suggested that the effects of moxibustion depend on the sex and the age of the individual, which should be considered when planning treatment.

Keywords: moxibustion; ST36; BL21; CV12; small intestinal motility


Association between Earlobe Crease and Hypertension in the Auricular Point Diagnosis
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Abstract

Objectives: The objective of this study was to evaluate the correlation between earlobe crease (ELC) and hypertension (HTN) in the auricular point diagnosis.
Methods: One hundred forty (140) patients who were admitted to the Jeongeup City Geriatric Hospital were examined for the presence or absence of ELC and HTN. The one examined the ELC of patients and the other examined the presence of hypertension. The presence of right ELC, left ELC, right or left ELC, and right and left ELC were, respectively, compared with the presence of HTN. The chi-square test was used to analyze the correlation between ELC and HTN. 

Results: The presence of right ELC was significantly related to the presence of HTN ($p = 0.001$). The sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictability of ELC for diagnosis of HTN were 0.755, 0.524, 0.787, and 0.478, respectively. The presence of left ELC was significantly related to the presence of HTN ($p = 0.002$). The sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictability of ELC for diagnosis of HTN were 0.745, 0.524, 0.785, and 0.468, respectively. The presence of right or left ELC was significantly related to the presence of HTN ($p < 0.001$). The sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictability of ELC for diagnosis of HTN were 0.806, 0.500, 0.790, and 0.525, respectively. The presence of right and left ELCs was significantly related to the presence of HTN ($p = 0.007$). The sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictability of ELC for diagnosis of HTN were 0.694, 0.548, 0.782, and 0.434, respectively.

Conclusions: These results show that the presence of ELC is significantly associated with hypertension.

Keywords: earlobe crease; hypertension; auricular point diagnosis; auriculotherapy


Effectiveness of Acupuncture in Reducing the Severity of Fatigue in Lung Cancer Patients: A Pilot Study
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Abstract

Objectives: Fatigue is a common and distressing symptom that is a concern for cancer patients and that has a decisive effect on the quality of life. The purpose of this study was to examine the feasibility of a clinical trial to evaluate the efficacy and the safety of using acupuncture to reduce the level of fatigue in lung cancer patients.

Methods: A total of nine lung cancer patients who complained of fatigue were treated by acupuncture twice a week for four weeks (eight times in total). The severity of fatigue was measured by using the FSS (Fatigue Severity Score). On visits 1 and 10, we checked the FSS. To check the safety of the acupuncture treatment, we did blood tests.

Results: After 4 weeks of acupuncture treatment, the FSS was significantly decreased from 4.92 ± 1.06 to 3.74 ± 1.37 ($p = 0.008$), and the level of hemoglobin was significantly increased from 10.87 g/dl to 12.01 g/dl ($p = 0.014$). No other lab measures indicated any significant differences between before and after acupuncture treatment.

Conclusions: This study suggests that acupuncture treatment will be beneficial for lung cancer patients to reduce the severity of fatigue and that acupuncture treatment is safe for lung cancer patients. A large-scale study to confirm the efficacy and the safety of acupuncture treatment for cancer patients is needed.

Keywords: cancer-related fatigue; fatigue severity score; lung cancer; acupuncture

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Review of Tumor Dormancy Therapy Using Traditional Oriental Herbal Medicine
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Abstract

Objective: Standard cancer therapy prolongs survival, but can be detrimental to the quality of life, compromise the immune system, and leave residual disease that can cause recurrence years or decades in the future. Tumor dormancy therapy is a novel therapeutic approach that may improve these shortcomings, promote quality of life, and prolong survival. The aim of this study was to analyze studies on dormancy therapy, especially studies using traditional oriental herbal medicine, so as to evaluate the efficacy of dormancy therapy with traditional oriental herbal medicine.