

Editorial

Acupoint Sensitization, Acupuncture Analgesia, Acupuncture on Visceral Functional Disorders, and Its Mechanism

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Received 14 May 2015; Accepted 21 May 2015

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Our special issue, which had opened for 6 months in the second half of 2014, focused on acupoint sensitization, acupuncture analgesia, acupuncture for visceral modulation in gastrointestinal systems, acupuncture for modulation of brain function, acupoint combination treatment of insomnia and gastrointestinal disorders, and nonspecific and specific effects of acupuncture based on stimulation intensity.

Of these papers in press, S. Chen et al. reported that the location and tenderness of Diji (SP8) were not the same in healthy subjects as in dysmenorrheal patients, suggesting dynamic and sensitivity of acupoints under different pathological status. S. Feng et al. did data mining analysis on acupoints or combinations for treatment of vascular dementia and gave suggestions for acupoint selection based on the most commonly used formulas. L. Dai et al. performed basic research in a sciatic nerve injury rat model and found that deep EA stimulation is better in improving neuromuscular function and benign regulation of apoptosis-related factors than shallow EA. J. Wang et al., based on their previous study that hippocampal mAChR-1 participating in MARK signaling was involved in EA induced cumulative analgesia in neuropathic pain rats, observed in their present study that EA2W was closely related to the cumulative analgesia via intracellular ERK and p38 MARK signaling. P. Rong et al. observed that, in anesthetized rats, EA on ST36-ST37 could enhance nucleus ventralis posterior lateralis thalami neuronal discharges which were fired by CRD-induced visceral pain. Their study indicates that acupoints may be sensitized under visceral disorders. Y. Jin et al. conducted a single

blinded, randomized, controlled trial on acupuncture treatment of functional dyspepsia and found that acupuncture manipulation exhibited better effects on improving dyspeptic symptoms, mental status, and quality of life in patients with FD than nonacupoint without manipulation.

In general, we have papers involving clinical trials, data mining analysis or study protocol, and basic research in press, which thoroughly meet the expectation of our initial call for papers of this issue.

Acknowledgments

We thank all authors for their excellent contributions and reviewers for their valuable help. The Lead Guest Editor would like to thank the five Guest Editors for their dedicated cooperation. We hope the special issue will bring readers useful academic reference in their research.

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