



PARKINSON'S DISEASE NEWS

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16th May 2014 - New research

THE EFFECT OF ACUPUNCTURE IN PARKINSON'S DISEASE

Journal of Neurological Science [2014] Apr 24 [Epub ahead of print] (H.J.Kim, B.S.Jeon)

Complete abstract : <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24798223>

A comprehensive review was carried out to assess the evidence from recent clinical studies regarding the efficacy of acupuncture on Parkinson's Disease. Acupuncture is an ancient Chinese form of medicine in which fine needles are inserted and manipulated into the skin at certain points on the body for therapeutic purposes. For more information go to Acupuncture : <http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/acupuncture/pages/introduction.aspx>



Eleven suitable studies were identified. Two randomized clinical trials failed to show any benefit. The other study did not show beneficial effects of needle acupuncture. Three randomized clinical trials that assessed effects of acupuncture in addition to conventional drugs reported beneficial effects of acupuncture. However, there was no control acupuncture group in those studies. Two uncontrolled studies showed significant positive effects of acupuncture, while other two uncontrolled clinical trials failed. Safety and tolerability were reported only in five clinical trials. No studies evaluated the long lasting effects of acupuncture following cessation of the treatment.

The number of clinical trials, their total sample size, and the way they were carried out, were not enough to prove the favorable effects of acupuncture. So far the evidence for the effectiveness of acupuncture for treating Parkinson's Disease is not convincing.

<http://www.viartis.net/parkinsons.disease/news/140516.pdf>

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