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Case Report

PAIN RELIEVED USING EXTRA ANATOMY PATHWAY IN ACUTE INFECTION

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ABSTRACT

Acute infection is characterized especially by pain as major complaint of patients. In this following case report, it will be shown that pain cause of acute infection can be relieved using acupuncture technique. Acupuncture use meridian as extra anatomy pathway.

Key words: Pain, Meridian, extra anatomy pathway

INTRODUCTION

During the long history of traditional Chinese acupuncture, the results of needling acupoints have been described both clinically and theoretically. The concepts of chi, blood, meridians, and acupoints are integral to the understanding and application of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM). Since its introduction into Western culture, there were many experiments and writings to attempt to explain these concepts in Western scientific terms. Many early explanations were shallow and simplistic, for example, that acupuncture is simply a primitive way of describing stimulation of the nervous system, or that it is only placebo treatment (Starwynn, 2001).

Recently a growing number of insightful researchers have penetrated further into the common truth between TCM and Western science, and their paths have led into the realms of electromagnetics and quantum physics (Starwynn, 2001).

Acupuncture involves the insertion and manipulation of needles into specific points on the body to relieve pain or for therapeutic purposes. In acupuncture medicine technique, a communication path exists aside from nervous, blood vessels and lymph vessels communication path. Meridian is not a nerve path, not a lymph vessels path, is also not a path of blood vessels. This particular communication path is known as energy communication path (chi) or is specially named as meridian. In acupuncture theory, it is mentioned that chi flows through the body's meridians. If this chi flows is disrupted, complains or symptoms according to the degree of disruption and the meridian where disrupted will appear (Yanfu,¹ 2002).

As early as in the ancient age, people began to use stone needle for medical treatments. Acupuncture therapy uses acupuncture points as the stimulating points and the relationship of meridian as basis of the treatment. Meridian consists of major channel and branches of channels, which refer to the network that runs *chi*, contact the viscera, communicate the internal and external and run through up and down inside the body (Yanfu,¹ 2002)

According to Gellman (2002), the body's bio energy flows through specific channels called meridian and regulates the whole body function of the body's organ. Meridian is channels which connect all the body's components. Aside from connecting all of the body's energy internally, meridian also connects the body's internal energy with external energy (natural energy) through "doors" called acupuncture points or acupuncture points.

Stimulation on acupuncture points will be transmitted meridian communication path. Then stimulation will affect circulation of the existing energy system, creating a healing effect, especially to meridian connected directly to the stimulated acupuncture point (Gellman, 2002). Diameters of the acupuncture points are approximately between on to three millimeters.

The depths from the surface of the skin are according to the place and different in each individual (Wensel, 1980). It has long been known that acupuncture points have some specific characteristics, at superficial acupuncture points, there are high electric potential (can reach as high as 300mV), high electric capacitance (0.1-lmF), low electric resistance, increased skin respiration, high local temperature, radiating light which spontaneously visible from Jing and Yuan points, and sound signals (frequency

2–15 Hz, amplitude: 0.5–1 mV). At profound acupuncture points, there are low perception threshold to electric stimulation, high capacitance, electric resonance with the other acupuncture points, high conductivity to isotopic tracers (Starwynn, 2001).

Darras (1992) investigated the pathways of acupuncture meridians in the human body through the injection of radioactive tracers at acupuncture points. Technetium 99 m (99 mTc) as sodium pertechnetate, the most common radioactive tracer in nuclear medicine, has been used. The migration patterns were recorded with a scintillation camera associated with computer imaging capabilities. His findings show that the preferential pathways taken by the radiotracer coincide with acupuncture meridians as described in Chinese traditional medicine. More, it has been established that these pathways are distinguishable from either lymphatic or vascular routes.

CASE REPORT

A 68-year-old mother came up with right foot pain. Right foot pain caused by an iron rod pierced. Iron was piercing of the plantar toward back foot about 3 cm long (see Fig. 1). Diameter of the iron in about 6 mm. Puncture occurred 20 hours ago.



Figure 1. Wound location (private document, Camera in Black Berry Bold 9500)

Injury caused pain. Pain was felt increasing. Injuries also generate signs of inflammation do to infection. The foot swelled especially in the area around the wound, the plantar foot and the dorsum of the foot (Fig. 1). The color of the area around the wound flushed skin, increased body temperature. The temperature increase is felt throughout the body, the patient feels cold. Related to the pain increases, the patient could not stand upright, because the inversion of the foot should be positioned.

After examination, anamnesis and physical examination, the physician who examined propose to do therapy using acupuncture techniques.

Before performing the acupuncture therapy, the physician did conventional therapy in the form:

First, the doctor did conventional therapy in the form:

1. Clean the wound (debridement)

2. Closing the wound using gauze soaked in liquid antiseptic solution (betadine) and then closes the wound using hypafix (Fig. 2A).



Figure 2. A. Closes the wound using hypafix (private document)
B. Punctured in Ki-3 acupoint (private document)

Furthermore, inspectors perform acupuncture therapy by acupuncture needle (stainless steel) sterile size 0.25 x 40 mm. Puncture perpendicularly 0.3–0.5 inch at the Kidney point-3 (Ki-3, Taixi), on the medial border of the foot. posterior to the medial malleolus, in the depression between the tip of the medial malleolus and Achilles tendon (yanfu,² 2002), (Fig. 2B).

Needle direction and rotated counter-clockwise. In this case report, point was chosen as an effective point for the body's energy flow in *kidney meridian* energy lines, especially for unblocked of body energy flow in plantar of foot (Yanfu,² 2002). Pain was relieved in about 45 seconds. Patients feel the pain decreased to about 80%. After that, acupuncture needle revoked, the person can stand in the direction normal standing foot (not inversion), a little pain.

CONCLUSION

1. Pain in acute infection can be relieved by puncturing the point of acupuncture.
2. The way of communication used in acupuncture is extra anatomy pathway.
3. This case report impressed the existence of meridian pathway. Another pathway common use in anatomy terminology (Abdurachman, 2005, 2009).
4. This case report impressed the existence of acupuncture points.

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