

6. Nervous System Diseases

Reference

Park YC, Jang DI, Lee YH, et al. A study on the effect of acupuncture treatment in patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease. *Daehan-Chimgu-Hakhoeji (Journal of Korean Acupuncture & Moxibustion Society)* 2007; 24(4): 43–54 (in Korean with English abstract).

1. Objectives

To evaluate the therapeutic effect of acupuncture point acupuncture treatment in patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

2. Design

Randomized controlled trial (RCT).

3. Setting

One Oriental hospital (Kyunghee University Medical Center), Republic of Korea.

4. Participants

Fifty-six patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease.

5. Intervention

Arm 1: Constitution-dependent acupuncture treatment group (n=12).

Arm 2: Standard acupuncture point acupuncture treatment group (n=21).

Arm 3: Control group (n=13).

6. Main outcome measures

Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale (UPDRS) score, modified Hoehn and Yahr (H-Y) Staging Scale score, Activities of Daily Living (ADL) index, Freezing of Gait Questionnaire (FOGQ) score.

7. Main results

1) There was a significant difference in UPDRS IV score and UPDRS total score between the constitution-dependent acupuncture and control groups and between the standard and control groups.

2) There was a significant difference in FOGQ score between the constitution-dependent acupuncture treatment group and the standard and control groups.

8. Conclusions

Decrease in UPDRS and FOGQ scores suggest that acupuncture relieves symptoms and improves the quality of life in patients with Parkinson's disease. The effect of constitution-dependent acupuncture treatment on UPDRS IV, UPDRS total score, and FOGQ score suggest that patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease could benefit from this treatment.

9. Safety assessment in the article

Not mentioned.

10. Abstractor's comments

This randomized, controlled clinical trial evaluated the efficacy of constitution-dependent acupuncture treatment in patients with idiopathic Parkinson's disease. The approaches tried in this study varied and depended on the individual case. This study also found significant differences in the results of constitution-dependent acupuncture and acupuncture point acupuncture. Yet more indepth studies on the specificity of treatment and acupuncture treatment technology based on principles of traditional Korean medicine are needed.

11. Abstractor

Lee EJ, 26 May 2010.