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FEBRUARY 2010 ISSUE



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This month in the news..

Welcome to the February Issue of the Acupuncture.com.au monthly newsletter.

If you wish to contribute a story or article about Acupuncture or Traditional Chinese Medicine please contact the Acupuncture.com.au team through the web.

19/01/2010 —Possible involvement of histamine, dopamine, and noradrenalin in the periaqueductal gray in electroacupuncture pain relief.



Acupuncture and electroacupuncture are used in pain relief; however, the mechanism underlying the analgesic effect of acupuncture is unclear. Several lines of evidence propose that the periaqueductal gray (PAG), which is one of the regions that contributes to the endogenous pain inhibitory system, is involved in the analgesic effect of acupuncture, and the region receives several neural projections such as histamine and noradrenalin and

contains the dopamine cell bodies.

The current study examined the effects of electroacupuncture at Zusanli (ST36) and Shangjuxu (ST37) acupoints, which are used for clinical pain control, on the release of neurotransmitters in the PAG in rats. Histamine and dopamine release was increased after pain stimulus, while the changes were completely abolished by electroacupuncture. Pain stimulus had no effect on noradrenalin release, but electroacupuncture increased its release.

These findings indicate that acupuncture at Zusanli and Shangjuxu exerts

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an antinociceptive effect via the activation of neurons in the PAG and that the histaminergic, dopaminergic, and noradrenalinergic systems in the PAG are related to electroacupuncture-induced pain relief.

Country: Japan **Institute:** Department of Medical Science and Technology, Division of Health Sciences, Graduate School of Medicine, Osaka University, Osaka 565-0871, Japan. **Author(s):** Murotani T, Ishizuka T, Nakazawa H, Wang X, Mori K, Sasaki K, Ishida T, Yamatodani A. **Journal:** Brain Res. 2010 Jan 8;1306:62-8. Epub 2009 Oct 9. **Pubmed ID:** 19819232

Events Calendar for February 2010

06

Adelaide - Acupuncture for Sport Injury

Contact: Anh Phung Acupuncture Academy on 0413 353 878 or ap656961@yahoo.com This is a multi-day event ending on the 06/02

07

Sydney - Classical 5Element Acupuncture

Contact: Gye Bennetts on 02 9440 4194 or courses@5element.com.au This is a multi-day event ending on the 07/02

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Melbourne - Classical 5Element Acupuncture

Contact: Gye Bennetts on 02 9440 4194 or courses@5element.com.au This is a multi-day event ending on the 14/02



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