

this issue

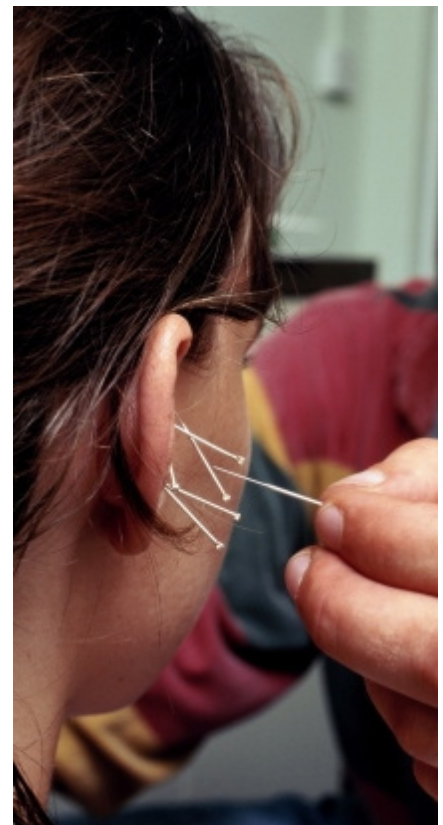
Research: RCT: Auricular
Acupuncture for chemically depen-
dent pregnant women. **P.1**
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26/12/2012 - Auricular Acupuncture for chemically dependent pregnant women: a randomized controlled trial of the NADA protocol.

The prevalence of maternal drug use during pregnancy in North America has been estimated to be as high as 6-10%.

The consequences for the newborn include increased risk for perinatal mortality and ongoing physical, neurobehavioral, and psychosocial problems.

Methadone is frequently used to wean women off street drugs but is implicated as a cause of adverse fetal/neonatal outcomes itself.



Research continued on page 2..

DU4 / GV4

DU4 (Governing Vessel 4) - Acupuncture Point Information

Chinese Name: Mingmen

English Name: Life Door

Location: Below the spinous process of the 2nd lumbar vertebra

Functions: Nourishes Yuan Qi and strengthens the Kidneys, benefits the lumbar vertebrae.

Primary Indications: Vaginal discharge, spermatorrhoea, impotence, stiffness of back and lumbago.

Tertiary Indications: Diarrhoea, haemorrhoids, coldness of limbs, rectal prolapse, sciatica, uterine bleeding, infantile convulsions, related pain in lower back and abdomen, intestinal colic pain, headache, febrile diseases, urinary disorders (incontinence of urine, Ling zheng), tinnitus.

Other Indications: Dysentery, peritonitis, spinal myelitis, sequelae of infantile paralysis, nephritis, Kidney diseases generally, diseases of genital organ system, intestinal haemorrhage, cerebral congestion.

This information is from the book *Acupuncture Point Dynamics* by John McDonald.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of our study was to test the ability of maternal acupuncture treatment among mothers who use illicit drugs to reduce the frequency and severity of withdrawal symptoms among their newborns.

METHODS:

We randomly assigned chemically dependent pregnant women at BC Women's Hospital in Vancouver, British Columbia to daily acupuncture treatments versus usual care. By necessity, neither our participants nor acupuncturists were blinded as to treatment allocation. Our primary outcome was days of neonatal morphine treatment for symptoms of neonatal withdrawal. Secondary neonatal outcomes included admission to a neonatal ICU and transfer to foster care.

RESULTS:

We randomized 50 women to acupuncture and 39 to standard care. When analyzed by randomized groups, we did not find benefit of acupuncture; the average length of treatment with morphine for newborns in the acu-

puncture group was 2.7 (6.3) compared to 2.8 (7.0) in the control group. Among newborns of women who were compliant with the acupuncture regime, we observed a reduction of 2.1 and 1.5 days in length of treatment for neonatal abstinence syndrome compared to the non-compliant and control groups, respectively. These differences were not statistically significant.

CONCLUSIONS:

Acupuncture may be a safe and feasible treatment to assist mothers to reduce their dosage of methadone. Our results should encourage ongoing studies to test the ability of acupuncture to mitigate the severity of neonatal abstinence syndrome among their newborns.

Clinical Trial Registration <http://www.clinicaltrials.gov> registry: W05-0041.

Country: USA / Author(s): Janssen P, Demorest LC, Kelly A, Thiessen P, Abrahams R. / Journal: *Subst Abuse Treat Prev Policy*. 2012 Dec 23;7(1):48.

Pubmed ID: 23259913

Upcoming Events - 2013

February 1 - Sydney

Australasian Toyohari Meridian Therapy Course - Weekend 4

This is a multi-day event ending on the 03/02

Contact: Helio Supply

February 6 - Perth

Master Class in Traditional East-West Cupping Bruce Bentley

This is a multi-day event ending on the 08/02

Contact: Bruce Bentley on 03 95761787

February 9 - Perth

Modern Cupping Therapy presented by Bruce Bentley

This is a multi-day event ending on the 10/02

Contact: Bruce Bentley on 03 95761787

February 9 - Brisbane

Reproduction and Fertility Masterclass by Peter Kingston

This is a multi-day event ending on the 10/02

Contact: China Books on 02 9280 1885

February 16 - Melbourne

Master Class in Traditional East-West Cupping Bruce Bentley

This is a multi-day event ending on the 18/02

Contact: Bruce Bentley on 03 9576 1787

February 19 - Melbourne

Modern Cupping Therapy by Bruce Bentley

This is a multi-day event ending on the 20/02

Contact: Bruce Bentley on 03 9576 178