

World Health Organisation (WHO) Report [2003]

Acupuncture: Review and Analysis of Reports on Controlled Clinical Trials

Four Categories of Disease and Disorders for which Acupuncture may be Considered to be Effective

A Diseases, Symptoms and Conditions for which Acupuncture has been proved through controlled trials to be an Effective Treatment.

adverse reactions to radiotherapy and/or chemotherapy	allergic rhinitis (inc. hayfever)
biliary colic	depression (inc. depressive neurosis and depression following stroke)
acute bacillary dysentery	primary dysmenorrhoea
acute epigastralgia (in peptic ulcer, acute and chronic gastritis, and gastrospasm)	facial pain (inc. cranio-mandibular disorders)
headache	essential hypertension
primary hypotension	induction of labour
knee pain	leukopenia
low back pain	correction of malposition of foetus
morning sickness	nausea & vomiting
neck pain	pain in dentistry (inc. dental pain and temporomandibular dysfunction)
periarthritis of the shoulder	postoperative pain
renal colic	rheumatoid arthritis
sciatica	sprain
stroke	tennis elbow

B Diseases, Symptoms and Conditions for which the Therapeutic effect of Acupuncture has been shown but for which further proof is needed.

abdominal pain (in acute gastroenteritis or due to gastrointestinal spasm)	acne vulgaris
alcohol dependence and detoxification	Bell's palsy
bronchial asthma	cancer pain
cardiac neurosis	chronic cholecystitis with acute exacerbation
cholelithiasis	competition stress syndrome
closed cranio-cerebral injury	non-insulin-dependent diabetes mellitus
earache	epidemic haemorrhagic fever
simple epistaxis (without generalised or local disease)	eye pain due to subconjunctival disease
female infertility	facial spasm
female urethral syndrome	fibromyalgia and fasciitis
gastrokinetic disturbance	gouty arthritis
hepatitis B virus carrier status	herpes zoster (human [alpha] herpesvirus 3)
hyperlipaemia	hypo-ovarianism
insomnia	labour pain
lactation deficiency	non-organic male sexual dysfunction
Ménière's disease	post-herpetic neuralgia
neurodermatitis	obesity
opium, cocaine and heroin dependency	osteoarthritis
pain due to endoscopic examination	pain in thrombo-angiitis obliterans
polycystic ovary syndrome (Stein-Leventhal syndrome)	post extubation in children
postoperative convalescence	premenstrual syndrome
chronic prostatitis	pruritis
radicular and pseudoradicular pain syndrome	primary Raynaud syndrome
recurrent lower urinary tract infection	reflex sympathetic dystrophy
traumatic retention of urine	schizophrenia
drug-induced sialism	Sjögren's syndrome
sore throat (inc. tonsillitis)	acute spine pain
stiff neck	temporomandibular joint dysfunction
tobacco dependence	Tourette syndrome (inc. eye tics)

chronic ulcerative colitis	urolithiasis
vascular dementia	whooping cough (pertussis)

C Diseases, Symptoms and Conditions for which there are only individual controlled trials reporting some Therapeutic benefit, but for which Acupuncture is worth trying because Treatment by conventional and other Therapies is difficult.

chloasma	central serous choroidopathy
colour blindness	deafness
hypophrenia	irritable colon syndrome
neuropathic bladder in spinal cord injury	chronic pulmonary heart disease
small airway obstruction	

D Diseases, Symptoms and Conditions for which Acupuncture may be tried provided the Practitioner has special modern medical knowledge and adequate monitoring equipment.

breathlessness in chronic obstructive pulmonary disease	coma
convulsions in infants	coronary heart disease (angina pectoris)
diarrhoea in infants and young children	late stage viral encephalitis in children
progressive bulbar and pseudobulbar paralysis	