

SUMMARY

The word “Acupuncture” is from the Latin and refers simply to “piercing with a sharp instrument” and it sometimes taken to refer exclusively to the traditional Chinese method of treatment, but in the present context it should be taken to mean the therapeutic use of needles, without any presupposition of any underlying theory structure.

Acupuncture originated in China in prehistory and has been used for more than two thousands years in china and Japan; the earliest literary reference is in the Yellow Emperor’s Book of Internal Medicine, dating from the second or third century. Acupuncture reached Japan in the sixth century of the Christian Era and was introduced into Europe by Ten, who had learned it in Japan. As a therapy it spread very slowly in Europe. The first European and American publication on acupuncture treatment appeared in the early nineteenth century.

Acupuncture is widely offered as a treatment option in pain management clinics. It appears to have a therapeutic role in the treatment of a variety of pain disorders.

Such pain not only affects the life of the individual and is costly in terms of human suffering but it is also costly in terms of provision of care, drugs and medical intervention.

Many researches are attempted to relieve pain by a combination of drugs, local anaesthetic nerve block and other more like acupuncture.

Acupuncture has a rule in anesthesia as many operations can be done by usage of acupuncture through known meridians (channels) in the body as for lung operations its meridian is whole arm and shoulder and an operation for the spleen its meridian is through the all lower limb and extend through a line in the abdomen to the right of the umbilicus and right of the right nipple up to the second intercostal space. And many operations for every organ in the body has its specific meridian or channel.

Acupuncture also used in rheumatological problems and withdrawal of habitual substances and other uses.

By common usage it is often extend to cover certain other forms of therapy by many routes of acupuncture stimulation as :

- Superficial needling of subcutaneous tissue.
- Intermuscular stimulation.
- Periosteal stimulation.
- Electroacupuncture.
- Acupressure balls.
- Press-needles.
- Laser therapy.

Acupuncture on the Chinese manner is known as the traditional acupuncture. The European acupuncture which begin in the mid- 1970 following reports of its use for analgesia in surgery and researches had focus on acupuncture effects on acute and chronic pain.

Acupuncture is done through points or meridians (channels). The chinese studies showing that there are 30g acupuncture points are studied on or very close to nerve, while 286 one or very close to major blood vessels.

The other than points, there are meridians which form a networks which every channel is specified to a system such as channel of pericardium, stomach, lung ... etc.

Acupuncture is explained that its mechanism of action may through noradrenergic system or seratogenic system and show that enkephalines has rule is acupuncture mechanism of action.

There are many adverse reactions to acupuncture had been recorded such as transmtion of disease if contaminated needles (Hepatitis & AIDS), septicemia bleeding, drowsines ... etc.

So we must use sterile disposable needles under aseptic technique and observation for bleeding.