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Neuroimaging from different stimuli in auriculotherapy

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Problem Statement: Researchers have long investigated the results of acupuncture, including the use of modern techniques such as neuroimaging. However, research on microsystems such as auriculotherapy is scarce. There are points in auricular acupuncture with recommendations for possible calming effects and other revitalizing ones, which are consecrated more by practical experience than based on scientific research. There are good results in different sources of stimuli, such as electro-acupuncture and laserpuncture, however, studies on these actions are timid. Functional Autonomic Nervous System (ANS) performance analysis is based on cardiac rhythm variability, vascular compensation response (HR min/HR max), obtaining autonomic amplitude and frequency. The individual variability and physiological changes associated with acupuncture have also been reported in the literature.

Objective: The objective of the study was to evaluate the immediate influence on the ANS by stimulating points and with different materials in auriculotherapy, through neuroimaging, anxiety control and heart rate.

Methodologies & Theoretical Orientation: Equipment with brain and peripheral sensors was used to capture alterations in brain images, anxiety control and real-time heart rate with different stimuli used at auricular points.

Results: It was observed with the data captured in the images that the stimulus with laserpuncture, electro-acupuncture and needle have a faster response than the seed of Vaccaria when used in the acupuncture point Shen Men, kidney and vegetative nervous system. However, when stimulated the point of joy, even with seed Vaccaria the response was immediate.

Conclusion & Significance: Neuroimaging makes it possible to intensify research with microsystems, to investigate its main points, different sources of stimuli and the neurophysiological reactions provoked. Thus, it will guide the performance and evolution of auriculotherapy.

Biography

Lirane Carneiro-Suliano completed Master's degree and is currently a PhD student from the Federal University of Paraná. She is a specialist in Acupuncture and Functional Orthopedics of Jaws. She obtained a complementary training in Auriculotherapy in France and in Acupuncture in Beijing Traditional Medicine Training Center of the WFAS, China. She is a Postgraduate Professor in Acupuncture. She lectures about the scientific research works in the area of Acupuncture in several national and international congresses (Boston - Harvard University and Beijing in China). She is a member of the Research Nucleus of Acupuncture (NUPEA) of IBRATE Faculty, having main lines of research and studies published in the area of acupuncture and auriculotherapy. She is a Founding member of the Brazilian Dental Society of Acupuncture (SOBA). She is a member of the Commission of Integrative Practices of the Regional Council of Dentistry of Paraná (CRO-Pr).

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