

# 4<sup>th</sup> Global Acupuncture & Therapists Annual Meeting and International Conference on **Holistic Medicine & Holistic Nursing**

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## Involvement of purines in acupuncture-induced analgesia

**Yong Tang**

Chengdu University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, China

Acupuncture has been used in China from ancient times since more than 2,000 years ago. A variety of disorders can be treated effectively by inserting long, fine needles into specific acupuncture points (acupoints) on the skin of the patient's body. Since acupuncture was proposed by National Institutes of Health (NIH) consensus in 1997 as a therapeutic intervention of complementary medicine, acupuncture efficacy has become more and more accepted in the Western world. Among acupuncture therapies, the acupuncture-induced analgesic effect has been used widely to alleviate diverse types of pain, particularly chronic pain. To date, acupuncture analgesia has drawn the attention of many investigators and become an important research subject of international interest around the world. Numerous studies have also demonstrated that acupuncture analgesia has physiological, anatomical and neurochemical basis despite that there is still an ongoing debate about the mechanism by which acupuncture alleviates pain. Since Professor Geoffrey Burnstock proposed that purinergic signaling, rather than a mystical sub-epidermal energy, may explain how acupuncture works in an article in *Medical Hypotheses* in 2009, the role of purinergic signaling in acupuncture research has gained much attention. So far, more scientists have got started to study the role of purinergic signaling in acupuncture-induced analgesia. In my talk, the work have been done by our group and other scientists will be summarized and where we are going and how we are going to get there in this amazing field will be described.

[tangyongcn@126.com](mailto:tangyongcn@126.com)

## UCMCCR - The understanding of characteristics of meridians through the clinical case report: Treatment with traditional Korean medicine, Sa-Am acupuncture and herbal medicine of adult patient with psoriasis

**Yong-Cheol Jeon**

Gounnury Traditional Korean Medicine Clinic, Republic of Korea

In the clinical case report, the author tried to prove meridians exist in human being and each meridian has its own characteristics with the photographs through treating a psoriasis patient. The patient was well treated with Sa-Am acupuncture and herbal medicine based on the theory of Sa-Am acupuncture. The patient was diagnosed with lung dryness and heat, liver fire and blood heat with 4 eastern medical diagnostic ways. So, the author chose three meridians to control lung dryness and heat, liver fire and blood heat. The three meridians were hand tai-yin lung meridian, hand shao-yang triple warmer meridian and hand tai-yang small intestine meridian. To try to tonify the characteristics of hand tai-yin lung meridian, the author tonified LU9, SP3 acupoints. To try to sedate the characteristics of hand shao-yang triple warmer meridian, the author tonified TW2 acupoints. To try to tonify the characteristics of hand tai-yang small intestine meridian, the author tonified SI3 acupoints. To understand above concepts, we have to know the meaning of six qi and five elements composing of the name of meridians. Six qi is the jargon meaning the expression of inside energies like contents, which means the jargon is for explaining easily changing energies inside. Five elements is the jargon meaning the expression of the energies of the structures like bowl, which means the jargon is for explaining unchanging and fixed energies of outside structure. Tai-yin means moisture and earth, shao-yang means ministerial fire (mutual fire), tai-yang means coldness and water from the view of six qi. Lung corresponds to metal, triple warmer corresponds to ministerial fire and small intestine corresponds to fire from the view of five elements. By the concepts of six qi and five elements, we can assume what kinds of characteristics 12 meridians have.

[hanyii2000@naver.com](mailto:hanyii2000@naver.com)