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Cardiac imaging study on acupuncture treating the pig model of Chronic myocardial ischemia

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Clinical practice shows that acupuncture at Neiguan point can relieve angina of coronary heart disease, but its mechanism is unknown. Various cardiac imaging tools, including ECG, ultrasound, CT and MR were used to visualize how acupuncture improves chronic myocardial ischemia. Ten healthy Chinese miniature pigs were recruited in this experiment. All were operated by implantation of Ameroid narrow ring around the superior-middle part of the left anterior coronary artery and became the models of chronic myocardial ischemia after 4 weeks. 5 cases were dead due to heart failure after 3 weeks of post operation. However, another 5 survived cases participated in the acupuncture experiment. Each case was embedded with needle in the Neiguan point on the right anterior limb. The treatment lasted for 2 weeks. All imaging measurements were conducted before and after acupuncture treatment. 4 weeks post operation, 5 cases were found pathological Q wave of ECG, 2 cases of anterior wall of left ventricle, 2 cases of anterior-medial wall, the anterior-lateral wall in 1 case. R wave was showed in lower or flat. Ultrasound, CT and MR of Cardiac imaging showed the reduced left ventricular ejection fraction from 5 to 50%. After 2 weeks' treatment of acupuncture at Neiguan, 4 cases showed the decreased heart rate. R wave was higher than before and the left ventricular ejection fraction increased from 10% to 50%. But 1 case showed no obvious change. The needle embedding therapy at Neiguan point improves the chronic myocardial ischemia state in pig model.

Biography

Jiliang Fang has completed his PhD from Institute of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences and Postdoctoral studies from Massachusetts General Hospital & Harvard Medical School. He is the Deputy Director of Department of Radiology, Guang'anmen Hospital, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences. He has published more than 15 papers in international reputed journals in imaging study on acupuncture.

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