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A randomized controlled study and evaluation of children with cerebral palsy by mind acupuncture

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Objective: To investigate the effects of clearing the mind acupuncture in neural development and remediation of children with cerebral palsy.

Methods: 200 cases of children with cerebral palsy were randomly divided into the treatment group (n=100) and the control group (n=100). The treatment group was given the combined therapy of acupuncture and rehabilitation training. The control group was only treated with rehabilitation training. A contrastive analysis of the therapeutic effect of acupuncture combined with rehabilitation training and pure rehabilitation training was made after a treatment course of three months. The Gross Motor Function Measure (GMFM) and Beijing Gesell Developmental Scale were adopted to assess the neural development and rehabilitation outcomes of the two groups. In addition, skull MRI was adopted to evaluate the plerosis of injured cerebral nerve after treatment.

Results: The total effective rate in treatment group was 87%, significantly higher than the 55% in the control group. The children's development quotient (DQ) tested by Gesell Developmental Scale and scores tested by GMFM in the treatment group was obviously higher than the control group ($P<0.01$). The improving and curing rates presented by skull MRI in the treatment group were higher than the control group ($P<0.01$).

Conclusions: Clearing the Governor Vessel and refreshing the mind needling could accelerate the recovery of injured brain nerve and the reconstruction of brain function. The acupuncture therapy could ameliorate both the motor development and cognitive development. On the other hand, the forward curative effect of acupuncture combined with rehabilitation training was significantly better than the pure rehabilitation training.

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