Electroacupuncture
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Electroacupuncture is an acupuncture technique that, comparatively speaking, has only recently come into being. Some scholars believe that acupuncture was first discovered by physicians in France and Italy as far back as the early 1800s. Others attribute its discovery to Japanese inventors in the 1940s who were interested in making bone fractures heal more quickly. Still others claim that electroacupuncture was first developed in China in the 1840s and 1850s, that acupuncture was then imported to England, and that the method was eventually imported to America in the 1940s. Whichever the case, electroacupuncture is an increasingly popular form of treatment used by practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine for a wide range of conditions.

What is the difference between electroacupuncture and traditional acupuncture?

Electroacupuncture is similar to traditional acupuncture in that the same points are stimulated during treatment. As with traditional acupuncture needles are inserted at specific points along the body. The needles are then attached to a device that generates continuous electric pulses using small pumps. These devices use radio waves to adjust the frequency and intensity of the impulses being delivered, depending on the condition being treated.

Electroacupuncture uses two needles at a time, or two needles on one or more points. Several pairs of needles can be stimulated simultaneously, usually for no more than 30 minutes at a time.

One advantage of electroacupuncture is that a practitioner does not have to be as precise with the insertion of needles. This is because the current delivered through the needles stimulates a larger area than the needle itself. Another advantage is that electroacupuncture can be applied without using needles. A similar technique called transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation, or TENS, uses electricity that is applied to the surface of the skin instead of being inserted. The advantage of this procedure is that it can be used by people who have a fear of needles or a condition that prevents them from being needlest.

What conditions can electroacupuncture treat?

According to the principles of traditional Chinese medicine, illness is caused when qi does not flow properly throughout the body. Acupuncture determines whether qi is weak, stagnant or otherwise out of balance, which indicates the points to be stimulated. Electroacupuncture is considered to be especially useful in conditions in which there is an accumulation of qi, such as in chronic pain syndromes, or in cases where qi is difficult to stimulate.

In the United States, electroacupuncture has been used for a variety of conditions. It has been effectively used as a means of reducing pain and in the treatment of nausea caused by cancer medications. There is also some evidence that electrical stimulation of acupuncture points activates the endorphin system, which could lower blood pressure and reduce heart disease.

Acupuncture is a popular form of treatment, and is used by practitioners of traditional Chinese medicine for a wide array of conditions.

Electroacupuncture is a latecomer to the world of alternative medicine. Some studies have examined the safety of electroacupuncture in treating cancer patients with bone cancer, and some studies have examined the safety of electroacupuncture in cancer patients with bone cancer.

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