Efficacy of combined treatment by scalp and penetration acupuncture with TKM medication (tang) on stroke patients

Jungchul Seo*, Hyang-Sook Lee$, Eunyoung Ha¹, Hi-Joon Park¹, Hun-Kuk Park¹, Hyejung Lee¹, SungKeel Kang¹, ChangShik Yin¹, Jeongseon Kim², Kang-Hyun Lee², Ee-Hwa Kim², YeonHee Ryu², SunMi Choi³ and Joo-Ho Chung¹

¹ Department of Acupuncture and Moxibustion, College of Oriental Medicine, Daegu Haany University, Daegu 730-090, Korea
² College of Korean Medicine, Sangji University, Wonju 220-702, Korea
³ TKM Research Group, Kyung Hee University, Seoul 130-701, Korea
¹ Department of Acupuncture, CHA Biomedical Center, College of Medicine, Pochon CHA University, Seoul 135-081, Korea
² College of Korean Medicine, Semyung University, Jechon 390-711, Korea
³ Department of Medical Research, Korea Institute of Oriental Medicine, Daejeon 305-811, Korea

Background: Traditional Korean medicine (TKM) therapy of scalp and penetration acupuncture has been used for the treatment of stroke in Korea. This study investigated the efficacy of scalp and penetration acupuncture in combination with TKM medication.

Methods: Twenty-four stroke patients were enrolled in the program. Control group (n=12) received herbal medicines (Baepungtang, Sopungtang or Sosokyeongtang) and conventional body acupuncture. Treatment group (n=12) received scalp and penetration acupuncture in addition to herbal medicines and conventional body acupuncture. Improvements in the motor functions were scored by the modified Barthel index (MBI).

Results: After 4 weeks of treatment, statistical analysis showed significant improvement in the MBI scores for both groups. Significant difference in the MBI scores between two groups, however, was not observed.

Conclusion: The supportive effect of scalp and penetration acupuncture in the treatment of stroke needs further investigation. [Neurol Res 2007; 29: S38-S41]

Keywords: Scalp acupuncture; penetration acupuncture; motor disorder; stroke; modified Barthel index