# INPLASY PROTOCOL

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Review Stage at time of this submission: Piloting of the study selection process.

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# Acupuncture for patients recovering from lacunar infarction: A protocol for systematic review and meta-analysis

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Review question / Objective: The aim of this meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials is to evaluate the efficacy and safety of acupuncture for patients recovering from lacunar Infarction.

Condition being studied: Lacunar Infarction, motor and sensory dysfunction, blood indicators, adverse events. Information sources: Pubmed, Cochrane Library, Web of Science (WOS), EBSCO, Spinger, CNKI, Chinese Scientific and Technical Journals Database (VIP), Wan-fang Database, Chinese Biomedical Literature Database (CBM), Chinese Science Citation Database (CSCD) and other electronic databases

**INPLASY registration number:** This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 16 May 2021 and was last updated on 16 May 2021 (registration number INPLASY202150060).

# INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective: The aim of this meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials is to evaluate the efficacy and safety of acupuncture for patients recovering from lacunar Infarction. Condition being studied: Lacunar Infarction, motor and sensory dysfunction, blood indicators, adverse events.

## **METHODS**

Search strategy: Pubmed, Cochrane Library, Web of Science (WOS), EBSCO,

Spinger, CNKI, Chinese Scientific and Technical Journals Database (VIP), Wanfang Database, Chinese Biomedical Literature Database (CBM), Chinese Science Citation Database (CSCD) and other electronic databases will be retrieved from the inception to May 1,2021.

Participant or population: Patients recovering from lacunar infarction.

Intervention: Acupuncture refers to a kind of therapeutic procedure of inserting an acupuncture needle into the skin of acupoints on the body.

Comparator: Sham or placebo acupuncture; no acupuncture; or standard rehabilitation therapy.

Study designs to be included: RCT.

Eligibility criteria: We will only include the RCTs that are scientific and practicable with language limited to English and Chinese.

Information sources: Pubmed, Cochrane Library, Web of Science (WOS), EBSCO, Spinger, CNKI, Chinese Scientific and Technical Journals Database (VIP), Wanfang Database, Chinese Biomedical Literature Database (CBM), Chinese Science Citation Database (CSCD) and other electronic databases.

Main outcome(s): Total effective rate, NIHSS score and FMA score.

Additional outcome(s): Blood pressure, plasma glucose, blood lipid and adverse events.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: Based on Cochrane Handbook(5.2.0), two independent authors will assess the quality of included articles and the risk of bias with the Review Manager (5.3.5).

Strategy of data synthesis: A quantitative synthesis will be performed using RevMan software provided by Cochrane Collaboration.

Subgroup analysis: If a sufficient number of studies using sham or placebo acupuncture as a comparator, we will conduct subgroup analysis according to the type of control intervention.

Sensitivity analysis: We will perform a sensitivity analysis using imputations of missing outcome data of dichotomous outcomes in best-worse and worse-best case scenarios to assess the potential impact of loss to follow-up.

Language: English.

Country(ies) involved: China.

Keywords: Protocol, lacunar infarction, recovery period, acupuncture, systematic review, meta-analysis.

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