

INPLASY PROTOCOL

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Efficacy and safety of Acupuncture combined with Sodium Valproate in the Treatment of Epilepsy: A systematic review and meta-analysis

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Review question / Objective: Efficacy and safety of Acupuncture combined with Sodium Valproate in the Treatment of Epilepsy: A systematic review and meta-analysis.

Condition being studied: Epilepsy is a clinical syndrome caused by abnormal firing of brain neurons with high synchronization due to various reasons. The clinical manifestations are episodic, transient, repetitive and stereotyped. At present, the treatment of epilepsy is mainly pure drug treatment, and there are certain side effects. Acupuncture treatment has a long history. Acupuncture combined with drugs can reduce drug dependence and give patients a better quality of life.

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 15 August 2022 and was last updated on 15 August 2022 (registration number INPLASY202280055).

INTRODUCTION

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long history. Acupuncture combined with drugs can reduce drug dependence and give patients a better quality of life.

METHODS

Search strategy: The search strategy used a combination of subject terms and free words. Based on the characteristics of each database, the search strategy was as follows: (“acupuncture” [MeSH] OR “electro acupuncture” [Title/Abstract] OR “fire needle” [Title/Abstract] OR “moxibustion” [Title/Abstract] OR “cutaneous acupuncture” [Title/Abstract] OR “warm needle acupuncture” [Title/Abstract] OR “needle”[Title/Abstract]).

Participant or population: Patients with epilepsy.

Intervention: The treatment group added acupuncture and moxibustion on the basis of the control group. Acupuncture.

Comparator: The treatment group was given sodium valproate on the basis of conventional treatment. The control group received conventional drugs sodium valproate.

Study designs to be included: Randomized clinical trials (RCTs).

Eligibility criteria: Participants: Subjects were clinically diagnosed with Epilepsy. There were no restrictions on the patients' age, sex, country, or ethnicity. (2) Study types: Only RCTs written in Chinese or English were included. (3) The following intervention types were considered: needle, fire needle, electric acupuncture, skin needle and other types of acupuncture, regardless of the choice of acupoints and Chinese medicine treatment. The control group was treated with conventional drugs or for symptoms. (4) Main outcomes: The effective rate, recurrence rate, and adverse reaction rate were assessed.

Information sources: A total of 9 electronic databases (4 English databases and 4 Chinese databases): PubMed, Cochrane Library, EMBASE, Web of Science, China

National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI), Wanfang Database, China Science and Technology Journal Database (VIP) and China Biomedicine (CBM).

Main outcome(s): Effectiveness, Safety, Adverse Reactions, number of seizures.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: Two authors independently assessed the quality of each study. The quality of included studies was assessed using the Cochrane Handbook for Systematic Reviews of Interventions and Revman 5.4 software.

Strategy of data synthesis: RevMan 5.4 software downloaded from the Cochrane website was used to analyze the data included in the literature. Stata software version 16.0 was used to perform funnel chart analyses and sensitivity analyses. The odds ratios (ORs) and the 95% credible intervals (CIs) were selected as the statistics with binary data. Continuous variables are represented by mean differences (MDs) and 95% confidence intervals.

Subgroup analysis: When necessary, the control group and the treatment group were analyzed by subgroup analysis.

Sensitivity analysis: Sensitivity analysis when necessary.

Country(ies) involved: China.

Keywords: Epilepsy; Acupuncture; Systematic Review; Meta-Analysis; Sodium Valproate.

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