



Paley, C. et al, 2010

ACUPUNCTURE AND CANCER PAIN

Acupuncture can be an effective adjunct in treating cancer pain.

Clinical trials on humans and pre-clinical animal research indicate acupuncture as a safe modality to include in treating cancer induced pain. Acupuncture is recommended by the American Society of Clinical Oncology practice guideline for chronic pain in adult cancer survivors. However, it is important that the practitioners are using Evidence-based protocols for safety and effectiveness and that they understand the hyperalgesia and allodynia many cancer patients experience.

Acupuncture Analgesia works on many levels:

Segmental analgesic effects include Enkephalin increases; Dynorphin, Interleukin-1b, Substance P suppression

Extrasegmental effects include upregulation of analgesic gene expression

Central effects include Limbic system (hypothalamic, hippocampus, amygdala, thalamus, cingulate gyrus) regulation

Reducing myofascial trigger points, muscle spasms and normalizing muscle tone

MEDICAL ACUPUNCTURE

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Evidence-Based Integrative Medical Acupuncture