

Acupuncture for Small Animal Neurological Disorders

Patrick Roynard, DVM, MRCVS^{a,b},

Lauren Frank, DVM, MS, CVA, CVCH, CCRT^c, Huisheng Xie, DVM, PhD, MS^d,

Margaret Fowler, DVM, MS^{e,f,*}

KEYWORDS

- Traditional Chinese veterinary medicine (TCVM) • Acupuncture
- Electroacupuncture (EA) • Herbal • Dog • Intervertebral disk disease (IVDD)
- Cervical spondylomyelopathy (CSM) • Pain

KEY POINTS

- Research in neuroscience is progressively unveiling the different mechanisms of action of traditional Chinese veterinary medicine (TCVM) and allowing the modern clinician to understand it as a several millennia-old metaphor.
- Scientific literature demonstrates the efficacy of TCVM for many small animal neurologic disorders, including intervertebral disk disease (IVDD), other myelopathies, and painful conditions.
- TCVM, including acupuncture and herbals, is overall innocuous and easy to implement clinically.
- TCVM can be used as an adjunct or occasionally as an alternative to conventional treatment, and can improve functional outcome and pain management.



Video content accompanies this article at <http://www.vetsmall.theclinics.com>.

Disclosure: Dr H. Xie is one of the owners of Chi Institute of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine and Jing Tang Herbal, Inc. Drs P. Roynard, L. Frank and M. Fowler have nothing to disclose.

^a Neurology/Neurosurgery Department, Long Island Veterinary Specialists, 163 South Service Road, Plainview, NY 11803, USA; ^b Fipapharm, 26 rue du marais, Mont-Saint-Aignan 76130, France; ^c Physical Rehabilitation and Acupuncture Service, Long Island Veterinary Specialists, 163 South Service Road, Plainview, NY 11803, USA; ^d Department of Small Animal Clinical Sciences, University of Florida, 2089 Southwest 16th Avenue, Gainesville, FL 32608, USA; ^e Acupuncture and Holistic Veterinary Services, 105 Lilith Lane, Summerville, SC 29485, USA; ^f The Chi Institute of Traditional Chinese Veterinary Medicine, 9650 West Highway 318, Reddick, FL 32686, USA

* Corresponding author. Acupuncture and Holistic Veterinary Services, 105 Lilith Lane, Summerville, SC 29485.

E-mail address: drmpfowler@gmail.com

Vet Clin Small Anim ■ (2017) ■–■

<http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.cvs.2017.08.003>

0195-5616/17/© 2017 Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

vetsmall.theclinics.com

INTRODUCTION

Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM), such as acupuncture and administration of Chinese herbal formulas, has been used for thousands of years to effectively treat many conditions, including pain and neurologic issues.^{1,2} The first known text about TCM, *Huangdi Neijing* (Yellow Emperor's Classic of Internal Medicine) is estimated from approximately the period 475 BC to 225 BC.³ Traditional Chinese veterinary medicine (TCVM) started in Chinese agricultural culture and is often associated with an equine practitioner known as Bo Le.^{4–6} Bo Le's techniques were recorded in what many consider to be the first TCVM text, *Bo Le Zhen Jing* (Bo Le's Canon of Veterinary Acupuncture).⁷ Western interest in TCM/TCVM started in the 1970s, and in the past 40 years has mushroomed in popularity, both clinically and in research (Fig. 1). Although TCVM has long been overlooked by some practitioners, modern neuroscience has shed some light on the mechanism of action of acupuncture.^{8–10} Despite the perception that TCVM presents the clinician with an entirely different way of approaching a patient, parallels with "Western" medicine are numerous, especially for those familiar with neurophysiology and neurologic disorders.

Due to the paucity of clinical studies in veterinary acupuncture, much of the data available are human or laboratory based, and indicate evidence for its effectiveness. This is further supported by a few veterinary clinical trials and case reports. This review is meant to help guide the use of TCVM for neurologic disorders in small animals, based on available information and recommendations from experienced TCVM practitioners.

TRADITIONAL CHINESE VETERINARY MEDICINE TREATMENT MODALITIES

Acupuncture is defined as the stimulation of specific point(s) on the surface of the body by insertion of a needle, resulting in a therapeutic or homeostatic effect.¹¹ From a TCVM standpoint, the aim is to allow *Qi* (energy) to flow harmoniously, which for a Western practitioner can be seen as a stimulation of the nervous system. TCVM defines 2 important concepts that are opposites, *Yin* and *Yang*, whose functioning

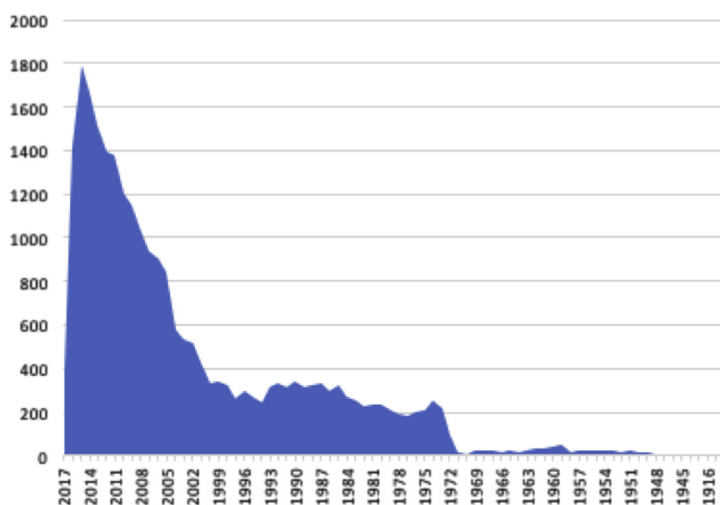


Fig. 1. PubMed search results for the word "acupuncture" by year. (Data from www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed. Accessed April 20, 2017.)

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/8504643>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/8504643>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)