

The value of acupuncture in the treatment of childhood diseases

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The urgency of solving this problem was aggravated to the extreme in connection with the appearance of the order of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation No. 337 dated August 27, 1999, which actually cuts off a huge contingent of sick children and the section of medicine - pediatrics from reflexotherapy assistance. It should also be emphasized that the 337th order is in conflict with the order of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation No. 364 dated December 10, 1997, which states: "A reflexologist is a specialist with a higher medical education in the specialty" General Medicine "or" Pediatrics. "...".

Over the past years, since 1999, the influx of reflexology specialists into pediatrics has practically stopped. This significantly impoverishes the treatment of children, especially those with reduced immunity, and allergic reactions to many drugs occur. Numerous small patients suffering from their own allergic pathology are almost completely deprived of the help of an acupuncturist.

In the homeland of zhen-chiu therapy (acupuncture, reflexotherapy), this method has become a part of the arsenal of treatment of various diseases in children from time immemorial. The author of these lines is a living witness to the widespread use of acupuncture in the clinic of childhood diseases and how the well-known professor Zhu Lian herself did it. At the same time, it was possible to observe the high efficiency of the treatment.

During the formation of chen-chiu therapy in our country (1956–59), the founders of this trend in domestic medicine, Professor V.G. Vogralik, I.I. Rusetsky, E. D. Tykochinskaya paid great attention to the use of acupuncture and warming up in pediatrics.

Order of the Ministry of Health of the USSR No. 106 of March 10, 1959, regulating indications and contraindications for the use of zhen-chiu therapy, out of caution and due to the lack of proper experience, established an age range for children from one year of age. Later, as a result of studying the publications of Chinese doctors and scientists, accumulating their own experience on the initiative of the Central Research Institute of Reflexology (TsNIIRT), the question of indications for reflexotherapy was discussed at the All-Union seminar on reflexology in Togliatti (1979). With the support of Dr. S.V. Lyana, A.T. Kachana, L.V. Kolesnikova was asked to allow the use of acupuncture for children under 1 year old. In 1980, this proposal was included in the methodological recommendations of the Central Scientific Research Institute of Radiology "Indications and Contraindications for the Application of Reflexotherapy Methods in Medical Practice"

Professor E.D. Tykochinskaya and her students were the first to widely use the chen-chiu therapy and its varieties in children. Thus, Dr. E.I. Zelenin (Research Institute named after G.I. Turner), back in 1964, began

using "acupressure" for the treatment of spasticity in infantile cerebral palsy (CP) at an early age and received very encouraging results. Subsequently S.A. Bortfeld, G.F. Gorodetskaya and E.I. Rogachev introduced the method of acupuncture, warming up and "acupressure" in the rehabilitation complex for patients with cerebral palsy in the children's sanatorium "Komarovo" (near Leningrad). They summarized their experience in the book "Acupressure massage for infantile cerebral palsy" (1979).

In order to complete the topic raised above, mention should be made of the selfless activities of Taisia Ivanovna Serganova, who has been working for many years at hospital No. 25 in Leningrad (now St. Olga's Hospital), specializing in the treatment of the smallest children with cerebral palsy. Little's disease and other severe pathology of the central nervous system. After completing reflexology courses at our department, Taisiya Ivanovna widely used the whole complex of reflex effects within the framework of chen-chiu therapy: acupuncture, warming up, "acupressure". A distinctive feature of her practical and research work is the recognition of pathology and treatment of children with cerebral palsy at the earliest stages, as early as possible after birth. Peru T.I. Serganova owns articles the monograph "How to beat infantile cerebral palsy ..." (1995) and doctoral dissertation on the same topic. Undoubtedly, all this is a significant contribution to the development of domestic reflexology in pediatrics.

At our department, the problems of reflexology in childhood were systematically studied. Together with S.N. Nezabudkin developed acupuncture dosages in all age groups of children, starting from birth (1981), generalized the experience of using acupuncture in children with bronchial asthma, including the hormone-dependent form (1981, 1986).

HELL. Kozhatov under the guidance of the author of this article and Dr. med. I.I. Evsyukova in the intensive care unit of the Research Institute of Obstetrics and Gynecology. BEFORE. Otta conducted a serious research as a result of which a dissertation work was written and defended for the degree of candidate of medical sciences "The influence of reflexotherapy and seduxen on the functional state of the central nervous system of newborn children who have undergone asphyxia" (1990). It has been convincingly shown that classical corporal acupuncture at certain acupuncture points clearly normalizes the disturbed cyclic organization of sleep and contributes to the differentiation of the heart rhythm structure between sleep phases. The described phenomena differ markedly from those when using seduxen, and the side effects of using this drug are also excluded.

A great contribution to the use of acupuncture in children was made by representatives of the Moscow school of reflexology and, first of all, the department of Professor V.S. Goidenko. The aforementioned department, through the efforts of its employees (V.I. Reflexotherapy of generic traumatic plexitis in children "(1982).

The above-mentioned Moscow pediatrician R.V. Liang widely and successfully applied

acupuncture for children of different age groups, starting with newborns. At the Research Institute of General and Forensic Psychiatry. V.P. Serbsky carried out work on acupuncture of children with cerebral palsy and mental impairment (V.V. Polsky, 1985). A.V. Kapustin was one of the first in our country to use acupuncture analgesia during operations in childhood (1979).

Acupuncture therapy was also adopted by the Department of Pediatric Neurology with a course of reflexology at the Faculty of Advanced Training for Doctors of the Donetsk Medical Institute (headed by Professor S.K. Yevtushenko), where scientific and clinical research was carried out. Much attention was paid to acupuncture of intrapartum injuries of the cervical spine, brachial plexus and spinal cord (1989).

At the jubilee International Congress dedicated to the 50th anniversary of reflexology in Russia (May 2006) Professor A.M. Vasilenko focused the attention of the medical community on the need to use acupuncture in pediatrics and, in extensive guidelines, suggested a rational organization of this assistance to children. As follows from the above, our Fatherland has accumulated solid experience in the use of acupuncture in pediatrics, provided tangible medical assistance to a wide contingent of young patients, carried out a lot of clinical, physiological, biochemical and instrumental studies in order to objectify the results of treatment and create a scientific base.

However, it should be emphasized: the above-mentioned work of domestic pediatricians after the publication of Order No. 337 sharply declined. After this period, there are only a few publications. In St. Petersburg, by the forces of previously trained specialists, reflexology pediatricians, acupuncture is used in one children's hospital (named after St. Olga) and two specialized state polyclinics.

Why is the use of acupuncture in children so attractive?

1. Lack (full or partial) drug load on the body child.
2. Possibility of drug-free treatment of children with allergic reactions or with allergic pathology, when, often, it is impossible to use any pharmacological drug.
3. High efficiency and speed of achieving therapeutic result in fewer sessions than in an adult. Hence, a reduction in the duration of treatment.

True, the implementation of acupuncture in children is associated with a number of difficulties (Nezabudkin S.N., Kachan A.T., 1981). The main ones are: 1) finding acupuncture points due to the anatomical and topographic specifics of the structure of the child's body; 2) obtaining and evaluating "intended sensations"; 3) monitoring the patient's condition; 4) features of the dosage of exposure in children of different age groups. However, pediatricians successfully overcome these difficulties.

The indications and contraindications are basically the same as those listed in the order of the Ministry of Health of the USSR No. 106 of 03/10/1959 with the additions contained in the guidelines from 1980 mentioned above.

The most commonly used methods of reflexology with exposure to acupuncture points are: acupuncture, warming up, "acupressure", micro-acupuncture, applications (balls, plates, seeds, etc.), narrow-localized irradiation with ultraviolet rays (erythemal dose). We strongly object to scarification due to the peculiarities of the structure of the skin (especially in young children), at the same age (1–5 years) we are wary of electropuncture. Laser puncture also raises concerns due to indications in the literature on the effect of this type of radiant energy on the gene apparatus of cells.

Concluding all of the above, it should be emphasized once again: domestic doctors and scientists have accumulated solid experience and made a great contribution to the introduction of reflexology methods in the clinic for childhood diseases, proving their high efficiency. We express our hope and rely on the wisdom of health care organizers who will restore the status quo of reflexology as an independent specialty, at least in order to really, effectively help children within the framework of the social program of our Government and the President.

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