

### **Aalborg Universitet**

#### Acupuncture therapies and neuroplasticity

Liu, Cun-Zhi; Kong, Jian; Wang, Kelun

Published in: **Neural Plasticity** 

DOI (link to publication from Publisher): 10.1155/2017/6178505

Creative Commons License CC BY 4.0

Publication date: 2017

Document Version Publisher's PDF, also known as Version of record

Link to publication from Aalborg University

Citation for published version (APA): Liu, C.-Z., Kong, J., & Wang, K. (2017). Acupuncture therapies and neuroplasticity. Neural Plasticity, 2017, Article 6178505. https://doi.org/10.1155/2017/6178505

Copyright and moral rights for the publications made accessible in the public portal are retained by the authors and/or other copyright owners and it is a condition of accessing publications that users recognise and abide by the legal requirements associated with these rights.

- Users may download and print one copy of any publication from the public portal for the purpose of private study or research.
  You may not further distribute the material or use it for any profit-making activity or commercial gain
  You may freely distribute the URL identifying the publication in the public portal -

#### Take down policy

If you believe that this document breaches copyright please contact us at vbn@aub.aau.dk providing details, and we will remove access to the work immediately and investigate your claim.

Downloaded from vbn.aau.dk on: July 04, 2025

Hindawi Neural Plasticity Volume 2017, Article ID 6178505, 2 pages https://doi.org/10.1155/2017/6178505



## **Editorial**

# **Acupuncture Therapies and Neuroplasticity**

# Cun-Zhi Liu, 1,2 Jian Kong,3 and KeLun Wang4

- <sup>1</sup> Acupuncture and Moxibustion Department, Beijing Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine Affiliated to Capital Medical University, 23 Meishuguanhou Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing 100010, China
- <sup>2</sup>Beijing Key Laboratory of Acupuncture Neuromodulation, Beijing Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine Affiliated to Capital Medical University, 23 Meishuguanhou Street, Dongcheng District, Beijing 100010, China
- <sup>3</sup>Department of Psychiatry, Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH), Harvard Medical School, Charlestown, MA 02129, USA

Correspondence should be addressed to Cun-Zhi Liu; lcz623780@126.com

Received 21 February 2017; Accepted 21 February 2017; Published 27 April 2017

Copyright © 2017 Cun-Zhi Liu et al. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

Neuroplasticity, including dendritic remodeling, synapse turnover, long-term potentiation (LTP), and neurogenesis, is a feature of the brain's response to the environment. This physiological process is engaged in development of brain, skill learning, formation and extinction of memory, and self-repair of neural injuries. Acupuncture has been demonstrated to be effective in many disorders such as stroke, Alzheimer's disease, and pain, the pathologies of which are related to neural plasticity. As a form of peripheral stimulation, acupuncture may relieve the symptoms of patients via mediating on neural plasticity.

This special issue contains 11 manuscripts, of which 3 manuscripts study the mechanism of acupuncture in various pain diseases using animal models. Among these, G.-H. Tian et al. found that electroacupuncture (EA) treatment exerts abirritative effects by inhibiting brain neuronal apoptosis and aberrant astrocyte activation. J.-Y. Wang et al. suggested that EA reduced the effects of the noxious stimulus on painrelated neurons in chronic constrictive injury rats. X.-M. Shao et al. demonstrated that EA can alleviate retrieval of pain memory due to the partial inhibition of cAMP/PKA/CREB signaling pathway. And not only that, but also H. Jiang et al. found that acupuncture could ameliorate depressive-like behaviors by regulating the PKA/CREB signaling pathway in the hippocampus.

In the special issue, there are 4 manuscripts about the neuroprotection of acupuncture on neurologic disease. One manuscript found that musical electroacupuncture therapy performed better than EA treatment in decreasing amyloid-beta levels in the frontal lobe of SAMP8 mice with Alzheimer's disease. The other three explored the molecular mechanisms of acupuncture. Y. Mo et al. suggested EA can greatly promote neuronal function recovery after spinal cord injuries in rats, which may result from upregulating the expression of neurotrophin-3. W. Liu et al. detected that miR-134-mediated LIMK 1 function was involved in EAinduced the hippocampal synaptic plasticity, which served as a contributor to improving spatial reference learning and memory during the recovery stage of ischemic stroke. And H.-Q. Li et al. suggested that EA can improve neurological deficit scores and reduce blood-brain barrier permeability after intracerebral haemorrhage, and the mechanism possibly targets caveolin-1/matrix metalloproteinase/blood-brain barrier permeability pathway.

In addition, there are 2 manuscripts using functional magnetic resonance imaging to explore the mechanism underlying acupuncture treatment. One manuscript investigated how causal influences between brain regions during the rubber hand illusion are modulated by tactile and visual stimuli. The other one investigated neuroplasticity changes induced by a single session of acupuncture therapy in healthy adults, regarding the excitability change on bilateral primary motor cortex and interhemispheric inhibition. Furthermore, J. W. Yang et al. investigated the effect and underlying

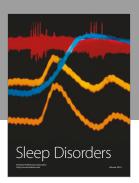
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>SMI, Department of Health Science and Technology, Faculty of Medicine, Aalborg University, Aalborg, Denmark

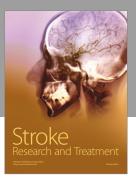
2 Neural Plasticity

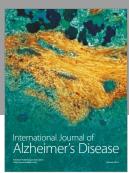
mechanism of acupuncture on renal sympathetic activity in spontaneously hypertensive rats.

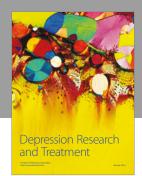
In summary, this issue provides varies evidences presented by diverse authors covering several topics related to advances in acupuncture for mediating neural plasticity. Neural plasticity could be a bridge between acupuncture and various neurological diseases. More in-depth researches are required to reveal the underlying mechanism of acupuncture.

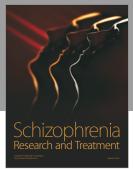
Cun-Zhi Liu Jian Kong KeLun Wang



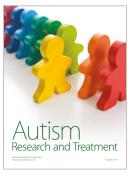














Submit your manuscripts at https://www.hindawi.com

