



Is Acupuncture Effective on Post-Lumbar Puncture Headache?

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1. Round 1

1.1 Reviewer 1

Date: 10 March 2023

Reviewer: The letter makes a valuable contribution by highlighting the need for more rigorous research in acupuncture's role in treating post-dural puncture headaches. With additional structuring and detailed critiques, it can effectively guide future research in this area.

The authors highlight a significant lack of high-quality English-language studies in international databases. A more detailed critique of the specific shortcomings in methodology, reporting, and study design of the reviewed literature would strengthen the argument.

The letter mentions that most studies are case reports and lack detailed descriptions of interventions. Future letters or articles should encourage standards for reporting acupuncture methodologies, including treatment duration and point selection specifics.

Suggestions:

- Organize the letter more effectively by separating observations, critique of existing studies, and recommendations for future research.
- Discuss potential biases in existing studies and how future research can mitigate these issues.

Authors revised the manuscript and submitted the document.

1.2 Reviewer 2

Date: 11 March 2023

Reviewer: The letter serves as a call to action for more comprehensive and better-designed research on acupuncture for post-dural puncture headaches. It rightly points out the current research gaps and paves the way for future studies to address these limitations. With further detail and elaboration, it can significantly contribute to setting a research agenda in this field.

The authors should provide a more nuanced discussion of the limitations of the current literature, perhaps including a brief review of the most prominent studies and their specific shortcomings.

There is a need for more discussion on the clinical significance of acupuncture in this setting, including how it compares to standard treatments in terms of effectiveness, safety, and patient satisfaction.

- **Broaden Literature Review:** Extend the scope of the review to include studies from a variety of databases and possibly non-English studies that might offer additional insights.
- **Discuss Practical Implications:** Elaborate on how the findings of future research might influence clinical practice and policy-making in the treatment of post-dural puncture headaches.
- **Promote Interdisciplinary Collaboration:** Encourage collaboration between researchers in Eastern and Western medicine to enhance the quality and cultural relevance of future studies.

Authors revised the manuscript and submitted the document.

2. Revised

Editor's decision after revisions: Accepted.

Editor in Chief's decision: Accepted.