

## ORIGINAL ARTICLE

## Clinical Observation on Treatment of Clearing the Governor Vessel and Refreshing the Mind Needling in Neural Development and Remediation of Children with Cerebral Palsy\*

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**ABSTRACT** Objective: To investigate the effects of clearing the Governor Vessel and refreshing the mind needling in neural development and remediation of children with cerebral palsy. Methods: A total of 200 cases of children with cerebral palsy were randomly assigned to the treatment group (100 patients) and the control group (100 patients). The treatment group was given the combined therapy of acupuncture and rehabilitation training, and the chosen acupoints were 13 points of the Governor Vessel, Shenshu (BL 23), Taixi (KI 3), Yanglingquan (GB 34), Zusanli (ST 36) and Sanyinjiao (SP 6), and points of refreshing the mind were also selected, which included puncturing Shenting (GV 24) toward Qinding (GV 21), puncturing Qinding (GV 21) toward Baihui (GV 20), puncturing Baihui (GV 20) toward Naohu (GV 17) and Sishencong (Ex-HN 1). The control group was only treated with rehabilitation training. A contrastive analysis of the therapeutic effect of acupuncture combined with rehabilitation training and rehabilitation training alone was made after a treatment course of 3 months. The Gross Motor Function Measure (GMFM) and Beijing Gesell Developmental Scale were adopted to assess the neural development and rehabilitation outcomes of the two groups. In addition, skull CT/MRI was adopted to evaluate the periosis of injured cerebral nerve after treatment. Results: The total effective rate in treatment group was 87% (87/100), significantly higher than the 55% (55/100) in the control group. The children's development quotient (DQ) tested by Gesell Developmental Scale and scores tested by GMFM in the treatment group were obviously higher than those in the control group ( $P < 0.01$ ). The improving and curing rates presented by skull CT/MRI in the treatment group were higher than those in the control group ( $P < 0.01$ ). Conclusion: Clearing the Governor Vessel and refreshing the mind needling could accelerate the recovery of injured brain nerve and the reconstruction of brain function. The acupuncture therapy could ameliorate both the motor development and cognitive development. On the other hand, the forward curative effect of acupuncture combined with rehabilitation training was significantly better than the rehabilitation training alone.

**KEYWORDS** acupuncture therapy, cerebral palsy, nervous development, neurorestoratology

The medical rehabilitation of cerebral palsy (CP) was thought to be a global medical problem. In America for more than 60 years, many rehabilitation training methods were applied in CP rehabilitation, but most of the children could not be cured after long-term rehabilitation training. Children with severe cerebral palsy often require a lifelong rehabilitation. In order to explore the efficacy of clearing the Governor Vessel and refreshing the mind needling to the rehabilitation of CP, from January 2008 to December 2009, we carried out a randomized study to compare the effect of acupuncture combined with rehabilitation training and rehabilitation training alone.

## METHODS

## Cases Selection

(1) Diagnosis and classification standards

were according to the 2006 National Conference of Cerebral Palsy;<sup>[1]</sup> (2) age of 1 to 7 years old; (3) excluding progressive diseases or degenerative diseases, such as inherited metabolic disorders, and excluding neurosurgical diseases, such as brain tumors and hydrocephalus; (4) without loss of sight or nerve deafness; and (5) obtained informed consent of

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