

A protocol of Electroacupuncture (EA) treatment on sub-acutely aging rats

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Abstract

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Before start

Sterile acupuncture needles [size: $\phi 0.30 \times 25$ mm (diameter: 0.30 millimeter, length: 25 millimeter); made by Suzhou Acupuncture & Moxibustion Appliance Co., Ltd, Suzhou, P.R. China] and the pulse generator (6805-II, Shanghai Taicheng technology development co., LTD) were used during the EA treatment.

Protocol

Step 1.

Needles were inserted perpendicularly into the muscle layer at Guanyuan (CV 4), Zusanli (ST 36) and inserted horizontally into subgaleal tissue at the point of Baihui (DU 20) to a depth of 2 mm.

Step 2.

The Guanyuan (CV 4) acupoint was connected to the negative charge of the pulse generator and the Zusanli (the bilateral Zusanli were used alternately in the EA treatment) was connected to the positive charge (continuous wave: 2 Hz, 1 mA, lasted 15 min).

Step 3.

Baihui (DU 20) was stimulated with needles at the same time: After the needle has reached its desired location, to twirl and rotate the needle backward and forward continuously with the frequency 2-3 times per second for 30 seconds.

Step 4.

The same manipulation was done after every 5 minutes for three times until withdrawing the needle. The EA treatment was performed every day except Sunday and lasted for 27 days.