

**Effect of Electroacupuncture at Ipsilateral or Contralateral ST36-ST37 Acupoints on CFA-Induced Inflammatory Pain**

Chao-Kuei Hsu and Yi-Wen Lin

*Graduate Institute of Acupuncture Science, China Medical University, Taichung, Taiwan R.O.C.*

The transient receptor potential cation channel subfamily V member 1 (TRPV1) plays an important role in pain transmission. In the previous study, electroacupuncture (EA) stimulation at bilateral "Zusanli" (ST36) would suppress Complete Freund's adjuvant (CFA) induced inflammatory pain in hindpaw in mice, it also reduced TRPV1 expression in dorsal root ganglion (DRG). To investigate the differences between choosing ipsilateral and contralateral acupoints in pain, we observed analgesic effect and TRPV1 expression in EA treatment in right or left side ST36-ST37 acupoints after CFA induced inflammatory pain in mice. The initial results revealed better analgesic effect and much TRPV1 inhibition in ipsilateral group. But the contralateral EA treatment also has pretty good pain relief, which is compatible to recent therapy in clinic.

**Key words:** TRPV1, electroacupuncture, inflammatory pain, DRG

