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THE EFFECT OF THE INTEGRATED CHINESE MEDICINE THERAPY ON PATIENTS WITH CEREBRAL PALSY IN TAIWAN: A THREE-YEAR RETROSPECTIVE STUDY

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Introduction: The aim of our study is to investigate the effect of the integrated Chinese Medicine therapy (combination of acupuncture, acupoint manipulation, Chinese medicine drug and music therapy) on patients with cerebral palsy (CP) in Taiwan. We analyze cerebral palsy out-patients who went to Acupuncture Department of China Medical University Hospital during 2010~2012.

key words: cerebral palsy, integrated Chinese Medicine therapy, acupuncture

Methods:

Our study is a retrospective study. We screen cerebral palsy out-patients who went to Acupuncture Department of China Medical University Hospital during 2010~2012. Patients who match the following criteria would be included. The criteria contain:

join the integrated Chinese Medicine therapy (i. acupuncture: scalp and body ii. acupoint manipulation: body iii. Chinese medicine drug iv. Music Therapy) for CP and accepted therapy: 2 times per week, totally >24wks at least)

fulfill scale (Gross Motor Function Measure scale 88 (GMFM88), The MOS 36-item short-form health survey (SF-36)) and accept assessment (1st assessment: before therapy, 2nd assessment: 12th wks after therapy, 3rd assessment: 24thwks after therapy)

We analyzed score of each item of the GMFM88, SF-36 scale (3rd assessment V.S. 1st assessment). Paired T test was used and p value < 0.05 was thought statistically significant.

Results: We found there are statistically significant improvements (p-value < 0.05) in some items of scale SF36. After 24 weeks therapy, CP patients had better performance in many aspects than before, such as: increase of working distance (p-value = 0.030), reduction of pain of body (p-value = 0.045), happier than before (p-value = 0.028), achieve more duty of daily life (p-value = 0.033). No statistically difference was found when we analyzed the GMFM88 scale. Each item of these two scales will be

described during oral presentation.

Discussion and Conclusions: In our study, the integrated Chinese medicine therapy for CP is effective in the increase of working distance, reduction of pain of body, happier than before, achieve more duty of daily life. However, the result of analysis of GMFM88 is different from that done on 2004[1]. We thought the result may be caused by the following reasons. First, our study is a retrospective study. Second, the numbers of patients qualified after screened were not large enough. We anticipate a follow-up well designed random and double-blind study with a larger numbers of cerebral palsy patients to confirm the effects of the integrated Chinese Medicine therapy on cerebral palsy patients .

References:

- [1] B. Duncan, L. Barton, D. Edmonds, and B. M. Blashill, "Parental perceptions of the therapeutic effect from osteopathic manipulation or acupuncture in children with spastic cerebral palsy," *Clin Pediatr (Phila)*, vol. 43, pp. 349-53, May 2004.

