

Case Study #2 Long Term Effects of Acupuncture Therapy in Pediatric Oncology Patients

Study Purpose

The purpose of this study is to evaluate the term efficacy of acupuncture as a complementary therapy in the treatment of cancer related side-effects in pediatric patients.

Study Design

This is a descriptive survey study conducted on pediatric oncology patients at Seattle Children’s Hospital who received acupuncture therapy between 1/1/2004 and 12/31/2014. Up to 300 patients will be surveyed.

Population

Inclusion Criteria	Exclusion Criteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Individuals who received acupuncture treatment at Seattle Children’s Hospital during their oncology treatment and recovery between 1/1/2004 and 12/31/2014 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deceased
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Between the ages of 0-21 years old at the time of treatment at Seattle Children’s Hospital 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-English speakers
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Refusal of study participation

Recruitment and Consent Procedures

- The study team will screen the medical record to identify eligible subjects and then mail recruitment letters to the parents of the patients.
- The research coordinator will contact the subject and the subject’s parent by phone to discuss the study.
- The survey will be conducted with the patient if he/she was 12 years old or older at the time of acupuncture treatment, and it will be conducted with a caregiver if the patient was less than 12 years old at the time of acupuncture treatment.

Study Procedures

- Telephone survey about acupuncture treatment and effects (e.g. Reason for what they received acupuncture for specifically, if it was of benefit, and if it had any side-effects).
- Chart review: Health information will be collected from the Seattle Children’s Hospital medical record to collect information on health history, cancer treatment, and acupuncture therapy.

Risks

This study involves a telephonic survey of subjects who have already completed a course of treatment at Seattle Children’s hospital and does not propose any further interventions. It does not pose any risks to the participants other than a small amount of their time to conduct this telephone survey.

Benefits

This study does not present any direct benefit to the participants. The anticipated benefits of this research for society would be a contribution to the background information available on the current use of acupuncture in the general pediatric and pediatric cancer population. With a greater body of evidence-based research, more pediatric patients may be able to benefit from the inclusion of acupuncture therapy in their cancer care treatment.