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The effect of Bee venom on inflammation in an ALS animal Model

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Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) includes progressively degenerated motor neurons in the cerebral cortex, brainstem, and spinal cord resulting in fatal paralysis. Several reports demonstrate the dysfunction of multiple organs, including the lungs, liver, and spleen, in ALS animal model and patients. Bee venom acupuncture (BVA) has been used for treating inflammatory diseases in Oriental Medicine. In a previous study, we demonstrated that BV prevented motor neuron death and decreased neuroinflammation in the spinal cord of ALS mouse model. In this study, we examined whether BVA's effects depend on acupuncture point (ST36) in the organs, including the liver, spleen and kidney, of ALS mouse model. We found that BV treatment at ST36 increase anti-inflammation in the liver, spleen, and kidney compared with saline-treatment at ST36 and BV injected intraperitoneally in symptomatic ALS mouse model. Those findings suggest that BV treatment combined with acupuncture stimulation is more effective at decreasing inflammation and increasing immune responses compared with only BV treatment, at least in an ALS mouse model.

Biography

Eun Jin Yang has completed her PhD from Yonsei University and Postdoctoral Studies from the University of Pennsylvania, USA. She is a Principal Researcher at Korea Institute of Oriental Medicine, South Korea. She has published more than 25 papers in reputed journals and has been serving as an Editorial Board Member.

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