

Peer Review File

Article information: <https://dx.doi.org/10.21037/lcm-21-61>

Comment 1: I would suggest to explain the selection of acupuncture points you used in the treatment of this case because it would contribute to better understand your treatment and treatment strategy.

Reply 1: I have added additional information

Changes in the text: See page 3, line 7-11

Comment 2: It would be also interesting to the readers to know if you made any changes of the acupuncture prescription during the treatment sessions.

Reply 2: DU 20 was added to the prescription. BFA auricular acupuncture was also added

Changes in the text: see page 3, Line 7-8

Comment 3: Besides the subjective impression of feeling better and especially the symptoms of dryness, did you establish any other signs of evidence (e.g. pulse, tongue)?

Reply 3: Her improvement was based off of subjective data. We did not perform a pulse diagnosis and her tongue exam was not repeated due to precautions with COVID.

Changes in the text: page 4, line 1-3

Comment 4: Because of the variety of modalities used in treatment it is not possible to attribute the benefit to any particular item. However, although evidence of efficacy has been well presented from published work, it needs to be mentioned in the discussion that alternative approaches using the same or different therapies might have proved similarly effective.

Reply 4: I have added this comment

Changes in the text: Page 6 line 30-32

Comment 5: There is explanation of acupuncture points used, trigger points injected and dietary recommendations, but there is no detail of areas used in cupping nor of the mind body medicine modalities. This needs to be rectified.

Replay 5: I have added the above recommendations

Changes in the text: page 3, line 10-12

Comment 6: There are several errors in the referencing.

(1). Page 3, line42: References given as (1,3). In fact ref 3 concerns TCM. I suspect that Ref 2 should have been used instead.

Corrected, reference 2 substituted

(2). Page 5, line 27: Delete (Huang) and replace with (12)

Corrected, reference 12 substituted

(3). Page 6, line 10: In the reference list 6 is identical to 14. Here the reference should be Cafaro A, et al. Lasers Med Sci 2015;30(6):1805-9

Changed and added.

(4). Also, the Cafaro paper uses the correct international nomenclature, so they use BL13 rather than UB 13

Corrected

(5). Ref 3: The usual style for a book reference is: Author of chapter, chapter title, in, book title, editors... As given at present it looks confusing.

Amended

(6). Ref 4 (Li B, et al) is not quoted in the text.

Added – this was a pseudo meta-analysis of multiple clinical trials that concluded Chinese medicine was beneficial, but couldn't explain how or why.

(7). The final reference problem is that they should be numbered sequentially in the text. So some renumbering is necessary.

Amended.

(8). There must be recorded at the end of the text that there is no (or some) conflict of interest, and that written patient consent has been obtained. The paper cannot be published without these.

Consent obtained. Updated Conflict of Interest