

Pharmacopuncture Therapy for Dizziness in Traditional Korean Medicine: A Systematic Review

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Abstract : Background and Aims: This systematic review aimed at briefly exploring how effective pharmacopuncture therapy for dizziness is. Methods: We searched publications in Medline, EMBASE, Cochrane Library, KoreaMed, China National Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI), Cini, DBpia, KSI, Kiss, Kibase, NDSL and RISS. We included randomized controlled trials and well-designed non-randomized controlled trials that compared the effects of only pharmacopuncture or pharmacopuncture and usual therapies with any controls for dizziness. Results: The risk of bias was assessed using the Cochrane tool. Three studies have been included with eligibility criteria. The prevalence of "unclear" ratings in the risk assessment results is predominantly due to the included studies reporting their findings inadequately. This review found evidence that pharmacopuncture therapy was effective as an add-on therapy to acupoint therapy physiotherapy and had additional benefits in increasing CER for cervical vertigo. Also, it was recommended that pharmacopuncture therapy was effective as an add-on therapy to Western medicine and had additional benefits in increasing CER for vasovagal syncope. Conclusions: Pharmacopuncture therapy had additional benefits as an add-on therapy for cervical vertigo and vasovagal syncope. However, further studies are required to overcome the limitations of the lack of study qualities.

Keywords : pharmacopuncture therapy, dizziness, systematic review, traditional Korean medicine

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