

I.V.A.S. Acupuncture Case Report

2002 – 2003 Course Belgium

Acupuncture treatment for chronic diarrhoea in a Great Schnauzer

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A Great Schnauzer was successfully treated with acupuncture. Initially the Great Schnauzer was presented with a history of chronic lymphoplasmacellular colitis. After thorough investigation of the previous history there was an old traumatic injury at the proximal metacarpal bones II + III that led to the chronic colitis. The connection was two implanted screws that fixed the bone. In Chinese medicine tradition there was a qi stagnation in the hand yang ming.

A two-year old male Great Schnauzer was presented to my practice with a history of chronic diarrhoea lasting for more than half a year. The canine was been treated for six months with Prednisolone and Metronidazol. Also the owner has cooked a diet for the dog consisting of horse meat and rice. The patient did not improve with the conventional treatment, it even got worse. The dog has had severe ileus like attacks and the owner came to the point to think about euthanizing the suffering canine.



Three month before the first symptoms there was a traumatic injury to the right front foot leading to a fracture of the proximal metacarpal bones II + III. It was surgical fixed with two implanted metal screws.



The canine was only 30 kilograms with heavy weight loss of 7 kilograms at the time he was presented to me. For more than six months he was suffering of chronic diarrhoea which was diagnosed as chronic lymphoplasmacellular colitis via colonoscopy and biopsy. The canine was been treated with Prednisolone 50mg/per day and twice a day 750 mg Metronidazol. Special strict diet with horse meat and rice was fed.

Clinical signs and symptoms were bloody stools with mucus and frequent and urgent bowel movement. He was lethargic, in pain and had often a bad temper. On palpation of the abdomen he was retracting and aggressive.

TCM findings

On physical examination there was light swollen and a purple coloured tongue. Sometimes reddish eyes and a red belly was seen. The owner has reported that the bark of the dog has weakened during the last months. The owner has mentioned that the canine was more aggressive with other dogs. Dry skin and scales with loss of body hair was reported. There was sensitivity of the Mu-alarm point of Hand Yang-Ming STOMACH 25¹ (tian shu) and Shu-association point BLADDER 25².

The stool was bloody, loose and with a lot of mucus. The colour of the stool was brown red and the odour was smelly.

Pulse diagnosis was not done.

TCM-Diagnosis

Based on the previous history and the signs and symptoms there was a qi-stagnation in the Hand Yang-Ming and heat in the Fu-organ Large Intestine.

The Stagnation was caused by the external trauma with metal screw implants. The Stagnation further caused the heat in the Fu-organ Large Intestine³.

TCM-Treatment

Seirin needles (red 0.16 x 30 mm) were used with even needle technique at all points, they were bilateral needled.

LI 4 (Hegu) between the 1st and 2nd metacarpal bones approximately in the middle of the 2nd metacarpal bone on the radial side⁴

Source point (Yuan-Qi), 12 heavenly star points of Ma Dan Yang⁵, Master point of face and mouth. Stops pain, removes obstructions from the channels, releases the exterior. LI 4 has a powerful calming and antispasmodic action, so that it can be used in many painful conditions, with pain originating from the intestines or uterus⁶

LI11 (Quchi) in the depression cranial to the elbow is flexed, in the transverse cubital crease, 1 cun cranial to the humeral condylar crest⁷

Sea point (He), earth point, tonification point, 12 heavenly star point of Ma Dan Yang⁸

Clears heat, resolves dampness, regulates nutritive qi and blood. It can be used in invasions of exterior damp-heat causing fever, feeling of heaviness, loose stools, abdominal distention, and so on⁹.

BL 25 (dachangshu) 1.5 cun lateral to the caudal border of the spinous process of the 5th lumbar vertebra¹⁰

Back transporting point for the Large Intestine

Promotes the functions of the Large Intestine, strengthens the lower back, removes obstructions from the channels, relieves fullness and swelling¹¹.

After the first acupuncture treatment, the owner has called in the afternoon of the same day, six hours after acupuncture, being happy that the dog has had normal stool the first time in six months. The effect of the acupuncture has lasted for ten days each time after acupuncture. Always on the 11th day following acupuncture loose stools would have reappeared. After the 7th treatment I have decided that it would be best to remove the implanted screws. This was been done surgically under general anesthesia. Prior to surgery fullscreen x-rays were done LL and DV to make sure that the fracture has had healed completely. Ever since surgery, this is now four years ago, the canine has had no problems anymore. No loose stools were reported, no drugs were necessary and no aggressions were shown up. The dog does not need any special diet any longer

This example concludes that there are wonders with acupuncture as John B. Limehouse stated in the IVAS course Belgium 2002 – 2003.

References:

¹Deng Liangyue et. al., Chinese Acupuncture and Moxibustion, 1987 Forgein Languages Press, page 142

²Deng Liangyue et. al., Chinese Acupuncture and Moxibustion, 1987 Forgein Languages Press, page 171

³C. Focks et. al., Leitfaden Traditionelle Chinesische Medizin, 2001 Urban + Fischer page 580

⁴IVAS course notes, Belgium 2002 – 2003 page 3.1.1

⁵C. Focks et. al., Leitfaden Traditionelle Chinesische Medizin, 2001 Urban + Fischer page 163

⁶Giovanni Maciocia, the foundations fo Chinese Medicine, 1989 Churchill Livingstone page 376

⁷IVAS course notes, Belgium 2002 – 2003 Page 3.1.1

⁸C. Focks et. al., Leitfaden Traditionelle Chinesische Medizin, 2001 Urban + Fischer page 165

⁹Giovanni Maciocia, the foundations fo Chinese Medicine, 1989 Churchill Livingstone page 378

¹⁰IVAS course notes, Belgium 2002 – 2003 Page 3.1.3

¹¹Giovanni Maciocia, the foundations fo Chinese Medicine, 1989 Churchill Livingstone page 417