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Miniscalpel-acupuncture treatment for posttraumatic cervical dystonia: A single case report

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Posttraumatic cervical dystonia presents dominant laterocollis, absence of improvement after sleep and poor response to conservative treatment including botulinum toxin injections. We are reporting an improvement of laterocollis with miniscalpel-acupuncture treatment on posttraumatic cervical dystonia. The case presents a 68 year old Kazakhstan patient who suffered posttraumatic cervical dystonia for 3 years. Tonic contracture of the left scalene, splenius capitis and sternocleidomastoid muscle was observed on Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) and postural analysis. There were no abnormal findings on brain MRI. Symptoms started with trauma and progression did not respond to botulinum toxin injections. Miniscalpel-acupuncture was performed on tender points of the contracted muscles. We executed the Cervical Dystonia Impact Profile (CDIP-58), cervical MRI and measurement of neck angle to evaluate the effect of treatment. After 14 days of miniscalpel-acupuncture treatment CDIP-58 decreased from 169 to 120 and cervical laterocollis angle decreased from 11.0 to 0.0 degrees. Based on MRI, the difference in both the length of middle scalene muscle and shoulder height also showed improvement. Although we are presenting a single case, it is based on the patient's clear response and objective evaluations. The treatment effect is considered to be the muscle relaxation and incision effects of miniscalpel-acupuncture. A large, well-designed study treating patients with dystonia with miniscalpel-acupuncture should be conducted in the future.

Biography

Sang-Hoon Yoon has completed his Bachelor's degree from College of Traditional Korean Medicine, Wonkwang University, Republic of Korea. Currently he is working in the Chung-Yeon Korean Medicine Hospital at Kwang-ju. He has published more than 4 papers and his main interest is musculoskeletal disorders and miniscalpel-acupuncture.

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