

Chinese Acupuncture/Moxibustion

Are you HIV+ and experiencing discomfort related to Neuropathy?

"tingling"

"pins and needles"

"numbness"

Acupuncture / Moxibustion Study

What is the Acupuncture/Moxibustion Study?

The Acupuncture/Moxibustion Study is a research study designed to test alternative treatment strategies (Acupuncture and Moxibustion) to reduce neuropathy symptoms in persons with HIV/AIDS. The study is being conducted at the NYU Meyers College of Nursing, Division of Special Studies in Symptom Management located at 380 Second Avenue in NYC.

What is Peripheral Neuropathy?

Peripheral neuropathy is often described as burning pain, aching, a "pins and needles" sensation and/or numbness in the legs, feet and/or toes.

As a research study participant, what will be expected of me?

As a research study subject, you will be asked to attend one intake (baseline) session, receive assessments of your lower limbs, receive 12 acupuncture/moxibustion treatment sessions and 3 follow-up sessions; keep a diary of your medications and neuropathy symptoms and fill out questionnaires. The acupuncture / moxibustion is administered by licensed acupuncturists trained in Traditional Chinese Medicine. There is no medication given as part of this study.

Who is eligible?

To be eligible, you must have HIV/AIDS, be 18 years of age or older, and be experiencing the numbness, aching, burning, or "pins and needles" sensation of peripheral neuropathy in the legs and feet for 3 months or greater.

Is there any compensation?

You will be given \$10 for the baseline and treatment sessions and \$10, \$20, \$20 for the 1st, 2nd and final follow-up sessions respectively. The total compensation for attending all sessions is \$180. You will also receive a round-trip Metrocard at the end of each session.

How long does the study last?

The duration of the study is 16 weeks. We will ask that you attend all sessions.

The Division of Special Studies in Symptom Management

The Division of Special Studies in Symptom Management at NYU Meyers College of Nursing is a research center dedicated to non-invasive, patient-centered research and services for the management of HIV and other chronic conditions.

The Division promotes innovative research and education which addresses health promotion, disease prevention, symptom management and quality of life for individuals with HIV.

In response to the increased interest and use in complementary medicine for treating HIV-related symptoms, researchers at the Division are conducting studies to test the efficacy and safety of these therapies. The goal is to find non-invasive interventions that will help patients cope and manage some of the distressing symptoms associated with HIV/AIDS.

The Division is directed by Dr. Joyce K. Anastasi. Dr. Anastasi has conducted several clinical trials for managing symptoms of HIV and has authored numerous articles on symptom science.