DIVISION OF SPECIAL STUDIES IN SYMPTOM MANAGEMENT

NYU RORY MEYERS COLLEGE OF NURSING

# Symptom Management for Peripheral Neuropathy in HIV

## STUDY SYNOPSIS

### *PURPOSE:*

*This is a 15-week, randomized, double blind, controlled NIH-funded clinical trial investigating the efficacy of acupuncture/moxibustion in reducing pain/discomfort associated with HIV related peripheral neuropathy.*

### *STUDY POPULATION:*

*Adults, age 18 years or older, **HIV+ or AIDS diagnosed**, with a history of distal sensory peripheral **neuropathy** of the lower extremities for the past three months or greater.*

### *INCLUSION CRITERIA:*

- ***HIV+ or AIDS***
- ***Experiencing pain/discomfort**, numbness, aching, burning or "pin and needles" sensation in the **lower legs and/or feet** for the past three months or greater.*
- ***Primary care provider verification**: HIV status, diagnosis/evidence of distal sensory peripheral neuropathy, and subject clinical suitability for the study.*

### *EXCLUSION CRITERIA:*

*Any acute condition requiring medical care (e.g. opportunistic infection).*
*Conditions that may mimic HIV distal sensory peripheral neuropathy symptoms: i.e. diabetes, coagulopathies, B12 deficiency, etc.*

### *STUDY PRODEDURES:*

*Subjects will attend a total of 16 session over a period of 15 weeks. All sessions will take place in the acupuncture suite at New York University College of Nursing.*
*Patients will attend one intake session, twelve (12) acupuncture sessions (twice weekly for 6 weeks, and three (3) follow up sessions.*
*Measurements of quality of life and level of functioning will be taken. All subjects will complete daily symptom and medication diaries and questionnaires for the duration of the study.*

### *BENEFITS AND COMPENSATION:*

*Participants will receive $10 per session at the end of the intake session and the first 12 treatment sessions, $20 for the first follow up session, $30 for the second follow up session and $40 for the final follow-up session. The total compensation for participation is up to $220. Participants will also receive a roundtrip MetroCard at the end of each session.*

### *PRINICIPAL INVESTIGATOR:*

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**FOR QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT US**

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