Author's response to reviews

Title: Feeding, stooling and sleeping patterns in infants with colic - description of patterns and the influence of minimal acupuncture in a randomized controlled trial

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Author's response to reviews:

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Dear Editor!

Hereby we resubmit the enclosed research paper “Feeding, stooling and sleeping patterns in infants with colic – description of patterns and the influence of minimal acupuncture in a randomized controlled trial”, this time for consideration for publication in BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine. This research article falls within the aim and scope of BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine as it adds knowledge to previous research. Infantile colic strikes about ten percent of new born babies and no medical treatment both safe and effective is known. Colicky symptoms have been linked to feeding problems and disturbed sleep. Few studies describe feeding frequency and bowel habits in infants with colic. In two randomized controlled studies acupuncture in infants with colic resulted in a reduction of crying. Acupuncture is known to reduce pain, alter gastric motility and promote sleep in adults. Possible effect of acupuncture on feeding, stooling and sleeping patterns in infants suffering from colic has not been investigated previously. The present study was initiated to conduct such an investigation. Another aim was to describe feeding and stooling frequency in infants with colic as these are important topics for many parents and a description of these patterns can be a valuable tool in clinical practice.

We hope that the paper would be of particular interest to acupuncturists and to those involved in the care of children with infantile colic and their parents; for example paediatric doctors, nurses and midwives.

According to the advices from the editor we have inserted the name of the ethics committee that gave approval for this study, and we have provided a flow chart, Figure 1.

Yours sincerely,

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