Author's response to reviews

Title: Acupuncture as prophylaxis for menstrually related migraine: study protocol for a multicenter randomized controlled trial

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Version: 3 Date: 9 September 2013

Author's response to reviews: see over
Acupuncture as prophylaxis for menstrually related migraine: study protocol for a multicenter randomized controlled trial

Dear editor,

Thank you for your time and efforts. According to the reviewers’ comments on our manuscript, we have finished revisions. The main amendments have been highlighted in red in the revised manuscript. We hope that the revised version is acceptable for publication in your journal. For details of the revisions please see the Response to Editors and Reviews attached.

Besides, as you suggested in last mail —please include a statement in your Methods section explaining that you obtained informed consent from each participant— we have added the related discussion in the Method Section in the revised manuscript, as “Each participant will be notified regarding the study protocol. Written informed consent will be obtained from each participant.”

Thank you again for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,

Lin-Peng Wang

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Response to Reviewer

Title: Acupuncture as prophylaxis for menstrually related migraine: study protocol for a multicenter randomized controlled trial

Version: 2 Date: 14 August 2013

Reviewer: Shefton Parker

Reviewer's report:

Minor Essential Revisions:

1. Table 1 - Suggest using specific scientific terminology with a legend and viewing previous published protocol tables to amend the table. The table requires significant improvement.

   Author response:

   Thank you for pointing it out for us. According to your advice, we have improved the table 1 in the revised manuscript. Besides, we added a brief description of headache diary in the "Outcome" section.

2. Manuscript - minor spelling and grammar changes see document comments.

   Author response:

   Thanks for your very careful review of our paper. According to your comments, the language in this trial have been carefully checked and improved in the revised manuscript.
3. How can you tell participants that 2 equally effective treatments will be provided when the efficacy for acupuncture you argue has not been proven? Participants should be aware that there are two groups and that they may be randomized to either. A test of blinding could be done to assess if participants think they are in the acupuncture treatment group or sham acupuncture group.

**Author response:**

In the "Randomization and blinding" section, we used some inappropriate statements in the last manuscript. In the revised manuscript, we have corrected the description of this part and added a credibility of blinding test as you suggested.

Thank you again for all the valuable comments and all the time you spent for this.