

# A Pilot Study Comparing Frequency and Style of Acupuncture for Chronic Low Back Pain

<b>Submission date</b> 24/08/2005	<b>Recruitment status</b> No longer recruiting	<input type="checkbox"/> Prospectively registered
		<input type="checkbox"/> Protocol
<b>Registration date</b> 04/11/2005	<b>Overall study status</b> Completed	<input type="checkbox"/> Statistical analysis plan
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Results
<b>Last Edited</b> 01/11/2013	<b>Condition category</b> Musculoskeletal Diseases	<input type="checkbox"/> Individual participant data

**Plain English summary of protocol**  
Not provided at time of registration

## Contact information

**Type(s)**  
Scientific

**Contact name**  
Prof Suzanne McDonough

**Contact details**  
14J15, Rehabilitation Sciences Research Institute  
University of Ulster  
Shore Road  
Newtown Abbey  
County Antrim  
United Kingdom  
BT37 0QB  
+44 (0)28 90 366459  
S.McDonough@ulster.ac.uk

## Additional identifiers

**EudraCT/CTIS number**

**IRAS number**

**ClinicalTrials.gov number**

**Secondary identifying numbers**

# Study information

## Scientific Title

## Acronym

ACLBP

## Study objectives

1. To compare the effectiveness of traditional chinese acupuncture, based on traditional Chinese medical (TCM) diagnosis, with moxibustion/cupping if necessary, with Western acupuncture based on Western diagnosis, without moxibustion/cupping, for chronic non-specific chronic low back pain
2. To explore whether intensive acupuncture treatment frequencies i.e. 5 treatments/week can achieve better treatment effects than 2 treatments/week, for non-specific low back pain

## Ethics approval required

Old ethics approval format

## Ethics approval(s)

Not provided at time of registration

## Study design

Randomised controlled trial

## Primary study design

Interventional

## Secondary study design

Randomised controlled trial

## Study setting(s)

Other

## Study type(s)

Treatment

## Participant information sheet

## Health condition(s) or problem(s) studied

Non-specific low back pain

## Interventions

1. Traditional Chinese acupuncture (with moxibustion and cupping if necessary)
2. Western acupuncture

## Intervention Type

Other

## Phase

Not Applicable

**Primary outcome measure**

Visual analogue scale (VAS)

**Secondary outcome measures**

1. Functional disability
2. Quality of life
3. Psychological impact
4. Shuttle walk test
5. Lateral trunk flexibility

**Overall study start date**

01/09/2005

**Completion date**

01/12/2005

## **Eligibility**

**Key inclusion criteria**

1. Non-specific acute or chronic low back pain (LBP) as the chief complaint, with or without leg pain
2. Age between 18-60 years and of both genders

**Participant type(s)**

Patient

**Age group**

Adult

**Lower age limit**

18 Years

**Upper age limit**

60 Years

**Sex**

Both

**Target number of participants**

40

**Key exclusion criteria**

1. History of disc or spine surgery
2. Sciatica
3. Neurological disorders and possible serious pathological back problem
4. Systemic bone or joint disorders (e.g. rheumatoid arthritis)
5. Pregnancy
6. Dementia

7. Severe clotting disorders or anticoagulant therapy
8. Epilepsy
9. Systemic or visceral disease
10. Current use of systemic corticosteroids, muscle relaxants, narcotic medications
11. Overt psychiatric illness
12. Receiving acupuncture treatment within the past 6 months
13. Unemployment or having current pending compensation claims
14. Other acute orthopaedic or medical problems

**Date of first enrolment**

01/09/2005

**Date of final enrolment**

01/12/2005

## **Locations**

**Countries of recruitment**

Northern Ireland

United Kingdom

**Study participating centre**

**14J15, Rehabilitation Sciences Research Institute**

County Antrim

United Kingdom

BT37 0QB

## **Sponsor information**

**Organisation**

University of Ulster (UK)

**Sponsor details**

Vice Chancellor Scholarship

Research office

University of Ulster

County Antrim

Northern Ireland

United Kingdom

BT37 0QB

+44 (0)28 90366629

n.curry@ulster.ac.uk

**Sponsor type**

University/education

**Website**

<http://research.ulster.ac.uk/>

**ROR**

<https://ror.org/01yp9g959>

## **Funder(s)**

**Funder type**

University/education

**Funder Name**

University of Ulster (UK) - Vice Chancellor Scholarship (VCRS)

## **Results and Publications**

**Publication and dissemination plan**

Not provided at time of registration

**Intention to publish date****Individual participant data (IPD) sharing plan****IPD sharing plan summary**

Not provided at time of registration

**Study outputs**

Output type	Details	Date created	Date added	Peer reviewed?	Patient-facing?
<a href="#">Results article</a>	results	01/06/2009		Yes	No