

## Answering reviewers

### Reviewed by 02488986

1. There are several space errors in the manuscript, please go through it carefully.

I have revised many errors in the revised manuscript.

2. In abstract section, too many introduction and rare result sentences, please revise it.

I have removed the introduction and added the results.

3. The authors should mention about RN12 and BL21 for first use in the abstract and introduction.

RN12(Zhongwan, gastric Front-Mu point) and BL21(Weishu, gastric Back-Shu point)

4. In method section, the authors showed that EA at RN12 plus BL21 group. The authors should write carefully since RN12 is located on abdominal and BL21 is on back site.

EA at RN12 plus BL21( RN12 is located on abdominal and BL21 is located on back)

5. "the electrode was connected with a electrically isolated digitizing amplifier

into OmniPlex” should be .....an electrically .....

I am sorry to have made such a mistake,I have revised it.

6. There are many grammar errors in full manuscript: “To examine the expression levels of c-fos, motilin and gastrin in hypothalamus.” The authors should edit it carefully.

“To examine the expression levels of c-fos, motilin and gastrin in hypothalamus” was switch to “To detect the expression of the assayed proteins c-fos, motilin and gastrin in the PVN, immunohistochemistry was performed.”, In addition, I used language editing services (AJE) to language polishing.

7. The resolution in the figures are not so good, please re-edit them.

I have re-edited them.

### **Reviewed by 00069567**

1.Some English abbreviations for the first time there is no full name.

I have complemented.

2.The language needs polishing.

I used language editing services(AJE) to language polishing.

3. With the approval number of the ethics committee.

I have added up (NO. 201409106).

4. Experiment design separate writing, more easy to understand.

According to the opinion of expert, I have revised it.

5. Pay attention to some of the details of the format.

I have done.

**Reviewed by 03434126**

1. Where are the non-points? I suggest a fine description or a figure showing them.

Non-points is the middle points of the line connecting the meridians where RN12 or BL21 belonged and their lateral neighbor meridians.

2. Why use RN12 and not CV12, proposed by WHO?

Yes, RN12 proposed by WHO

3. Why not describe the peripheral nerves stimulated? You could comment about the segmentar innervation of Shu-Mu points. You could rise a hypothesis why the used nerves are more specific than forepaws. It was shown by Longhurst that PC6 could provoke similar effect in DVC.

We are based on the theory of combination of Back-shu points and Front-mu points of acupuncture studies to select points to stimulate, the points and the peripheral nerves are not corresponding.

Gastric Back-shu point distributed in the range of T9-T13 segmentar innervation.

Gastric Front-mu point distributed in the range of T8-T12 segmentar innervation.

4. Why did you use 100 Hz?

We ues 20-100Hz, sparse-dense waves.

5. I suggest a figure showing where the stimuli were done - acupuncture points and non-points, and a graph with the hypothesis how could the stimulus in CV12 and BL21 reach the hypothalamus and the nucleus and how does it go to the stomach.

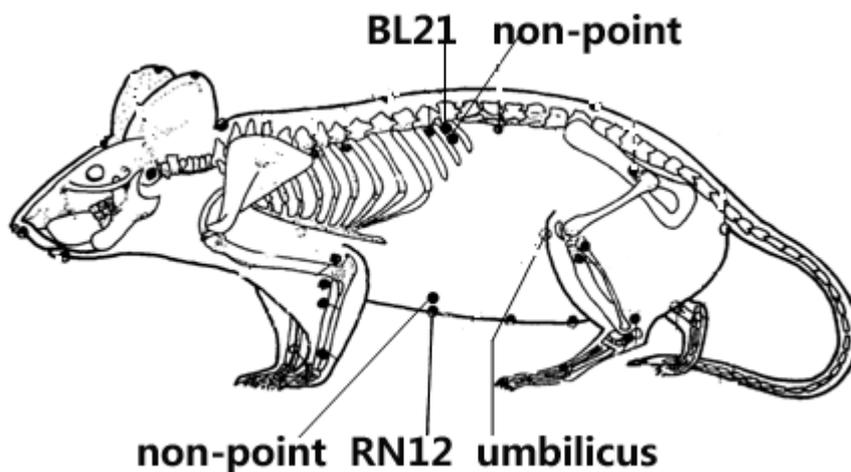


Figure 1: the location of RN12, BL21 and non-points

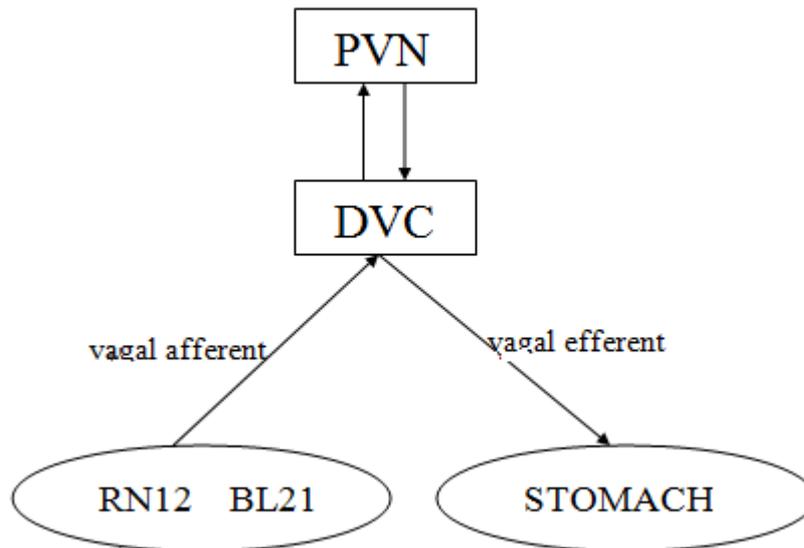


Figure 8: The transmission path of acupuncture signals of the gastric Shu and Mu points

6. You could state the clinical importance of these points regulate gastric motility.

It is proved that the combination of RN12 and BL21 is effective on the regulation of motility in clinic practice.

7. Abstract In my concern, you should not put reference in the abstract.

I have removed it.

8. The abbreviation may be put in the abstract as well, but they must be put in

the main text as they appear.

I have put the full name as they appear.

9. You dont state in the abstract the work is done with rats.

I have stated: 144 Adult Sprague-Dawley(SD) rats

10. Introduction You should describe DVC and PVN as it is the first time they appear in the text. Also in line 84 and 8 with MTL-R and GAS-R.

The dorsal vagal complex (DVC) comprises the nucleus tractus solitari (NTS) and the dorsal motor nucleus of the vagus (DMN). Paraventricular hypothalamic nucleus (PVN) located on the top of the hypothalamus, on the side of the third ventricle, it is one of the most prominent nuclei in the anterior hypothalamus.

MTL-R: the receptor of motilin

GAS-R: the receptor of gastrin is always called the CCK-B receptor

11. Methods: How many rats? Page 127. Reference for Paxinos and Watson P135. Reference. This is a general journal and readers dont know about it.

144 Adult Sprague-Dawley(SD) rats

George Paxinos , Charles Watson.The rat brain in stereotaxic coordinates. People's Medical Publishing House 2005; Third edition

12. You started a little discussion in results. P205, P215, P233, P256. It should

be better these comments were better explained in the Discussion.

I have better explained in the Discussion.

13. You should state better the difference between needle only CV12 or BL21 and both.

Our previous experiments have stated: In comparison with those in the control group, the amplitudes of gastric movement were increased significantly in the three EA treated groups ( $P < 0.01$ ); and they were statistically increased in RN12+BL21 group compared with those in RN12 group, and BL21 group ( $P < 0.01$ )