



## Nitric oxide participates in protective effect of acupuncture on gastric mucosal damages in rats

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### Abstract

**AIM:** The mucosal lesion index, gastric mucosal blood flow (GMBF), gastric electric activity (GEA), activity of nitric oxide synthesis (NOS) in mucosa contents of nitric oxide (NO) in serum were studied and effect of electrical acupuncture (EA) on above indices. On a rat model of restraint cold stress-induced gastric mucosal damages was established. Meanwhile, the protective effect of GMBF and GEA,

gastric mucosal level of NOS, serum level of NO and stress-induced gastric mucosal damages in rats were closely related.

**RESULTS:** EA could effectively protect the gastric mucosal damages and increase previous quota. The mechanism of protective effect of EA on gastric mucosa was discussed.

**CONCLUSION:** We speculate that EA agitates the synthesis and release of NO in intestinal nerve system, NO mediates the integrity of gastric mucosa, endogenous NO participates in protective effect of EA on gastric mucosal damages.

**Key words:** Nitric oxide; Electricalacupuncture; Gastric electric activity

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