

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 86827

Title: CARE-compliant traditional Chinese medicine for foot pain in a patient with complex regional pain syndrome: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 02671671

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Japan

Author's Country/Territory: South Korea

Manuscript submission date: 2023-07-10

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-07-22 01:05

Reviewer performed review: 2023-07-22 01:13

Review time: 1 Hour

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

This single case report does not have significant impact to report. English should be fully reviewed by native English speakers. VAS is scale, not point.

PEER-REVIEW REPORT

Name of journal: *World Journal of Clinical Cases*

Manuscript NO: 86827

Title: CARE-compliant traditional Chinese medicine for foot pain in a patient with complex regional pain syndrome: A case report

Provenance and peer review: Unsolicited Manuscript; Externally peer reviewed

Peer-review model: Single blind

Reviewer's code: 03905191

Position: Peer Reviewer

Academic degree: MD

Professional title: Doctor

Reviewer's Country/Territory: Reviewer_Country

Author's Country/Territory: South Korea

Manuscript submission date: 2023-07-10

Reviewer chosen by: Geng-Long Liu

Reviewer accepted review: 2023-08-17 08:17

Reviewer performed review: 2023-08-27 19:34

Review time: 10 Days and 11 Hours

Scientific quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Very good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade E: Do not publish
Novelty of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No novelty
Creativity or innovation of this manuscript	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No creativity or innovation

Scientific significance of the conclusion in this manuscript	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Excellent <input type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Good <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade C: Fair <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: No scientific significance
Language quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Grade A: Priority publishing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grade B: Minor language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade C: A great deal of language polishing <input type="checkbox"/> Grade D: Rejection
Conclusion	<input type="checkbox"/> Accept (High priority) <input type="checkbox"/> Accept (General priority) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Minor revision <input type="checkbox"/> Major revision <input type="checkbox"/> Rejection
Re-review	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Peer-reviewer statements	Peer-Review: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anonymous <input type="checkbox"/> Onymous
	Conflicts-of-Interest: <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO AUTHORS

I express my gratitude for the opportunity to review the manuscript entitled "CARE-compliant Traditional Chinese Medicine for foot pain in Complex Regional Pain Syndrome". This article addresses an issue that is important and remains challenging to treat successfully. Therefore, I appreciate the innovative and open-minded effort that the authors adopted. The title adequately reflects the main subject of the hypothesis, and the abstract summarizes the article appropriately. Keywords reflect the manuscript correctly. Illustrations and tables are accurately reflective. References are cited appropriately. The manuscript meets the ethics statements. Overall, the manuscript is well, coherently organized, and presented. The rationale of the study is adequately explained. However, I have minor concerns regarding the Introduction and Conclusion section. In this article, the authors presented a case report pertaining to CRPS affecting a female patient's foot that was cured with a combination of conventional and Traditional Chinese medicine. In the Introduction section, it would be appropriate to add possible causes of this condition and distinguish the main types of CRPS. Herein, it should be further specified that in this particular instance, most likely CRPS type 1 was diagnosed and treated. Although

significant pain relief and improvement of function were achieved, it remains yet unclear to what extent the effects of Traditional Chinese medicine participated in the outcome; therefore, the patient's conventional treatment continued throughout, as is stated in the manuscript limitations. Furthermore, it needs to be clarified if all of the traditional Chinese modalities were effective, more exactly, if their effect was cumulative, amplifying, or else, because of lack of data for this specifically. The effects of Acupuncture in pain management are promising and quite explored; however, pain exposure in patients suffering from CRPS remains controversial; thus, pros and cons should be considered. On the other hand, the safety of Pain exposure therapy in patients with CRPS has been supported by several studies; likewise, nonetheless, their scope was pain produced via physical therapy approaches that do not penetrate skin layers. Therefore, caution is in place, especially if the acupuncture points are located in the affected areas. In the Conclusion section, it seems too courageous to recommend a treatment based on a single case report. A more subtle choice of words would be preferable. In addition to the phrase "alternative treatment", a "supplementary treatment" would be more suitable, owing to the fact that these treatments don't contradict each other and the separate use of Traditional Chinese medicine in the treatment of this condition might lead patients into unnecessary suffering. The combination of conventional and Traditional Chinese medicine is promising and can improve the overall quality of life for patients suffering from CRPS remarkably; however, further research is necessary for validation and guidelines formation by the rules of EBM.