

## **Acupuncture & Smoking Cessation**

Sara L. Ryan, D.Ac., MTOM



# **Acupuncture History**

- Acupuncture is over thought to be over 8,000 years old
- Not just practiced in China, many societies make reference to, or used, acupuncture techniques.
- Used extensively by 1/4 of the world's population in Asia & is rapidly growing in popularity in the West.



#### How does it work? Theories:

- Qi (electromagnetic energy) travels through meridians in the body.
- Endorphin Theory Acupuncture stimulates secretion of endorphins
- Neurotransmitter Theory Neurotransmitters affected by acupuncture
- Circulatory Theory Dilates or constricts blood vessels
- Gate Control Theory Closes "gates" (pain relief)
- Motor Gate Theory Opens stuck "gates" (paralysis)



## **Commonly Treated Conditions**

- Musculoskeletal pain / Arthritis
- Carpal Tunnel
   Syndrome
- Addiction
- Infertility
- Neurological pain / conditions

- ADD / ADHD
- Hypertension
- Emotional and Psychological Disorders
- Migraines
- Anxiety / Stress
- Many others



### Stop Smoking with Acupuncture

- When conventional methods fail smokers often look outside mainstream approaches
- Patients are turning to acupuncture and complementary therapies more and more
- Often court mandated treatment for drug addicts

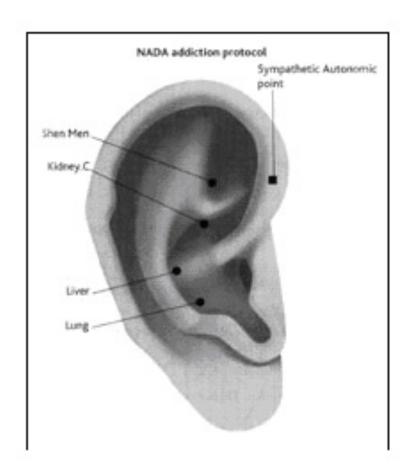


#### **NADA Protocol**

- In 1972 Dr. Wen found that addicts receiving acupuncture analgesia for surgery had reduction in withdrawal symptoms
- In 1985 Dr. Michael Smith of Lincoln Hospital started the NADA (National Acupuncture Detoxification Association)
- Now over 400 treatment centers throughout US and Europe
- This protocol used for all addictions, including smoking cessation
- Surveys reveal promising statistics
- NADA protocol is used to help relax, reduce cravings and detoxify



### **NADA Ear Acupuncture Points**





# Breaking the Cigarette Habit

- Acupuncture helps release endorphins into the bloodstream, calms and relaxes the mind, reduces anxiety, and alleviates depression.
- Can help to regulate neurotransmitters and stabilize their release into the body.
- Treatments take all of your symptoms into account.
  - Jitters, Cravings, Irritability, Restlessness



### **Course of Treatment**

- Typical treatments last about an hour, 2 times per week for 3 weeks or more.
- Maintenance at once per month or as needed.
- Each patient is treated according to specific diagnosis.
- A combination of ear & body points are used that are believed to influence the organs & energetic pathways associated with smoking.



### **Studies**

- Effects of acupuncture on smoking cessation or reduction for motivated smokers – 1996 He D, Berg JE, Hostmark AT Department of Preventive Medicine, University of Oslo, Norway.
- A single-blind, placebo-controlled trial of a simple acupuncture treatment in the cessation of smoking

   Br J Gen Pract. 1998 Aug;48(433): 1487-90.
   Waite NR, Clough JB. Child Health, Southhampton Hospital.