

Infrared Thermography Applied to Acupuncture

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Abstract

Acupressure is a healing therapy that provides stimulation without needle by applying any pressure to the Traditional Chinese Acupuncture (TCA) Meridians . This article presents an application of the Infrared Thermography (IRT) to the thermal reactivity of Human body skin due to the Acupressure Stimulation (AS). To survey an in vivo human skin surface, we will discuss the different sources of uncertainties and slants bound to the measurement by IRT, such as the skin surface's emissivity, the noise and the drift of the camera as well as the influence of the radiance emitted by the ambient surroundings. The main aim of this work is to highlight an infrared an objective evidence of the acupuncture points by IRT under AS defined by the TCA by refining IRT measuring methods. Twelve healthy acupuncture-naïve volunteers of our University participated to this scientific experimentation: a single blind in vivo trial "formula, placebo and sham" sessions.

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