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Indications: pain, anxiety, insomnia, nausea and vomiting

Case description:

Use of Alpha-Stim for Nausea and Vomiting, Case Report of a Woman With Crohn's Disease

The patient is a 40-year-old woman with a long history of Crohn's disease of the small and large intestine for more than 20 years. She has had multiple abdominal operations with removal of much of the small and large intestine, with an ileorectal anastomosis. She has severe chronic abdominal pain, requiring daily use of narcotics (methadone and oxycodone). She has chronic diarrhea, frequent episodes of nausea and vomiting, and severe anxiety and insomnia. Her nausea and vomiting often requires treatment with very expensive anti-nausea medicine (Marinol orally and Zofran by injection). The nausea and vomiting have been helped in the past with the use of a TENS unit, ReliefBand, stimulating the acupuncture point pericardial meridian 6 on the distal forearm on the palmar surface over the median nerve. She also had temporary decrease in her nausea and abdominal pain with acupuncture treatments. Three months ago she began using the Alpha-Stim 100 with CES one hour daily for two months, and then one hour every three days after that. She has experienced a very dramatic decrease in her anxiety, much improvement in her sleep pattern, and dramatic decrease in the nausea and vomiting. She feels that the Alpha-Stim treatment works better for the nausea and vomiting, and the benefit lasts much longer, than what she experienced with use of the ReliefBand. Alpha-Stim CES gave improvement in the nausea within a few minutes, with the benefit lasting for many hours or all day. She also used the probes, one on the pericardial meridian point 6 and one on the opposite side of the forearm, with very good effect on the nausea within a few seconds, with much longer benefit (hours or all day) than occurred with use of the ReliefBand. In fact, in the past month she did not use any anti-nausea medicine, which is a longer time than she has ever gone before without needing that type of medicine. Her abdominal pain and diarrhea have not changed significantly. She did not tolerate the AS-Trodes V pads on the skin of the abdomen because of contact dermatitis. Use of the probes on the abdomen and back did not seem to help her abdominal pain. In the past, she had bilateral carpal tunnel release for carpal tunnel syndrome. She subsequently had recurrence of some carpal tunnel syndrome symptoms. Since using the Alpha-Stim probes on the pericardial meridian point 6, the carpal tunnel syndrome symptoms have decreased markedly.