

Article review for the qualitative study “Revised” 4/19/22

References

Son, H., Kim, D. H., Kim, E., Jung, S., Kim, A., & Kim, T. (2013). A qualitative study of the experiences of patients with knee osteoarthritis undergoing moxibustion. *Acupuncture in Medicine*, 31(1), 39-44. <https://doi.org/10.1136/acupmed-2012-010224>

This article address existing gaps in society as osteoarthritis is a common cause of disability and limitation of the quality of life of many patients. The article seeks to improve the current practice and promote better patient care. It was published within the last ten years, making it reliable information for practice and can be deliberated to make correct inferences. The authors set their objectives clear at the beginning, and their study fully addresses this. It is organized in a way that is easy to understand and hence can inform the decision-making process. The research methodology adopted is a qualitative study that was part of a larger clinical controlled trial. The findings, therefore, reflect the current findings in practice. The study is carried out over a period of 2 weeks, and this is a long enough period to inform decision-making for larger populations. However, following up on 16 patients alone is a small sample, and the results could not be entirely factual.

The intervention in the study is moxibustion as an intervention in knee osteoarthritis. Indeed, moxibustion is demonstrated to have beneficial effects in the patients hence the recommendation to have it included in current practice. Moreover, the patient’s attitude towards the treatment course is postulated to affect the outcomes. This is realistic as healthcare is a holistic approach as opposed to individual segments. The practicality of the intervention for a broader scope of patients isn’t demonstrated, and there is a need for further studies to improve healthcare outcomes.

Article summary

Introduction

The article “A qualitative study of the experiences of patients with knee osteoarthritis undergoing moxibustion” is a qualitative study that seeks to identify the effect of moxibustion on the lives of patients with osteoarthritis. The condition is one of great concern in the population as most adults suffer from this condition. Qualitative studies are a significant addition to the existing literature and practice. Patients with osteoarthritis have limited quality of life in most cases, and newer methods that are more efficient and can work in different kinds of settings. The study aims to investigate and understand how patients with knee osteoarthritis respond to moxibustion.

Methodology

The study is qualitative research that investigates the effectiveness of moxibustion in the treatment of knee osteoarthritis. The sample size for the study was 16 participants, and they were followed up for 12 weeks. Open-ended questionnaires obtained the study results, and the results were compared to the control group.

Results

All the participants were interested in improving their quality of life. At the end of 12 weeks, their responses showed a marked improvement in the overall quality of life.

Discussion and conclusion

The study recognizes osteoarthritis as a normal aging process. It, therefore, affects a significant proportion of the general population. The perception of patients on the treatment is a significant determinant of the effectiveness and promotion the wellbeing. Osteoarthritis needs

long-term treatment and continuous assessment of the necessities to make life as bearable as possible. Healthcare workers, however, should assess the needs and attitudes of patients prior to starting to make their lives more bearable.