

The document was titled *Ching-Chang's Points & Medical Cases*, and was composed nearly a decade before Master Tung's textbook. It is the earliest known written work on Tung's acupuncture. *Ching-Chang's Points & Medical Cases* was authored in 1964 by one of Master Tung's disciples, Dr. Du-Ren Chen. Dr. Chen was the same age as Master Tung and was already an accomplished TCM physician before becoming Master Tung's disciple. According to Dr. Chen, Master Tung mainly selected points according to which of the five zang/channels was diseased. For example:

Diagnosis: heart zang or channel disease

Treatment: Open Heart (88.03)

Diagnosis: lung zang or channel disease

Treatment: Four Horses Group (88.17-19)

Diagnosis: liver zang or channel disease

Treatment: Heaven Yellow (88.12)

Below are two medical cases translated directly from Dr. Chen's notes that further illustrate how Master Tung diagnosed and treated:

Skin Itching

A female had skin reddish and itching from both dorsal feet to legs. Master Tung said, "This condition belongs to a disorder of the liver (zang) & kidney (zang)", he then stuck Ming Huang (Bright Yellow) and Tong Shen (Open Kidney), which cured the condition.

Esophageal Cancer

Master Tung said, "With cancer is very hard to distinguish which channel (zang) is disordered, so it is difficult to treat. However, esophageal cancer is mostly due to bad dietary habits". He then needled the Three Layer Group (San Chong), which mostly influences the spleen.

This meeting with Mr. Yuan confirmed my discoveries. The “secret key” that Master Tung refers to in the preface of his book is the five zang methodology, thus Tung’s acupuncture is actually a five zang acupuncture system! When treating patients, Master Tung first determined which channel or zang was diseased, then needled points associated with the channel or zang. The point Ming Huang connects to the liver zang, Tong Shen connects to the kidney zang, and the Three Layers Group connects to the spleen zang.

Characteristics of Tung’s Acupuncture

Tung’s Acupuncture focuses on the balancing of qi (yang) and blood (yin), so it seldom relies on needling local points or ashi points. Typically points are needled on the four extremities, the ear, the face and the head. This method can treat disease located anywhere in the body. When necessary, Tung’s acupuncture advocates superficial bloodletting with a three edged needle for treating the points on the dorsal or ventral trunk. This technique is generally safe without the risk of damaging internal organs by puncturing too deeply with filiform needle.

The pathway of the five zang are all connected with channels in which qi and blood circulate. Disharmony between qi and blood cause all kinds of disease. So it is important to keep the channels unobstructed.

Suwen, Chap.62

Discussion on the Regulation of Channels

Tung’s acupuncture uses the filiform needle to unobstruct the qi of the channel (jing) and the three edged needle to unobstruct the blood in the collaterals (luo). However, local points (ashi points) are seldomly selected because Master Tung felt that when evil (xie) invades the human body, it flows from the left to right, right to the left, upper to the lower, or from lower to the upper. Then the evil flows to four extremities along the channels. So, Tung’s acupuncture mostly picks the unique point of the upper body to treat the retained