

"Cure sometimes, treat often, comfort always." -Hippocrates



## **Acupuncture and Anticancer Immune Functions**



According to a study published by Evidence-Based Complementary and Alternative Medicine, it has been shown there may be a link between anticancer immunity functionality and acupuncture. Acupuncture would increase these functionalities by stimulating natural killer cells (NK) throughout the body.

NK cells work to destroy the bad and unwanted cancerous cells that attempt to take over the body when one is going through the stages of cancer. In this study researchers from the University of California, University

of California Los Angeles and the University of Pittsburgh participated together to bring forward the following results.

Upon completion of the heterogenous study, researchers created the "acupuncture immuno-enhancement hypothesis." The hypothesis states that there is an enhancement of NK cells due to acupuncture. This means that the increase of NK cells will decrease the amount of cancerous cells present because the NK cells neutralize the harmful cancer cells.

This study is the beginning of many to be conducted on the ties between acupuncture treatment and the effect on cancerous cells. The "acupuncture immuno-enhancement hypothesis," opens the door for more conversation about the profound effects acupuncture can have on anticancer immunity.

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