

## Research into Acupuncture and Abnormality of Sperm

### Sperm morphology

A study in treating subfertility by acupuncture was carried out in Germany on 28 men. Each patient received a total of 10 treatments for a period of three weeks. The spermiograms and hormone levels were checked before and after acupuncture. Total count, concentration and motility were evaluated and in all cases the researchers observed a statistically significant improvement of sperm quality.

The authors conclude that acupuncture therapy at the time of ovulation might increase the chances of a pregnancy.

(5) A Chinese study was carried out on 54 males with impaired fertility. 1-3 months of acupuncture therapy was given, and sperm analysis carried out before and after treatment. 55.5% of patients impregnated their partners in that period of time, and 24% showed a significant improvement in sperm parameters. 20% of patients, previously diagnosed with azoospermia and immune disturbance, did not improve. The best improvement was seen in patients with abnormal sperm.

Qian, Z [Clinical observation of 54 cases of male infertility treated by acupuncture and moxibustion] *Journal of Chinese Medicine*, 1996 Sep; 52.

(6) A Chinese study was carried out on 248 males who suffered from sperm abnormalities, absence of ejaculation and impotence. Treatment of acupuncture was given every other day. 20 treatments comprised one course. 2 courses were given (approx 2 months). About half of the patients with abnormal sperm achieved good sperm count and motility. (20-60mill/ml with 20-60% motility and less than 20% deformity). 52 % of patients with abnormal sperm failed to respond, a large percentage of those (40%) who were diagnosed with azoospermia, failed to respond at all.

Zhang J [The Acupuncture treatment of 248 cases of male infertility], *Chinese Acupuncture and Moxibustion*, Vol 7, 1987.