

Fascia – The Anatomical Basic for Acupuncture Points and Meridians in the Equine Back?

Hugh efforts has been made to find the anatomical foundation for acupuncture points without clear results. It has been shown how acupuncture points is overlying intermuscular fascia structures in the human arm and it is suggested that part of the mechanisms behind acupuncture is through the three-dimensional web of connective tissue and fascia in the whole body. In this anatomical study, the backs from horses was sliced into transverse sections at the level of each vertebrae or dissected longitudinal. The intermuscular fascia underlying the two branches of the Bladder meridian along the back muscles and the Governing vessel following the spine was studied. Considerations about the angulation of the acupuncture needle by insertion into the bladder meridian points has been made according to the intermuscular fascia. Additional points on the Bladder, Kidney and Lung meridians were dissected as well and related to the fascia plans and important anatomical structures such as nerves and lymph nodes within the connective tissue. In the lecture the anatomy will be related to the ancient Chinese use of some of the points. Furthermore, results from ultrasound examination of acupuncture points will be presented.