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# Does Interferential Current Benefit to Pain Relief after Back Surgery

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#### 復健醫學會雜誌

## 干擾波對背痛術後疼痛治療的初步探討

## 廖美雲 黃美涓 陳文玲

本研究評估干擾波對背痛術後仍有嚴重背疼、腿痛的止痛效果共計26例。其中男性17人,女性9人。平均年齡46.5±11.7歲。椎間盤突出者最多佔16例。共分3組,術後1週內即接受干擾波治療者為急性組9人,1週後至半年者為亞急性組6人,其它為慢性組11人。以術後完全無法忍受的疼痛為10分、中等程度為5分,不痛為0分,作術前、干擾波治療前後疼痛的比較。結果以急性組效果最好,與亞急性、慢性組比較具有統計上差異。另以單純椎間盤突出術後仍有異常疼痛卻未接受干擾波治療患者8人作為急性組的對照組,結果顯示干擾波對背痛術後疼痛是有所助益的。故干擾波可減輕背痛術後的疼痛,尤其是原因單純椎間盤突出術後急性期的止痛,不失為一有效可行的方法。

Key words: physical therapy, interferential therapy, pain after back surgery

#### 前言

#### 材料與方法

本研究對象爲民國75年5月至77年11 月因背痛術後仍有嚴重背疼或腿疼,於本院接受干擾波患者共26位。其中男性17位,女性9位(表1)。年齡自24歲至63歲,平均爲46.5±11.7歲(表2)。椎間盤突出者佔最多有16例,脊椎狹窄者6例,腰椎關節黏 連、腰椎前移滑凸症、第二、三腰椎壓迫性骨折、第一腰椎爆裂性骨折各有1例(表3)。依手術後至接受干擾波治療期間分為3組,術後1週内為急性組有9人,術後1週至半年內為亞急性組6人,其它為慢性組11人(表1)。

表 1. Sex Distribution of the Patients in Different Groups
According to Duration of Pain Postoperatively

Sex/Group	Acute	Subacute	Chronic	Total
Male	8	5	4	17(65.4%)
Female	1	1	7	
Total	9 (34.6%)	6(23.1%)	11(42.3%)	26(100%)

表 2. Age Distribution of the Patients in Different Groups According to Duration of Pain Postoperatively

Age (years)/Group	* Acute (n=9)	+ Subacute (n=6)	+ + Chronic (n=11)	Total (n = 26)	
Mean Standard deviation	42.4 11.3	46.7 9.5	49.7 13.1	46.5 11.7	
t-test * + t = 0.75 * + t = 1.32 + + t = 0.50	p > 0.05 p > 0.05 p > 0.05	F test	f=0.94	p > 0.05	

本研究使用的電療儀器爲Nemectrodyn Model 2 及 Endovac Model 2 , 具有四極真空 抽吸電極(tetrapolar vaccum electrodes),抽吸 電極強度以病人自覺舒服為原則,約0 - 0.4 bar ,治療時先以頻率90-100 Hz快速止痛5 分鐘,再以0~10 Hz治療10分鐘,大多數 患者每日治療1次,非常嚴重者初期每日2 次,待病人幾次治療後較不痛時,再全部改 爲 0 ~ 10Hz 15 分鐘。強度的使用亦以病患 認爲舒服爲原則。

本文採用郵寄及電話問巻補充方式,以 手術前完全無法忍受的疼痛為10分、完全不 痛爲零分、中等程度爲5分,回溯性評估三 組患者術前、干擾波治療前後的疼痛分數, 並相互比較,及週查三組術前背痛性質,日 常生活是否受影響及失眠狀況。

本研究又另選擇自民國74年4月至12月 在長庚醫院因單純椎間盤突出接受開刀後仍 有腿痛者作對照組,比較不接受干擾波治療 組疼痛自然改善的情形。接受手術者共47位, 其中大多數患者於術後背痛幾乎完全消失, 僅有8位(佔17%)於術後有嚴重背痛或腿痛。 此8位病人除藥物止痛外,並無接受任何物 理治療。

#### 結果

術後因背痛或下肢疼痛接受干擾波治療 的3組,平均年齡皆在42-50歲之間,統計上 無顯著差異(f=0.94, p>0.05)(表3)。手術 前疼痛嚴重度如是否有持續性疼痛、失眠或 日常生活受到影響,了組相互比較以chisquare 作分析,亦無統計上差異(表4)。

表 3. The Causes of Back Surgery of the Patients in Different Groups

	Acute	Subacute	Chronic	Total
			_	
Disc herniation	7	4	5	16
Spinal stenosis	1	2	3	6
Lumbar spondylosis	0	0	1	1
Spindylolisthesis	0	0	1	1
L2 L3 compression fracture	0	0	1	1
L1 bursting fracture	1	0	0	1
Total	9	6	11	26

表 4. Symptoms Before Back Surgery in Different Groups with Interferential Therapy

		Subacute (n=6)	Chronic (n=11)	Total (n=26)
Pain character	_		,	10
persistent	2	2	6	10
intermittent	7	4	5	16
+ Insomnia because				
of pain				
yes	9	5	7	21
no	Ď	1	4	5
	ŭ	-		
+ ADL impaired				
+ because of pain	7	5	7	19
yes	,	1	1	7
no	2	T	4	,

+ X2 = 4.25+ X2 = 0.92

干擾波減輕疼痛效果以急性組最好,9 例皆獲得良好改善,亞急性組6人只有2人 疼痛減輕,慢性組11人中亦只有6人獲得改 善,相互比較具有統計上顯著差異(X2=8.06, P<0.025) (表 5,6)。由疼痛分數評估得知急性 組由開始干擾波治療前的8.00 ± 1.32 進步至 停止干擾波治療即出院時的2.44 ± 1.24,疼 痛的減輕有一半以上。然亞急性組僅由7.17 ± 17.2 進步至 6.50 ± 2.26 , 慢性組則由 6.73 ± 2.61 至 5.55 ± 2.38 , 其中急性組 (paired t test t=12.5 , p<0.001) 、慢性組(t=2.36 , p<0. 025) 具有統計學上的意義,而亞急性組 (t=1.58, p<0.05) 則未達統計上意義(表7)。

表 5. Effect of Interferential Therapy in Pain Relief

	Acute	Subacute	Chronic	Total	
Good	6	0	1	7	
+ Fair	3	2	5	10	
+ + Poor	0	4	5	9	•
Total	9	6	11	26	
* + :+ =	8.06	p<0	.025		

表 6. Effect of Interferential Therapy in Pain Relief After Back Surgery

	Acute	Subacute	Chronic	Total	
Improved	9	2	6	17	
Not improved	0	4	5	9	
Total	9	6	11	26	
	¥2- 8.06		n<0.025		

表 7. Pain Severity in Different Groups Before and After Interferential Therapy

	Acute (n=9)	Subacute (n=6)	chroni (n=11)
Preoperative	10±0	10±0	10±0
Start IFC	*8.00±1.32	+7.17±1.72	+ 6.73±2.61
Post-IFC	*2.44±1.24	+6.50±2.26	+ 5.55±2.38
Therapy			+
paired t-test	** t = 12.5 p < 0.001	+ + t = 1.58 p > 0.05	++ t = 2.36 ++ p < 0.025

急性組於術後平均  $4.7 \pm 2.0$  天即開始接受干擾波治療、亞急性組爲  $1 \pm 5$  個月不等,慢性組 7 個月至 10 年不等。治療平均次數急性組爲  $8.9 \pm 6.6(3-22)$  次,亞急性組平均爲  $6.2 \pm 3.5(3-13)$  次,慢性組平均爲  $24.5 \pm 18.3(8 \sim 58)$  次。

對照組即單純椎間盤突出術後仍有嚴重背痛或腿痛卻未接受干擾波治療8位患者,其平均年齡為38.6 ± 10.0 歲,與術後有接受干擾波治療的急性組42.4 ± 11.3 歲相比較,在年齡上不具有統計的差異(t=0.73,p>0.05)(表8)。

8. Pain Severity of the Patients of the Postoperative Pain Groups with or without Interferential Therapy

_			
Time \ IFC	With (n=9)	without (n=8)	
Preoperative	10±0	10±0	
Start IFC\2-3 day postoperative	8.00±1.32	6.50±1.41	
Discharge	*2.44±1.24	*5.00±1.93	
Now	1.44±1.42	2.75±2.3	
t-test **t=3.29	p<0.01		

然疼痛分數的比較,不接受干擾波治療組術後第2-3 天時爲 $6.50\pm1.41$ 分,出院時爲 $5.00\pm1.93$ 分(住院日數爲4-7 天,平均 $6.1\pm1.0$ 日),至問巻調查時仍有 $2.75\pm2.38$ 分的疼痛。而術後有接受干擾波的急性組干擾波治療前爲 $8.00\pm1.32$ 分,出院即降爲 $2.44\pm1.24$ 分,問巻調查時則爲 $1.44\pm1.42$ 分(住院日數爲 $6\sim43$ 天,平均 $14.8\pm11.6$ 天),二者相互比較(t=3.29,p<0.01),具有統計上的差異。

大多數患者於接受干擾波治療時,並無 溫熱或不適之感,只有一位病人認為若電強 度過強時會有觸電、麻木或肌肉緊縮的現象。 若有減輕疼痛者均認為干擾波無法完全消除 疼痛,只能部份止痛,且於使用當時或數分 鐘內即有疼痛減輕的感覺,約可維持數小時 之久。問及如再有嚴重背痛或腿痛時,急性 組患者皆願意再接受干擾波治療,而亞急性, 慢性組患者只有半數願再接受治療。

#### 討論

自 1965 年 Melzack 和 Wall 提出門控學説 (gate control theory)[5] , 電流止痛漸被為推廣 已成為物理治療重要一環,干擾波則是近年 新發展的一個方面。治療用的中類(medium frequency) 一般屬於正弦電流。 1944年 Gildemeister 首先提出中頻一詞,頻率範圍約 為 2000 至 3000 Hz 之間。 1963 年 Wyss 認為理 論上中頻雙向波的頻率應介於1000至10,000 Hz 之間。然而d'Arsonval 則證實若此雙相波 頻率若大於 10,000 Hz ,皮膚會有溫熱的感覺, 因此臨床上,用以刺淚神經肌肉中隻向波電 流的頻率乃介於 1,000 至 10,000 Hz 之間。 1950 Nemec 利用2組高於2,000 Hz、不同頻率的 中頻雙相波交流電流(例如一個為4,000 Hz, 另一爲4,100 Hz),相互交叉重疊產生0 ~ 100 Hz 低頻電流。干擾波具有低週波的優點, 其中80~100 Hz有短暫快速止痛作用,1 ~ 10Hz 有長期止痛、消腫、增進局部血流 的效果,而40~70 Hz 則循環、肌肉再教育 的功用。又因其屬於中頻,故無低週波高抗 阻、刺激皮膚、無法穿透皮下深層組織或因 加強電流導致燒灼、疼痛的缺點,亦無熱效 應,不會有灼傷的危險,故能作淺部組織的 刺激,還能應用於深部組織及有金屬鋼條植 入區域的治療而真空抽吸電極(vaccum electrode) 主要作用是可改善電極下部的血流 及治少皮膚的電阻,尤其是應用於較深層組 織時 [2,3,6,7,8] 。

干擾波近30年來經不斷地改良應用,在臨床上治療效果的相關報告已相當多,包括骨骼病變如扭傷、挫傷、關節脱位、肱骨外髁炎、復發性下顎疼痛,骨骼後遺症、加速骨翳形成及骨癒合,週邊神經炎如顔面神經炎,血管性病變和婦科問題如頻尿、尿失禁、骨盆感染等,但治療的效果仍有待進一步的確定及探討。

本研究鑒於干擾波有止痛、 肌肉刺激消

腫、無熱效應、能應用於金屬植入組織、治 療範圍大及深入組織的優點,嘗試應用於術 後仍有劇烈背疼或腿痛患者,結果止痛的效 果仍以術後急性期最好,且疼痛有日漸下降 趨勢,雖此可能爲自然痊癒的過程,但與單 純椎間盤凸出術後背痛腿痛卻未接受干擾波 治療的對照組相互比較,疼痛仍有明顯下降, 故干擾波對疼痛解除是有所幫助的。對亞急 性、慢性期止痛效果則較有限,疼痛減輕亦 無法持續太久,探討其因可能是二者已過了 紅腫熱痛的急性期,疼痛的原因可能並非單 純的術後局部組織反應,而要考慮其他因素, 如手術時傷到神經、治療不徹底、未能完全 摘除骨片或已退化的椎間盤, 術後的併發症 如傷口感染、粘連性蜘蛛膜下層炎 (subarachnoiditis) 、硬膜外纖維樣變性 (epidural fibrosis)、椎間盤炎(discitis)、腦脊 髓膜膨出 (meningocele)、或再發性椎間盤突 出等等。此外交感神經失調、心理、職業、 社會教育、金錢、動機等各種因素均可能成 為術後持續疼痛之因[10,11,12, 13,14]。

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本研究選擇僅因單純椎間盤凸出術後仍有背痛或腿痛患者爲對照組,及因此類患者只要將椎間盤凸出壓迫神經此機械因素去除即可痊癒,應是術後預後較好的一群。與之比較,更可顯出干擾波對術後急性期的止痛效果,雖然不接受干擾波治療的控制組經過一段時間後亦會自然恢復,但需要忍受較長時間的疼痛。

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#### 復健醫學會雜誌

## Does Interferential Current Benefit to Pain Relief after Back Surgery

Mei-Yun LIAW , May-Kuen WONG , Wen-Ling CHENG

The purpose of this study was to evaluate the effectiveness of interferential therapy for pain control of severe back or leg pain after back surgery.

Twenty six patients were studied (17 males, 9 females) with mean age of 46.5 + 11.7 years. Three different groups of patients based on the time of receipt of interferential therapy after surgery were analysed. The acute group received therapy within one week, while subacute group between the second week and half an year after operation chronic group was consisted of all other cases. Herniation of intervertebral disc was the most common cause of back pain in the study.

The degree of pain was estimated by numerical score between 0 and 10 before and after operation. Ten represents very intensive pain, 5 is moderate pain, but o is no body. The higher the score, the more severity of pain is indicated.

In addition, 8 patients as control group after disectomy or laminectomy without interferential therapy is compared with the acute group.

The results were (1) The effectiveness of pain relief by inter- ferential therapy in acute group had significant difference statiscally when compared with subacute and chronic group. All of acute group patients had improvement in pain after therapy. However, there were only 2 of 6 patients in subacute group and 6 out of 11 patients in chronic group had improvement in pain after therapy ( X2 = 8.06, p<0.025 ). To analyze the degree of pain with numerical score, it showed that the scores before and after interferential therapy were  $8.00 \pm 1.32$  and  $2.44 \pm 1.24$  in acute group, 7.17  $\pm$  1.72 and 6.50  $\pm$  2.26 in subacute group,  $6.73 \pm 2.61$  and  $5.55 \pm 2.38$  in chronic group, respectively. There were significant differences for both acute and chronic group ( paired t-test, t=12.5, p<0.001; t=2.36, p<0.025 ) ,but not for subacute group (t=1.58, p>0.05). (2) Acute group patients alsoe had more satisfactory results than control group without interferential therapy. In control group, the numerical score of the second to third day after back surgery was 6.50  $\pm$  1.41, while it was 5.00  $\pm$  1.93 at discharge. Significant difference between acute group and chronic group was found (t=3.29, p<0.01).

In conclusion, interferential therapy is more effective for pain relief in acute than subacute or chronic group postoperatively, especially in patients with herniation of intervertebral disc.