

### Supplement 3. Summary of treatment bee sting therapy on acupoints for rheumatoid arthritis

First author (Year)	Type of acupuncture	Total treatment (sessions)	Main acupoints	Dialectical acupoints	Treatment Rationale	Adverse events
Liu (2008)	Bee sting therapy (Live bee, 8-15bees)	3 months	Ashi points	Cold dampness invasion, joint pain: CV6, RN4; Hot and humid embodiment, joint swelling pain: LI11, GV14; Phlegm and blood stasis in the resistance, Joint deformities pain:ST40,GB39	CM theory, Clinical experience	Dizziness (B:4), fever(A:1), hypersensitivity(A:4), leukopenia(B:3), loss of appetite and nausea(B:6)
Zhang (2011)	Bee sting therapy (Live bee, 5-15bees)	3 months	Ashis points near knee	n.r.	CM theory, Clinical experience	Dizziness(A:1), epigastric discomfort(A:4), fever(A:2), hypersensitivity(A:1), leukopenia(B:3), rash(A:3)
Deng (2011)	Bee sting therapy (Live bee, before 15-25days: 2-3bees; after 15-25days: 1-3bees increase every time)	2 months	Ashi points	Ankle:BL62, KI6, BL60, GB40; back: GV26, V12, GV3; elbow: LI11, L4, SJ10, SJ5, LU5; knee:ST35, ST34, GB34, GB33; Shoulders:LI16, SJ14, SI10; wrist:SJ4, SJ5 LI5, SI4	CM theory, Clinical experience	Epigastric discomfort (C:6),hypersensitivity (A:3), insomnia(C:3), leukopenia(B:1), nausea(A:2,B:3)
Zhou (2012)	Bee sting therapy (Live bee, 5-10bees)	3 months	Ashi points, acupoints in near in the pain point	n.r.	CM theory, Clinical experience	n.r.

CM: Chinese medicine; n.r.: not reported

#### References

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