

**Supplement 4.** Summary of non-randomized controlled trials of Bee Venom acupuncture for rheumatoid arthritis

<i>Hwang 2001</i>	
<b>Methods</b>	Design: case series trial
<b>Participants</b>	Country: South Korea Number of patients included(male / female): 15(4/11) Duration of disease (weeks): (A) < 4 (n=4), (B) 8-20 (n=2), (C) >24 (n=9) Follow-up: n.r
<b>Intervention</b>	BVA (Ashi points, acupoints near the inflammation point, two times a week)
<b>Outcomes</b>	1) Pain (VAS), improvement index (score of after treatment-score of before treatment/ score of after treatment). (A) 0.80; (B)0.68; (C) 0.51 2) Improvement of symptom (patient' assessment), Excellent (n=6); Good (n=7); Moderate (n=2)
<b>Note</b>	Treatment Rationale: CM theory, Clinical experience Adverse effect: n.r. Funding: none Language: Korean Publication: full paper Withdrawal/dropouts: no

n.r: not reported; VAS: visual analogue scale

**Reference**

Hwang YJ, Lee BC. Clinical study of anaphylaxis on bee-venom acupuncture. J Korean Acupunct Mox Soc 2000;17(4):149-59.