

## The Therapeutic Effect of Injection-acupuncture with Bee-venom (Apitoxin) in Cases with Canine Otitis Externa

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**Introduction:** Canine otitis externa is a disease which is commonly encountered in small animal clinical practice. This study was performed to establish the therapeutic effect of apipuncture in cases with canine otitis externa.

**Materials and Methods:** Fifteen dogs(3 months to 4 years old, 1.5- 4.7 Kg BW) with otitis externa were used in the present study. These experimental dogs were divided into conventional treatment group(control: 5 dogs), apipuncture group(experimental group A: 5 dogs) and conventional treatment+apipuncture group(experimental group B: 5 dogs), respectively. As for treatment in each group, control group was administered with antibiotics.. Apipuncture only was applied at 4 acupoints such as TH17(Yi-Feng), SI19(Ting-Gong), GB03(Shang-Guan) and TH03(Zhong-Zhu) were used bilaterally. All groups were treated 3 times/week for 2 weeks.

**Results:** Clinical signs including pruritis, cerumen, redness, swelling and odor were much improved by treatment for 2 weeks in experimental groups, and they were similar to that of control. The bacterial number of auricular discharges in experimental groups were significantly decreased till 2 wks after treatment, compared by that of control. No significant changes were found in changes of blood WBC counts and N/L ratio of experimental groups, compared by those of control. In conclusion, apipuncture was effective for treatment of canine otitis externa and apipuncture could be an alternative method to treat with antibiotics. Clinical relevance: The therapeutic effect by apipuncture was elucidated in canine otitis externa.

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