

2nd International Oncology Acupuncture Symposium!

CHINESE MEDICINE SUPPORTING CANCER SURVIVORS

FREE ONLINE



DR. YAIR MAIMON PHD OMD AC.



DR. SANTHOSSHI NARAYANAN, MD, FACP **MD Anderson Cancer Center**



DR. BEVERLEY DE VALOIS. PHD LICAC FBACC MBLS



DR. IMAN MAJD MD, MS, L.AC ABOIM Osher Center for Integrative Health



DR. WEIDONG LU, MB, MPH, PHD Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, **Harvard Medical School**

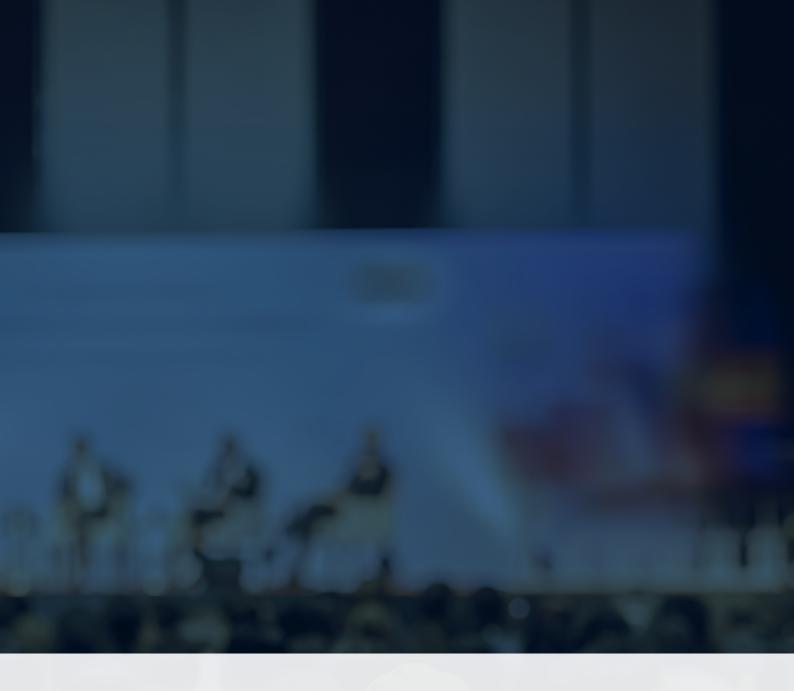


PROFESSOR NOAH SAMUELS, Shaare Zedek Medical Center,

Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

DATE: 7TH OCTOBER 2023

© TIME: 17:00 - 22:00 CEST | 11:00 AM - 04:00 PM EDT | 08:00 AM - 01:00 PM PDT



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Dear collogues,

I am excited to extend a warm invitation to you for our 2nd International Oncology Acupuncture Symposium! This symposium is not just an event; it's a unique opportunity for us to come together, share our experiences, and enrich our understanding of this profound field.

Enjoy a day of learning from our carefully curated line-up of speakers, each a trailblazer in their respective areas. Together, we will see how our ancient wisdom and modern techniques can make a difference in the lives of those who have faced the challenge of cancer. We will chart a course toward enhanced expertise and patient care, equipping ourselves with the tools to support cancer survivors on their path to well-being.

I look forward to collectively shaping the future of Chinese Medicine, by going into its heart, empowering ourselves to provide the best possible care to our patients and elevate our practice to new heights.

Warm regards, Yair Maimon



DR. YAIR MAIMON PHD, OMD

Dr Maimon is the president of the ETCMA-European TCM Association. He is an internationally renowned figure in Integrative and Chinese Medicine with over 30 years of clinical, academic, and research experience in the United States, Europe, and Israel.

Dr Maimonis the director of Marpe integrative medical center, Dean of TCM Academy of integrative medicine & founder and former director of the integrative oncology research center at Sheba medical center.



The Program

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NAME	CEST	EDT	PDT
DR. YAIR MAIMON PHD OMD AC. Opening Talk	17:00	11:00 AM	08:00 AM
DR. IMAN MAJD MD, MS, L.AC ABOIM "Acupuncture Helping Individuals with Cancer Thrive During the Pandemic"	17:15	11:15 AM	08:15 AM
DR. BEVERLEY DE VALOIS, PHD LICAC FBACC MBLS "The Importance of Clearing Blocks to Treatment in Cancer Survivors"	17:45	11:45 AM	09:45 AM
DR. SANTHOSSHI NARAYANAN, MD, FACP "Medicinal Mushrooms in Cancer Survivorship"	18:50	12:50 AM	10:50 AM
PROFESSOR NOAH SAMUELS, MD "Acupuncture for the Treatment of Hot Flashes in Breast Cancer Survivors"	19:50	01:50 PM	11:50 AM
DR. WEIDONG LU, MB, MPH, PHD "Oncology Acupuncture: A Cross-Cultural Comparison of Techniques, Research and Regulation"	20:55	02:55 PM	12:55 PM
DR. YAIR MAIMON PHD OMD AC. Closing Words	21:55	03:55 PM	01:55 PM

All times above are Central European Time!





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Acupuncture Helping Individuals with Cancer Thrive During the Pandemic

Caring for individuals going through their journey with cancer is a collaborative patient centered process. The health care system is evolving from a unidirectional treatment providing system to a more comprehensive care model incorporating Complementary and Integrative Health modalities – a model that our community has been at the forefront of delivering. Care should equip patients to thrive than just survive through their journey. Acupuncture has proven to be successful in managing some key medical challenges that these individuals deal with such as anxiety, stress, fatigue etc.

The COVID-19 Pandemic imposed unprecedented challenges in delivering care to all patients, in particular individuals with cancer. Adopting a model of practice that accommodates both the medical requirements of delivering care during the pandemic and continues creating a healing environment for patients needed new creativity and flexibility in service delivery. We were able to not only continue our regular acupuncture services, but also created a space for the patients to receive care and feel supported through telehealth.



DR. IMAN MAJD MD, MS, L.AC ABOIM Osher Center for Integrative Health

Dr. Iman Majd, Director of Osher Center for Integrative Health at the University of Washington, is an associate professor, Board Certified in Integrative Medicine, Family Medicine and acupuncture at the Department of Family Medicine at University of Washington, Seattle. He is the first physician to create a successful model incorporating Integrative Medicine and Acupuncture consult in primary care service line at UW.

Dr. Majd has a long history of advocating for Integrative Health and Medicine at the national and international level, collaborating with national organizations in initiatives to make Integrative Medicine more accessible to all patients. He is dedicated in bringing non-conventional practices into practice and helping the next generation of providers to harness skills for a data-supported personcentered integrated approach to health and well-being.

He currently serves at the Board of commissioners of the NCCAOM, the Academic Consortium for integrative Medicine and Health and is the President of Medical Acupuncture Research Foundation (MARF).

Dr. Majd has been involved with different research studies in the field of Integrative Medicine and Acupuncture, including his recent research on auricular acupuncture for pain management in group setting that was funded through American Academy of Family Physicians.

In his practice he uses an integrated East-West approach to health, bringing the knowledge and wisdom from Eastern and Western medicine together to educate his patients, collaborate with and empower them in their journey to optimal health.





The Importance of Clearing Blocks to Treatment in Cancer Survivors

Five Elements blocks to treatment are amongst the most fascinating interventions I have observed in 25 years of acupuncture research. Associated with blockages in the patient's qi, they can have profound negative effects on a patient's physical and psychological health. These phenomena may be a common presentation amongst cancer survivors; clearing blocks has the potential to facilitate profound change in a cancer survivor's wellbeing. Useful treatment options, they can be considered by any acupuncturist, whether they are working within a Five Elements or other theoretical framework.



DR. BEVERLEY DE VALOIS, PHD LICAC FBACC MBLS

For nearly 25 years, I have been a practicing acupuncturist in the UK and a Researcher in Integrative Medicine at Mount Vernon Cancer Centre. Within the Supportive Oncology Research Team, I have conducted several pioneering studies into using acupuncture to manage the consequences of cancer treatments. I am an Honorary Research Fellow at the University of Bristol and was Chair of the British Lymphology Society (BLS) Scientific Committee from 2017-2020. In addition to many publications in scientific journals, I am the author of "Acupuncture and Cancer Survivorship: Recovery, Renewal and Transformation" published by Singing Dragon.



Medicinal Mushrooms in Cancer Survivorship

Medicinal mushrooms have a long history of use in cancer treatment, and recent preclinical studies have shown promise. However, conflicting results have been reported in few studies. We present the results of a systematic review, where we analyze the available evidence on the use of medicinal mushrooms in cancer treatment. We assess their effects on survival, immunological outcomes, quality of life and adverse effect profiles. This review provides a comprehensive overview of the current state of knowledge and highlights the need for further research to clarify the potential benefits of medicinal mushrooms in cancer management.



DR. SANTHOSSHI NARAYANAN, MD, FACP MD Anderson Cancer Center

Dr. Narayanan is a American board of Internal Medicine certified physician who has made significant contributions to the field of integrative medicine and oncology. In 2015, Dr. Narayanan joined MD Anderson Cancer Center, co-founded, and served as the associate director of the MD Anderson Onco-hospitalist fellowship program. Her involvement in this program helped shape a comprehensive approach to patient care that goes beyond conventional medical interventions. Driven by her desire for a whole-person approach to address unique needs of cancer patients, she transitioned to the integrative medicine center in 2018. Since then, she has dedicated her efforts to promoting an integrative approach to cancer care. Her focus revolves around incorporating various aspects such as diet, exercise, mind-body approaches into the treatment plans of her patients and counseling on supplements. Dr. Narayanan is a co-author of over 35 publications, and multiple book chapters, and her expertise and insights have been sought after by numerous national and international conferences, where she has been invited to speak as an expert in the field. Her work continues to impact the lives of cancer patients, promoting a comprehensive and integrative approach that addresses their physical, emotional, and spiritual needs.



Acupuncture for the Treatment of Hot Flashes in Breast Cancer Survivors

Female survivors of hormone receptor-positive breast cancer continue to take selective estrogen receptors (e.g., Tamoxifen) or aromatase inhibitors (e.g., Anastrazole, Letrozole, etc.) for years following the treatment of their tumor. While effective for preventing cancer recurrence these drugs are accompanied by hot flashes and other side effects which can significantly impair quality of life. Acupuncture has been shown to be both a safe and effective in reducing hot flashes, possibly via the central release of endorphins, serotonin, and ACTH.



PROFESSOR NOAH SAMUELS, MD

Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Dr. Noah Samuels is an Israeli physician, board-certified in Internal Medicine and with extensive training and experience in TCM and Integrative Oncology.

He teaches Integrative Medicine to medical students at three Israeli universities, and has published more than 90 research papers, most in the field of Integrative Oncology.

Director, Center for Integrative Complementary Medicine, Shaare Zedek Medical Center, Faculty of Medicine, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel

Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel.





Oncology Acupuncture: A Cross-Cultural Comparison of Techniques, Research and Regulation

Oncology acupuncture has become an increasingly utilized integrative therapy for cancer patients in recent years. However, practices, regulations, and research vary significantly between China, where acupuncture originated, the United States and European countries.

This presentation provides an overview of the current state of oncology acupuncture in these different regions. Learning objectives include:

- 1. Compare and contrast acupuncture techniques commonly used for cancer symptom management in China, the US and Europe;
- 2. Examine differences in acupuncture's acceptance, insurance coverage, and regulation between these regions;
- 3. Discuss the focus of acupuncture research in China vs. the West;
- 4. Propose opportunities for collaborative research and navigating regulatory variations.

Key differences in techniques are highlighted, such as China's use of acupuncture for gastric and colon cancers vs. breast cancer in the West, and China's extensive use of electroacupuncture compared to manual acupuncture in the US and Europe. Chinese research tends to focus on acupuncture's mechanistic actions on the body, while research in the West emphasizes clinical outcomes. High quality clinical research is generated in US. Strict regulations on acupuncture practice exist in the U.S. and Europe, but are less defined in China. This cross-cultural comparison of oncology acupuncture ultimately aims to promote integration and optimization of techniques from different regions to improve patient care globally.







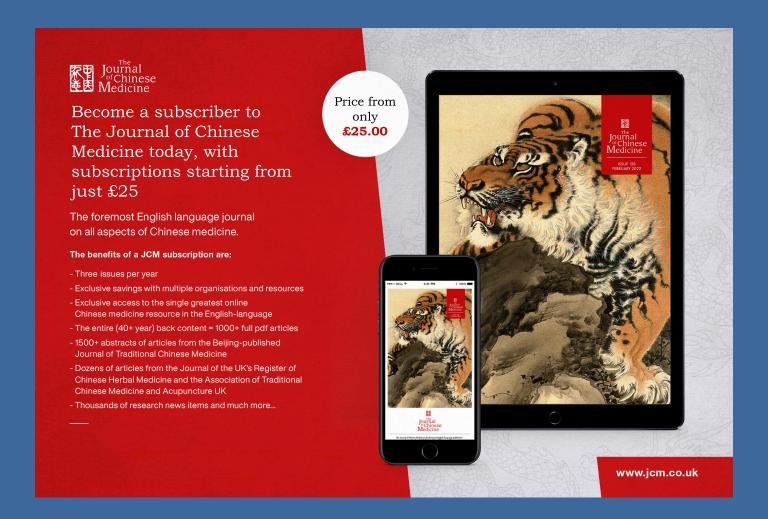
DR. WEIDONG LU, MB, MPH, PHD

Dana-Farber Cancer Institute, Harvard Medical School Boston, MA, USA

Weidong Lu, MB, MPH, PhD is an Oncology Acupuncturist and the Oncology Acupuncture Team Leader at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute (DFCI). He is a principal investigator at the Dana-Farber/ Harvard Cancer Center and the lead investigator of the Chinese Medicine Research Initiative at DFCI. Dr. Lu is an Instructor in Medicine at Harvard Medical School and a Professor Emeritus of Chinese Medicine at the New England School of Acupuncture (NESA). He chairs the Committee on Acupuncture at the Massachusetts Board of Registration in Medicine.

Dr. Lu established the Oncology Acupuncture Specialty at DFCI in 2000 and has dedicated his research to integrative medicine, with a focus on integrative oncology. His research centers on developing the oncology acupuncture specialty; conducting clinical research on symptom management and supportive care using integrative approaches including acupuncture and Chinese herbal medicine; investigating drug-herbal interactions and their impacts on clinical practice; and designing and leading clinical trials of oncology acupuncture. He has published over 60 peer-reviewed research papers and book chapters, and has presented his work nationally and globally, including North America, Europe, and Asia.

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An "Average Joe" Acupuncturist in the Oncology Setting

After seven or eight years as a solo practitioner of Chinese Medicine in central Vermont, I joined with another acupuncturist and we established a practice located within one of our town's hospital-associated health clinics. The clinic's title changed to include the word "Integrative" and we were excited to see some integration of our medicine into a well-respected mainstream medical clinic in town. We began calling the various practices of the hospital to see if they were interested in a lunch talk to learn what we were offering as part of this newly expanded integrative practice. They were mostly welcoming as we worked through our nerves to share about the practice of acupuncture and how we may be a resource for their patients. We remained humble, used some research, kept it simple and spoke their language.

I've learned that most providers really do want to help their patients. And when they are struggling and have heard and read something positive about acupuncture or maybe a certain acupuncturist, especially from another patient or provider, they may take the leap to refer. We found that the hospital's cancer center was very receptive to us and was most interested in having us spend time weekly on-site. In my observation, oncology care is one of the most integratively-minded specialties in health care as cancer is one of the more challenging conditions we face.

I'm sharing here mostly because I consider myself the "average Joe" acupuncturist who has now been working in oncology care for over ten years. And there have been other practitioners interested in cancer care who've reached out to me curious as to how I was able to make this happen and more of the details of how it works for me. I maintain a private practice and work two half-days at the hospital as an independent contractor. I find it freeing not necessarily to be employed by the hospital. There is a supervisor that I treat as such and regularly communicate with, but I do feel that I am mostly humbly in charge of myself there.

This cancer center has a patient fund which they regularly fundraise for. The fund pays for various services, like transportation or healthy food programs. It also covers the cost of seeing me, as well as the massage therapist they have available to patients. We've agreed on a fee per patient and at the end of the month I send an invoice for the total patients seen throughout the month. There is no insurance involved and it's a free service to the patient. It works out quite smoothly for all parties. The patients are grateful for the free access to acupuncture as part of their cancer treatment process and the hospital is grateful to have me on-site for a reasonable fee per patient. In gratitude sometimes a patient will contribute to the patient fund when they finish their treatment.





They, however, do limit the time I spend there and the maximum number of patients I see in a week. The patient has a half-hour for acupuncture, often scheduled once a week directly before or after their radiation treatment. I also treat patients during (in the chemotherapy suite) or right after their chemotherapy infusion. They may come for support with recovery from surgery. I currently use one room, though I have used two and found it a bit too fast paced for my comfort with the relatively short treatment time. There's an average-sized, carpeted, comfortable room that is not far from the check-in area, with nice music playing that suits our practice well. I am very lucky to have such supportive staff, including the nurses, technicians, medical oncologists and radiation oncologists, as well as the front desk. After over ten years there, I feel to be an integrated and respected part of the oncology team. I've built personal relationships with all who work there and find it a truly enjoyable place to spend my time both as a provider and a co-worker.

Rather than sharing my clinical experience here, for which I owe a great deal to the TCM Academy, this is meant to show an example of the average acupuncturist working in a cancer setting. I imagine other practitioners wonder about some of these details, so I hope this is somehow helpful or inspiring. It's important to build trust amongst the people you may work with in the Western medical setting. Keeping your humility, asking relevant questions, being interested, supportive, flexible and kind-hearted will all help you succeed. Feel free to reach out if there are other specific questions you may have for me that may be helpful in your process.



JOSHUA SINGER, L.AC

has been practicing acupuncture and Chinese Medicine for twenty years in Montpelier, Vermont. He spent a year in Shenyang, China teaching English at Northeastern University while learning Chinese language and observing the medicine in its culture, before attending and graduating from the Oregon College of Oriental Medicine in 2002. Josh greatly enjoys supporting cancer patients through their treatments. He can be reached at singerjoshua9@gmail.com.

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