TCM NEWS

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TEACHING THE ART OF ACUPUNCTURE



Adejola Olatunji was introduced early in life to the fluid energy underpinning the art of acupuncture. The trouble was he did not know it. That introduction was hidden by a focus on the vigorous application of power demanded by the fighting arts.

Tunji, as he is popularly known, was a resident of Brooklyn, New York, where he was a student of martial arts. "We learned to identify and strike vital points of the body," he recalls of those first steps of learning that the body had a network of energy centres.

It took a traumatic experience and a fortuitous turn of fate to put Tunji on the journey of gaining knowledge and then teaching acupuncture. A car accident that involved a 50-foot drop saw Tunji having to undergo physiotherapy for a year. It left him unable to turn his head and he had to stop training.

His martial arts teacher convinced Tunji to see "this Japanese guy". The Japanese guy turned out to be a conventional medical practitioner and an acupuncturist. He stuck needles in his neck, back of his leg and foot. Tunji remembers the urge to walk out of that ridiculous experience when, without realising it, he found he had turned his head to look in the direction of Dr Kusumi upon his return into the examination room. That single tangible healing proved a turning point to Tunji's life. He became an apprentice in that classical sense of learning discipline by sweeping floors and doing the odd jobs. After two years, Tunji joined the Midwest Center for Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine in Chicago.

In 1987, Tunji secured a three-month visa to visit New Zealand. A chance meeting saw him land a job in a Farmer's menswear department. He also opened a practice, bought a house in Wellington and three years later, he was granted New Zealand citizenship.

When Tunji became the secretary of New Zealand Register of Acupuncturists, there was a strategic vision to standardise the teaching of acupuncture. Tunji was asked to manage that. A case was made to New Zealand Qualifications Authority (NZQA). By 1998, the qualification was reshaped. Starting from level 3 to the Bachelors' level 7, the unit standards and national qualification were approved.

"By this time, I had to make a choice of giving up active practice in favour of managing the teaching which I did in 1994 by establishing a private training school. For me, investing in a top-quality school meant I could indirectly multiply the number of people I could help heal much more than I could by direct practice," says Tunji. For Tunji, the journey has been enormously satisfying. Since 1997, the School has consistently enrolled 140 or more full-time students with a graduation rate of 87 percent, with 85 percent of those still in practice.

"Acupuncture is no longer a fringe medicine in New Zealand. Today, doctors refer clients for acupuncture treatment. Medical schools have included acupuncture as part of an optional tool-kit. Our school teaches from certificate to the bachelor level. Healing experiences and word-of-mouth go together. In the end, the market decides what works and what does not.

"Acupuncturists are first and foremost holistic healers. Their philosophy makes them healers not careerists or money makers," says Tunji whose personal journey has been blessed by fortune into a blessing on others.

Adejola Olatunji is Director of New Zealand School of Acupuncture and Traditional Chinese Medicine located in Auckland and Wellington.



Su Jok Workshop

Date:

2 and 3 July 2011

Time:

9:30am - 4:30pm

Venue:

New Zealand School of Acupuncture and TCM (Auckland Campus)

Address:

382 Manukau Road Epsom, Auckland

Fees:

\$199 (incl. GST)

Su Jok therapy is an effective natural healing therapy without medication. It is a safe and convenient practice with no side effects. The therapy is performed by magnets, light rollers, massage rings, seeds, micro needles and hand massage.

The two-day workshop on 2 and 3 July is facilitated by Dr Vesna Zdravkovic.

Vesna was trained as a medical doctor overseas. She holds a postgraduate Diploma in Human Nutrition from Massey University, and has been practising Su Jok therapy in New Zealand for the past ten years. She is the appointed Su Jok trainer in New Zealand for International Su Jok Academy, and is the founder and president of Su Jok Onnuri New Zealand Inc. (www.sujok.org.nz).

Workshop places are limited.

For enquiries, please contact:

Dr Vesna Zdravkovic Tel: 09 8383335 or 0800 880033 Email: vesna@GoHealthy.co.nz or admin@nzsao.com

The Workshop Programme DAY ONE

Registration

Introduction

• Su Jok therapy overview

Su Jok correspondence systems

- Basics of standard correspondence system on hands and feet
- Insect correspondence systems
- Mini systems

Su Jok seed therapy

- Theory of using seeds for therapy
- Applications of seeds based on pressure, similarity-shapes, magnetic properties, colours and spices

Seed application on correspondence points

- Practical application of seeds tostimulate correspondence points in different correspondence systems
- Examples for most common muscular-skeletal problems

Su Jok massage therapy and massage tools

- Using your hands for hand and foot massage using Su Jok correspondences
- Variety of Su Jok massage tools for massage stimulation of correspondence points

Su Jok moxa therapy

- Overview of moxa application for treatment on correspondence points
- Characteristics of smokeless moxa.
- Treatment through energy points on hands and feet
- Conditions commonly treated with moxa

DAY TWO

Su Jok Byol meridians and energy flow therapy

- Introduction to Byol Meridians on hands and feet
- Basics of energy flow therapy Relationship between Byol Meridians, systems of organs, organs and most common symptoms

Su Jok magnet therapy

- History of magnet therapy
- Characteristics of magnets for therapy
- Magnets for energy flow treatment
- Magnets for reflexology treatments

Practical magnet therapy

Applying magnets for common health problems

Su Jok colour and light therapy

- Different colours for different energies
- Plain light therapy
- Various therapeutic examples of colour and light applications

Practical colour and light therapy

 Practice colour and light therapy for some health problems

Most common health problems

 Some simple treatment options for Headache, back pain, joints problems, sinuses, asthma, constipation, sleeping problems, low energy levels

Certificate presentation and closing

Attendance and membership certificates



STUDENT CLINIC offering acupuncture treatments

To meet the course requirements, our students administer acupuncture treatments, supervised by tutors, in the student clinics at both campuses in Auckland and Wellington.

Each consultation and treatment is for an hour.

The cost per acupuncture treatment is \$12 for Auckland and \$15 for Wellington. There are discounts for booking of six treatments (special conditions apply).

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