

The Observation of the Bonghan System in Rabbit

Min-Su Kim^{1,2}, Kang-Moon Seo¹, and Kwang-Sup Soh^{2*}

¹*Department of Veterinary Surgery, College of Veterinary Medicine, Seoul National University, Seoul, Korea*

²*Biomedical Physics Laboratory, Department of Physics, Seoul National University*

Introduction: It is an essential question whether acupuncture meridians in traditional medicine exist. Recently, there have been several reports on the research about Bonghan system which is considered to be acupuncture meridian system. In this study, we report on the observation of the threadlike structures which may be Bonghan duct on the surface of internal organs of rabbits.

Materials and methods: New Zealand white rabbits that were 10–12 weeks old (1.8–2.0kg) were used to find the Bonghan duct. Under deep anesthesia by urethane, the abdominal wall was incised and internal organs were observed. After searching the threadlike structures from the organ surface or abdominal wall, the structure was identified by using small surgical instruments. The threadlike structures and corpuscles were observed under a microscope and analyzed by H & E staining.

Results: The specific threadlike structures bound to the corpuscles were observed on the surface of internal organs. A typical corpuscle was connected to the threadlike structures on the surface of rabbit internal organ. In H & E staining of the Bonghan duct, we found the dark blue stained nuclei and sinuses of various shape and sinuses.

Clinical relevance: It would be thought that the Bonghan duct and corpuscle which were found on the surface of internal organ were part of a network of acupuncture meridian system. Further research about Bonghan system would reveal its function and significance with respect to therapeutic effects.