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### ACUPUNCTURE AND WOUND HEALING

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**Aim:** Each year in the E.U., burn injuries, lacerations and abrasions occur that are serious enough to warrant medical treatment. Although the typical approach to helping skin wounds heal properly is to use wounddressings and antiseptics, there are situations where non healing wounds occur. In such cases, complementary therapies have sometimes been used to stimulate wound healing. One popular alternative is to stimulate the wound area with electric current placed on needles or else. Simple needle treatment is also used for woundhealing. While there is no definitive explanation for the therapeutic benefits electrical stimulation or acupuncture achieves, experimental studies have shown it to have a positive effect on wound healing and to increase blood supply in stimulated areas. In a 1999 issue of the American Journal of Acupuncture, Sumano H and Mateos G researchers from the National Autonomous University of Mexico conducted a small study on 44 patients (15 male, 29 female) to determine the effectiveness of acupuncture-like electrical stimulation in treating a variety of wound conditions.

**Methods:** Does a literature review offer newer insights on wound healing made by proper acupuncture treatment?

**Results:** Some physiological results have been investigated and show beneficial effects on wound healing.

**Discussion:** Literature nowadays reveals some newer insights in the possible beneficial effects on wound healing made by proper acupuncture treatment.