

Acupuncture 10/18/72

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Yup, it has come to the Dynasty of the Dupees. (Dupont's)

And my mother is interested in it

She knows someone who is getting it, from an Englishman named Feather.

There is, in fact, some kind of Dupont Orthopaedic Hospital (not exact name) at which his skill is available.

Imagine! In Wilmington, Delaware. In which changes other than the makeup and the typography of the paper on which I worked are visible.

So, I'd like to know if you have any knowledge of whether or not it has been effective in bursitis and calcium deposits and if age is or can be a limiting factor. I don't want to encourage her to futilities. (I said nothing when she reported the little she did.)

She has had and is having a very rough time of it, largely the result of incompetent and very wrong intrusion into the treatment and life of my stepfather by his own children, three medical and three rich. They had him travel when it was contra-indicated, then unceremoniously dumped him back on my mother, more than a thousand miles away when they could not handle him (brain damage following hardening of the arteries following the most serious surgery).

They showed up for the funeral, left for their homes directly from the cemetery, haven't been heard from since, and left my mother to pay all the costs from her meager resources, including months of hospitalization, which pretty well cleaned her. One at least is at least a millionaire.

So, she has had an emotional reaction atop acute fatigue from her part of the nursing. She is 80, with a mild cardiac condition the nature of which she has never disclosed to me. She recently had one cataract operation and awaits another. Between the last time I saw her and this time, while awaiting the growth to operable size of the second cataract, she developed this very painful orthopaedic conditions in an arm and a shoulder. They deter or prevent sleep and besides limiting the use of the arms are visibly painful.

With all of this, my tough ma has taken care of everything, including seeing to it that there is permanent care of the two graves, my step father's and his first wife's. The gravestone is not a cheap one. She has asked for nothing. And as soon as the funeral was over she decided to try to make it without the librium on which she was!

I know the acupuncture is on her mind because she raised the question. I doubt her doctor or doctors will look favorably upon it, but I have a notion that if she were to insist the general practitioner, the family doctor, would be more willing to experiment than the specialist. He has been a decent man for some years, I suspect the more so because of abuse and interference from the doctor sons from down south, by phone and not in person, in the treatment of their father. He has to have resented that. He would even go out at night when my mother felt it was necessary for my step-father. But I don't want to encourage the idea I see shaping up in her mind unless there is some reason to suppose it might be a good one. I presume the acupuncturist would know, but at this stage he can't be consulted.

So, from your recall of the past, if not of current literature, with my mom 80, with this history, limited use of both arms and weakness in them, with one shoulder involved and the upper arm on the other side, is there anything to preclude possibility of benefit from acupuncture?

I realize you may not know, but I don't know anyone who might.

Best,



I was reminded by the appearance on CBS TV a.m. news by a delegation of visiting Chinese doctors who had just seen U.S. open-heart surgery.