Auriculotherapy.

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AURICULOTHERAPY

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THE BRITISH INSTITUTE OF AURICULOTHERAPY35 SWINTON STREET, LONDON, WC1.01-278 8596

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According to traditional Chinese medicine, the body meridians and vessels are our air and blood power structure – with the ear as the main central junction and crossroads of all these energy channels. Auriculotherapy is based on the stimulation of individual acupuncture points in this area. Members of the Institute generally use Electronic equipment to detect and stimulate these points. This method ensures accuracy, is extremely effective and reassures those who fear pain or infection from the fine, sterile needles traditionally used.

Since 1951, French Physician Paul Nogier has conducted detailed studies on the correlation between the ear and other parts of the body, recognising in the structure of the ear a mirror image of the human foetus in its intra-uterine position – inverted, the head pointing downwards. Taking the inverted foetus as a guide to the first map of the ear and applying his research results to clinical treatment, Dr. Nogier added new acupuncture points (there are now almost 200 known auricular points) and so became the foremost exponent and pioneer of Auricularotherapy in the West.

Acupuncture has proved its value in combating all forms of addiction by suppressing the body's demands and eliminating withdrawal symptoms. Given that the smoker has decided to stop and the slimmer to co-operate, Auriculotherapy can relieve the tension, irritability and depression etc., which so often provide an excuse for 'just one' cigarette or cake. Many Patients treated for tobacco addiction or obesity report being calmer and more relaxed than usual.

Auriculotherapy can be subdivided into three precise functions:

1. Alleviation of all types of pain – gynaecological complications, pre-menstrual tension, painful periods, menopausal distress, sinusitis, angina, migraine. 2. Easing of psychosomatic conditions and nervous ailments – insomnia, addictions, digestive disturbances, asthma and skin troubles like eczema, psoriasis.

3. Help with sexual problems – predominantly psychological and non-organic.

Since its development by Nogier in the 1950's Auriculotherapy has increasingly been accepted by the medical profession worldwide. The ability to reduce dependence on drugs to control pain etc., means that Patient exposure to side-effects is similarly reduced. This, together with the phenominal success in the treatment of smoking and obesity in today's health conscious society, more than justifies the recognition and increasing use of this Therapy.

The exceptional growth of Auriculotherapy in the United Kingdom prompted the formation of the British Institute of Auriculotherapy by a number of responsible Practitioners. The B.I.A. has since formulated a minimum requirement qualification in the form of written, oral and practical examinations.

Also required from any qualifying Practitioner is the acceptance of, and adherence to, a Code of Conduct. The most important part being that of referral with any medically questionable condition..

A list of Members is available from the B.I.A. Headquarters at 35 Swinton Street, London, WC1. Tel: 01-278 8596.

Members of the public are requested to advise the B.I.A. Headquarters should any Practitioner's authenticity or capability be in doubt.

The B.I.A. will not tolerate any deviation by its members from its pre-determined requirements and code of professional conduct.

