

Corrections requested for: "Effects of auriculotherapy on weight and body mass index reduction in patients with overweight or obesity: Systematic review and meta-analysis"

We appreciate the work of Mendonça et al. [1], "Effects of auriculotherapy on weight and body mass index reduction in patients with overweight or obesity: Systematic review and meta-analysis", which reports a meta-analysis for the association between auriculotherapy and weight loss in patients with overweight or obesity. However, we found some notable data anomalies.

We attempted to recalculate the mean differences and confidence intervals that were reported in Figs. 1 and 2 and encountered inconsistent information from the publications to reproduce these statistics. The percentage reductions in weight measures (e.g., body weight, body mass index) reported in Hsu et al.'s study [2] were used in the meta-analyses, whereas actual differences in weight measures were used for the other four studies.

We re-analyzed the data using the actual differences in measures for all studies, and the recalculated results are presented in Table 1.

By using the actual difference instead of percentage change, the

mean difference between groups for Hsu et al. [2] on weight and BMI reduction became -0.2 , 95% CI $[-1.3, 0.9]$, and -0.2 , 95% CI $[-2.5, 2.1]$, respectively.

For the meta-analyses, the tests of overall effect for both outcomes were still significant (for weight reduction: $p = 0.002$; for BMI reduction: $p < 0.001$).

Although the change in numbers did not affect the final conclusions, the numbers reported for Hsu et al. [2] and the results for meta-analyses should be corrected.

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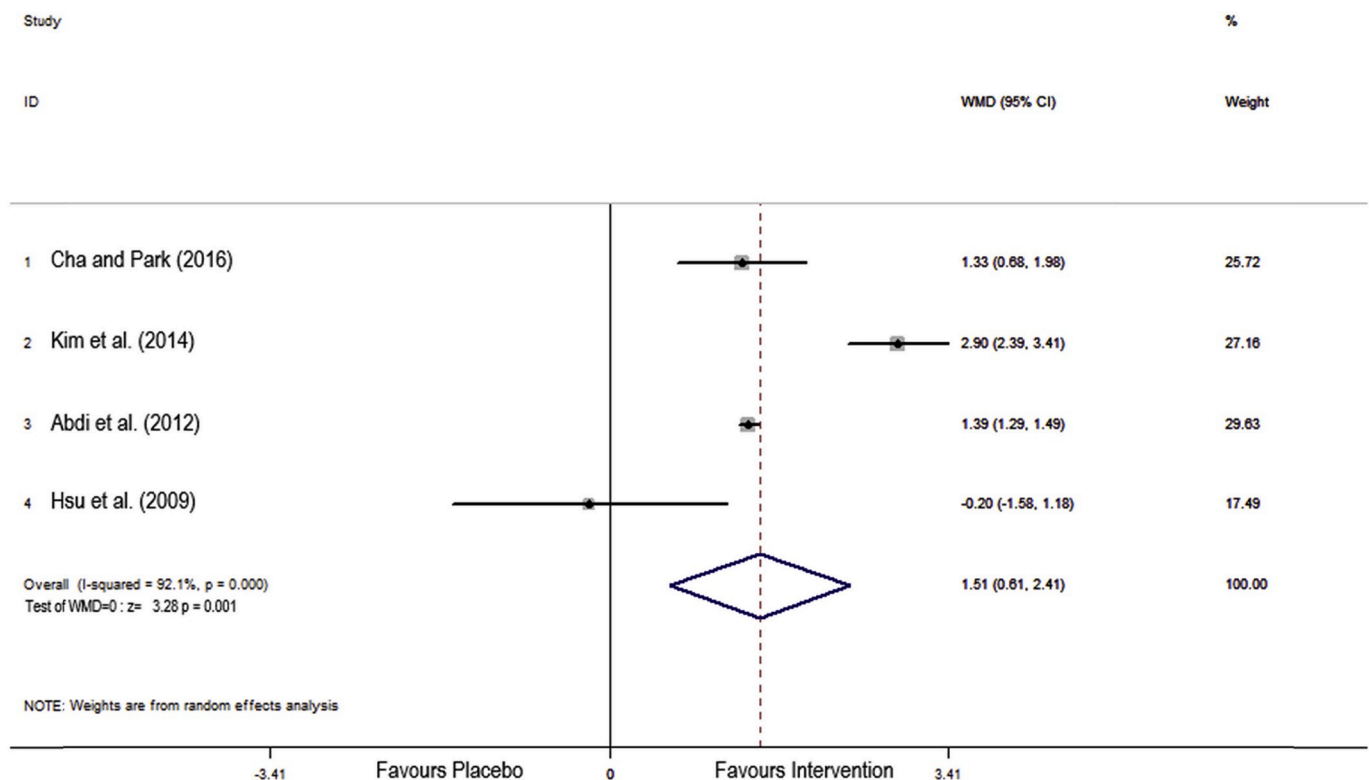


Fig. 1. Results of a meta-analysis for the effects of auriculotherapy on weight reduction in overweight or patients with obesity.

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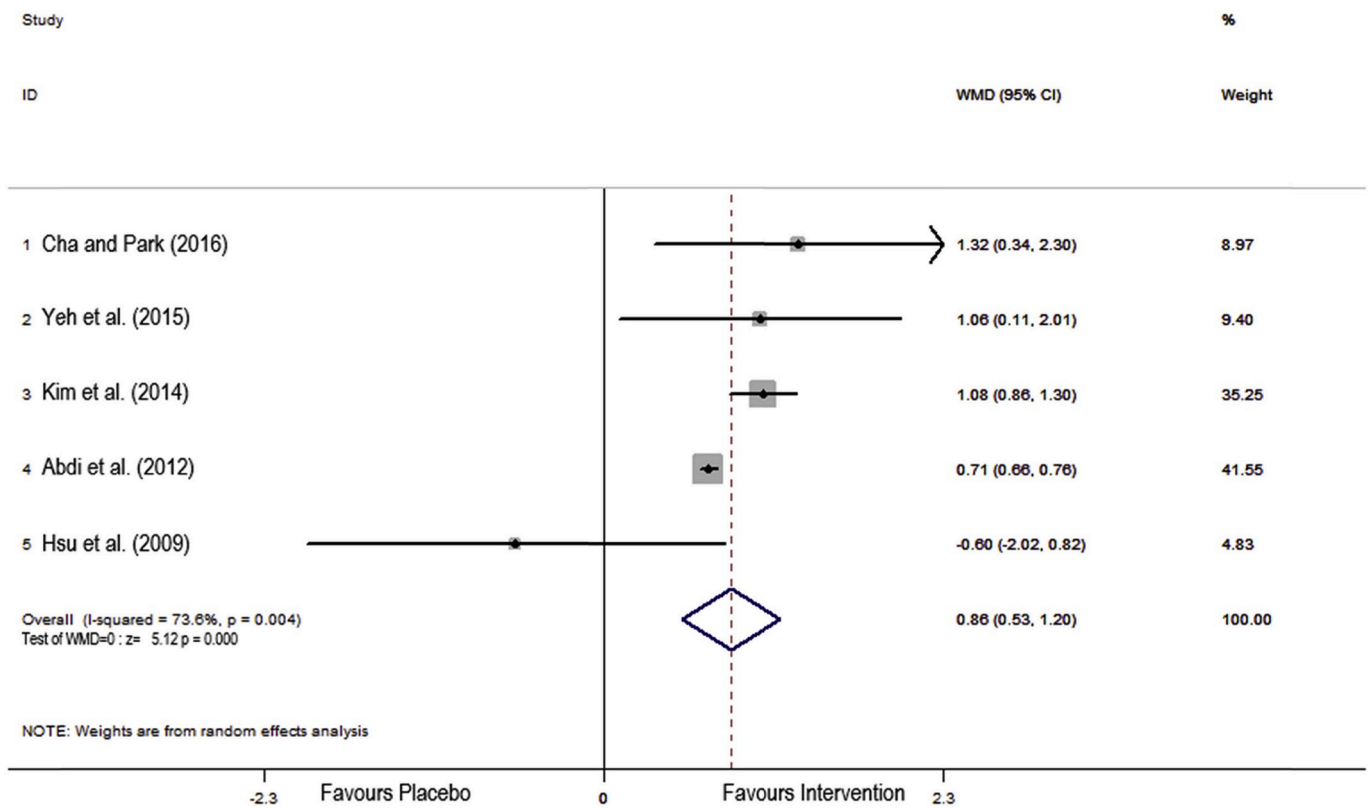


Fig. 2. Results of a meta-analysis for the effects of auriculotherapy on body mass index reduction in overweight or patients with obesity.

Table 1
Meta-analysis of Acupuncture vs. Control.

	Recalculated		Reported in Mendonça et al.	
	Heterogeneity test	Test of overall effect WMD (95% CI)	Heterogeneity test	Test of overall effect
Weight reduction	I-squared = 92.8% p < 0.001	1.45 (0.54,2.35) z = 3.14, p = 0.002	I-squared = 92.1% p = 0.000	1.51 (0.61,2.41) z = 3.28, p = 0.001
BMI reduction	I-squared = 67.6% p = 0.015	0.91 (0.61,1.21) z = 5.88, p < 0.001	I-squared = 73.6% p = 0.004	0.87 (0.53,1.20) z = 5.12, p = 0.000

*Abbreviations: BMI, body mass index; CI, confidence interval; WMD, weighted mean difference.

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XC, LGA, and SLD reviewed the original paper, re-calculated effects, and noted discrepancies. XC, LGA, SLD, and DBA discussed the errors identified and how to present them. All authors read and approve the manuscript.

Appendix A. Supplementary data

Supplementary data to this article can be found online at <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ctcp.2020.101117>.

References

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