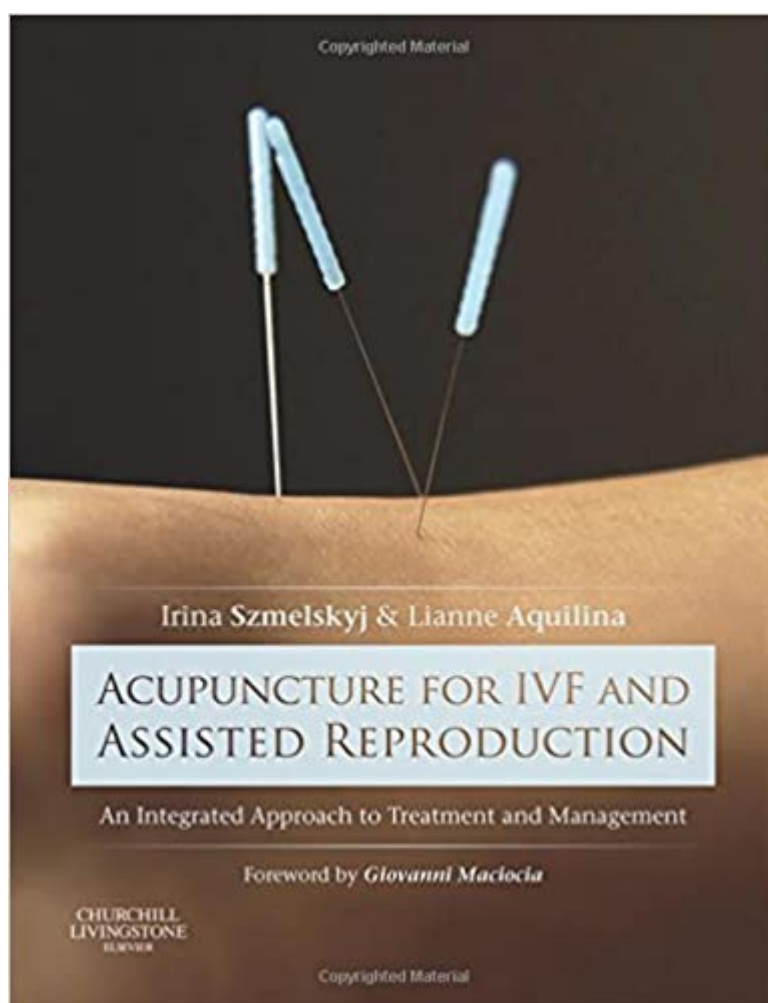


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# Acupuncture For IVF And Assisted Reproduction: An Integrated Approach To Treatment And Management, 1e



## Synopsis

The management of infertility using acupuncture is an expanding area of practice and one which is frequently rewarding for TCM acupuncture practitioners. Acupuncture for IVF and Assisted Reproduction has been specially prepared to meet the growing demand for information in this area and draws upon 20 years combined experience of the authors together with the latest evidence from both orthodox medicine and TCM. Richly illustrated and clearly written throughout, the book takes the reader through the anatomy and physiology of reproductive medicine (from both an orthodox and TCM perspective) and explains the underlying basis of orthodox medical fertility tests and investigations. The volume then explores the pathology and aetiology of TCM syndromes and shows how common fertility-related conditions, such as endometriosis and male factor infertility, affect Assisted Reproductive Technology (ART) success rates. It explains in great detail how to take a reproductive medical history and successfully diagnose TCM syndromes. Acupuncture for IVF and Assisted Reproduction also provides guidelines on how to regulate the menstrual cycle in preparation for IVF treatment and shows how lifestyle can affect fertility and ART success rates. Placing a strong emphasis on the practical aspects of patient care, Acupuncture for IVF and Assisted Reproduction contains an abundance of case history templates, algorithmic acupuncture treatment pathways and patient fact sheets and will be ideal for all acupuncture practitioners working in this field. "A must have for the bookshelf of any acupuncturist who is ever called upon to treat fertility issues - if you have room for one book this surely must be it." Reviewed by The Acupuncture Fertility Centre March 2015 "Practitioners of all levels of experience and TCM students should find it compelling reading and an invaluable companion to their learning." Reviewed by Stephen Clarke, Journal of the Australian Traditional Medicine Society May 2015 "This book is extremely well re-searched and referenced." Reviewed by Danny Maxwell on behalf of Journal of Chinese Medicine, February 2015

Simplifies complex information into easily accessible and understandable material Explains reproductive anatomy and physiology from the perspectives of both orthodox medicine and TCM Explains the underlying basis of orthodox medical fertility tests and investigations Explores the pathology and aetiology of TCM syndromes Provides detailed information on how to take a fertility medical history and how to diagnose TCM syndromes Presents the evidence for the influence of various lifestyle factors on fertility and ART success rates Provides guidelines on how to regulate the menstrual cycle in preparation for IVF treatment Explains how common fertility-related conditions such as endometriosis, Polycystic Ovary Syndrome, thyroid disease, and male factor infertility affect ART success rates Explains how to adapt acupuncture treatment to different ART protocols Provides case history templates, algorithmic acupuncture

treatment pathways and patient fact sheets Explains how to manage patients with complex medical histories Looks at Repeated Implantation Failure, reproductive immunology dysfunction, and recurrent miscarriages Explains how to support patients if their IVF is unsuccessful and how to treat patients during early pregnancy Examines ethical considerations relevant to fertility acupuncture practice

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"Acupuncture For IVF And Assisted Reproduction is a thorough and extremely well researched contribution to a rapidly expanding field, written by authors with considerable clinical experience. It brings together a wealth of information for the practicing fertility acupuncturist, both from a western medical and an eastern point of view." Reviewed by Martin Dean on behalf of The Acupuncture Fertility Centre, March 2015 "It is an interesting addition to the existing literature on this subject, and will likely appeal more to medical acupuncturists or those with a strong biomedical leaning."

Reviewed by Danny Maxwell on behalf of Journal of Chinese Medicine, February 2015. "Readers of this book will deepen their knowledge of TCM perspectives on reproductive anatomy and physiology, the pathology and aetiology of TCM syndromes presented by subfertile patients and how to diagnose them, and how to adapt acupuncture treatment to ART protocols, all in the wider context of contemporary ART. Practitioners of all levels of experience and TCM students should find it compelling reading and an invaluable companion to their learning." Reviewed by Stephen Clarke

on behalf of JATMS, May 2015

Irina Szmelskyj is an acupuncturist with more than 10 years' experience specializing in reproductive health care, including the health care needs of patients with infertility issues and the use of acupuncture in the clinical management of patients undergoing assisted reproductive treatments such as IVF. Irina's method of managing subfertile patients is based on a thorough understanding of the value of combining the best of Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and conventional medicine. Her approach emphasizes the clinical utility of integrating both classically based traditional acupuncture treatment techniques and concepts with the practical clinical application of contemporary evidence-based advances from the rapidly changing landscape of reproductive medicine research. Irina practises acupuncture at True Health Clinics in Godmanchester, Cambridgeshire, United Kingdom. Lianne Aquilina is a traditional Chinese medical acupuncturist. In 2005 the Faculty of Health, Life and Social Sciences of the University of Lincoln, awarded her the Dean's prize for Studies in Health. She is an experienced BSc (Hons) acupuncture clinical supervisor. Her role includes teaching third year acupuncture students the application of classical and traditional Chinese medicine principles along with the clinical utility of Chinese acupuncture. She is also a visiting guest lecturer to undergraduate students on the use of Chinese medicine and acupuncture treatment in the management of infertility and In Vitro Fertilization (IVF). She completed further training at the Guangdong Province Second Hospital of TCM in China. It was here where she observed an authentic combination of traditional Chinese and medical strategies in treatment and management of disease. Lianne's specializes in providing fertility acupuncture treatment, based on innovative applied classical Chinese philosophy and Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) concepts of reproductive health and fertility. Lianne practices acupuncture at Aquilia Fertility in Stamford, Lincolnshire, United Kingdom.

A MUST for acupuncturists and natural health providers with an interest in fertility and Chinese medicine! I purchased this book when it became available in the US after originally released in the UK and have not been disappointed in its content, organization, and resources as a reference tool. This is a comprehensive book which is written for Chinese medicine practitioner and students, not for the layperson, interested in the use of acupuncture for fertility. After taking the American Board of Oriental Reproductive Medicine (ABORM) test I can say I wish I had this book as a reference source along with the other textbooks used in preparing for the test. While addressing multiple aspects of fertility and its treatment from the Chinese medicine background, it presents the Western

medicine information at the same time. Other Western medicine books on fertility can be overwhelming in the amount of knowledge it covers where this book gets right to the point. While acupuncturists study and are knowledgeable on Chinese medicine pattern diagnosis and treatment principles, the Western medicine side must be understood in order to truly proceeding in treating patients who are coming into our clinics with infertility and subfertility diagnoses and treatment plans. Acupuncture for IVF and Assisted Reproduction references the other major books and sources many acupuncturists in this field have been or will be exposed to, but this book puts all the information in one place. Great effort has been placed on the reference section for each chapter indicating the many sources that were examined in the writing of the book. The listing of acupuncture points also indicated the traditional source or reference which is great. The ease of reading and comprehension of the information along with the clear and informative graphs, tables, and appendix is of value when there is so much content. Also in browsing the book the style looked familiar as the chapter layout is similar to the Maciocia textbooks, who also wrote the foreword for the book. One of the most informative chapters is on the management of the patient with a complex medical history since it address true life, modern conditions that arise with fertility patients and gives case studies and flowcharts that are clinically relevant. There are two issues that those looking for a reference book may seem as lacking in this book. The first is the lack of mentioning Chinese herbs in the treatment of fertility and second is the lack of discussion of frequently cited, research studies. I mentioned this because as practitioners we want to back up our treatments with the evidence based data that our Western medicine colleagues rely so heavily on. We also have seen other similar texts that include herbal formula combinations and single herb indications important in modifying base formulas for fertility. However, I believe this book's purpose wasn't to rewrite other books that neither present us with that herbal information nor serve as a meta-analysis of every published research paper. The exclusion of this material makes sense from a practical perspective as not all acupuncturists and Chinese medicine practitioners use, feel comfortable, or are allowed to use herbs during fertility treatment, especially if patients are also under the care of an RE or on medications for assisted reproductive therapy. This book should be a study guide, as I'm sure it will be shortly, not just for anyone taking the ABORM test to becoming specified in Chinese medicine for fertility but also for those who are not specializing but need a clear source on understand the multiple approaches and options to IVF while treatment patients. The appendix offers examples that are practical to clinical use including basal body temperature charting, patient intake forms, fertility fact sheets, common medications patients are given during fertility treatment, as well as reference

ranges for lab values that are up-to-date. In review, *Acupuncture for IVF and Assisted Reproduction* is a great resource for those with continuing interest in treating patients with reproductive issues. It combines the necessary Western medicine knowledge for understanding different condition diagnosis and common Western treatment with the Chinese medicine pattern diagnosis and application. It works well in combination with the other books published by authors who have become masters in this field to truly help practitioners of Chinese medicine examine all aspects of fertility treatment. I applaud the authors for their hard work for pulling together the many references needed for this book and the editing required to produce a reference text that is clear, easy to read and understand, without bias, and will be useful for many years to come.

Brilliant! Organized! Informative!

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