

Supplementary Tables

Suppl. Table 1. Statements about own experiences or openness to experiences with acupuncture/homeopathy. Values are absolute frequencies (percentages) or means (standard deviations)

| Statement (number of missing observations) | Acupuncture (n = 220) | Homeopathy (n = 113) | Total (n = 333) | P-value |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| I have made one or more „key experiences” which brought me to acupuncture/homeopathy (12) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -0.2 (1.4) | 0.2 (1.4) | -0.1 (1.4) | 0.007 |
| - do not agree at all | 49 (23.1%) | 18 (16.5%) | 67 (20.9%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 59 (27.8%) | 20 (18.3%) | 79 (24.6%) | |
| - uncertain | 27 (12.7%) | 16 (14.7%) | 43 (13.4%) | |
| - partly agree | 48 (22.6%) | 31 (28.4%) | 79 (24.6%) | |
| - fully agree | 29 (13.7%) | 24 (22.0%) | 53 (16.5%) | |
| I have made positive experiences with acupuncture/homeopathy myself (13) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 0.2 (1.4) | 0.4 (1.5) | 0.3 (1.5) | 0.25 |
| - do not agree at all | 39 (18.5%) | 20 (18.3%) | 59 (18.4%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 30 (14.2%) | 17 (15.6%) | 47 (14.7%) | |
| - uncertain | 33 (15.6%) | 12 (11.0%) | 45 (14.1%) | |
| - partly agree | 60 (28.4%) | 21 (19.3%) | 81 (25.3%) | |
| - fully agree | 49 (23.2%) | 39 (35.8%) | 88 (27.5%) | |
| I would use acupuncture/homeopathy treatment for myself (11) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 1.5 (0.8) | 1.3 (0.9) | 1.4 (0.8) | 0.41 |
| - do not agree at all | 0 (0.0%) | 1 (0.9%) | 1 (0.3%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 6 (2.8%) | 4 (3.7%) | 10 (3.1%) | |
| - uncertain | 15 (7.0%) | 11 (10.1%) | 26 (8.1%) | |
| - partly agree | 60 (28.2%) | 38 (34.9%) | 98 (30.4%) | |
| - fully agree | 132 (62.0%) | 55 (50.5%) | 187 (58.1%) | |
| I would like to be treated with a combination of conventional medicine and acupuncture/homeopathy (11) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 0.8 (1.0) | 0.9 (1.1) | 0.8 (1.0) | 0.24 |
| - do not agree at all | 4 (1.9%) | 2 (1.8%) | 6 (1.9%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 14 (6.6%) | 13 (11.9%) | 27 (8.4%) | |
| - uncertain | 63 (29.6%) | 23 (21.1%) | 86 (26.7%) | |
| - partly agree | 72 (33.8%) | 27 (24.8%) | 99 (30.7%) | |
| - fully agree | 60 (28.2%) | 44 (40.4%) | 104 (32.3%) | |
| I would use acupuncture/homeopathy only if previous conventional treatment was unsuccessful (11)* | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -0.8 (1.0) | -0.9 (1.0) | -0.8 (1.0) | 0.52 |
| - do not agree at all | 63 (29.6%) | 35 (32.1%) | 98 (30.4%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 79 (37.1%) | 42 (38.5%) | 121 (37.6%) | |
| - uncertain | 44 (20.7%) | 18 (16.5%) | 62 (19.3%) | |
| - partly agree | 21 (9.9%) | 13 (11.9%) | 34 (10.6%) | |
| - fully agree | 6 (2.8%) | 1 (0.9%) | 7 (2.2%) | |

| | | | | |
|---|------------|------------|-------------|--------|
| I have already treated others with acupuncture/homeopathy myself (13) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 0.0 (1.6) | -0.8 (1.6) | -0.3 (1.6) | |
| - do not agree at all | 63 (29.7%) | 59 (54.6%) | 122 (38.1%) | <0.001 |
| - tend to disagree | 25 (11.8%) | 14 (13.0%) | 39 (12.2%) | |
| - uncertain | 30 (14.2%) | 6 (5.6%) | 36 (11.3%) | |
| - partly agree | 38 (17.9%) | 8 (7.4%) | 46 (14.4%) | |
| - fully agree | 56 (26.4%) | 21 (19.4%) | 77 (24.1%) | |
| <hr/> | | | | |
| Summary score | 0.5 (0.8) | 0.5 (0.9) | 0.5 (0.8) | 0.78 |

*P-values from Mann-Whitney U-test (single items) or Student's t-test (summary scores); *item reversed for summary score.*

Suppl. Table 2. Statements about the own environment. Values are absolute frequencies (percentages) or means (standard deviations)

| Statement (number of missing observations) | Acupuncture (n = 220) | Homeopathy (n = 113) | Total (n = 333) | P-value |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| My family background influenced my interest in acupuncture/homeopathy (12) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -0.2 (1.5) | 0.5 (1.6) | 0.0 (1.5) | <0.001 |
| - do not agree at all | 57 (26.9%) | 25 (22.9%) | 82 (25.5%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 47 (22.2%) | 6 (5.5%) | 53 (16.5%) | |
| - uncertain | 32 (15.1%) | 12 (11.0%) | 44 (13.7%) | |
| - partly agree | 40 (18.9%) | 25 (22.9%) | 65 (20.2%) | |
| - fully agree | 36 (17.0%) | 41 (37.6%) | 77 (24.0%) | |
| My parents let me be treated with acupuncture/homeopathy already when I was a child (11) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -1.5 (1.2) | -0.2 (1.7) | -1.0 (1.5) | <0.001 |
| - do not agree at all | 168 (78.9%) | 41 (37.6%) | 209 (64.9%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 12 (5.6%) | 14 (12.8%) | 26 (8.1%) | |
| - uncertain | 12 (5.6%) | 9 (8.3%) | 21 (6.5%) | |
| - partly agree | 6 (2.8%) | 13 (11.9%) | 19 (5.9%) | |
| - fully agree | 15 (7.0%) | 32 (29.4%) | 47 (14.6%) | |
| There is an alternative practitioner in my personal environment (12) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -0.9 (1.6) | -0.7 (1.6) | -0.8 (1.6) | 0.39 |
| - do not agree at all | 127 (59.6%) | 59 (54.6%) | 186 (57.9%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 26 (12.2%) | 10 (9.3%) | 36 (11.2%) | |
| - uncertain | 4 (1.9%) | 7 (6.5%) | 11 (3.4%) | |
| - partly agree | 16 (7.5%) | 11 (10.2%) | 27 (8.4%) | |
| - fully agree | 40 (18.8%) | 21 (19.4%) | 61 (19.0%) | |
| In my personal environment many positive experiences with acupuncture/homeopathy have been made (12) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 0.5 (1.1) | 0.7 (1.1) | 0.6 (1.1) | 0.06 |
| - do not agree at all | 9 (4.2%) | 5 (4.6%) | 14 (4.4%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 27 (12.7%) | 11 (10.1%) | 38 (11.8%) | |
| - uncertain | 62 (29.2%) | 22 (20.2%) | 84 (26.2%) | |
| - partly agree | 70 (33.0%) | 40 (36.7%) | 110 (34.3%) | |
| - fully agree | 44 (20.8%) | 31 (28.4%) | 75 (23.4%) | |
| Summary score | -0.5 (1.0) | 0.1 (1.1) | -0.3 (1.0) | <0.001 |

For legend see Suppl. Table 1.

Suppl. Table 3. Statements about scientific evidence. Values are absolute frequencies (percentages) or means (standard deviations)

| Statement (number of missing observations) | Acupuncture (n = 220) | Homeopathy (n = 113) | Total (n = 333) | P-value |
|---|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| The efficacy of acupuncture/homeopathy has been shown scientifically (14) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 0.7 (1.0) | -0.1 (1.1) | 0.4 (1.1) | <0.001 |
| - do not agree at all | 5 (2.4%) | 12 (11.1%) | 17 (5.3%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 19 (9.0%) | 23 (21.3%) | 42 (13.2%) | |
| - uncertain | 71 (33.6%) | 44 (40.7%) | 115 (36.1%) | |
| - partly agree | 64 (30.3%) | 19 (17.6%) | 83 (26.0%) | |
| - fully agree | 52 (24.6%) | 10 (9.3%) | 62 (19.4%) | |
| The mechanism of action of acupuncture/homeopathy is scientifically understood (14) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -0.4 (0.9) | -1.1 (0.8) | -0.7 (0.9) | <0.001 |
| - do not agree at all | 29 (13.7%) | 38 (35.2%) | 67 (21.0%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 68 (32.2%) | 46 (42.6%) | 114 (35.7%) | |
| - uncertain | 85 (40.3%) | 19 (17.6%) | 104 (32.6%) | |
| - partly agree | 26 (12.3%) | 5 (4.6%) | 31 (9.7%) | |
| - fully agree | 3 (1.4%) | 0 (0.0%) | 3 (0.9%) | |
| I think that any effects of homeopathy are placebo effects (12)* | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -1.2(0.9) | -0.9 (1.1) | -1.1 (0.9) | 0.02 |
| - do not agree at all | 97 (45.5%) | 38 (35.2%) | 135 (42.1%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 71 (33.3%) | 36 (33.3%) | 107 (33.3%) | |
| - uncertain | 38 (17.8%) | 24 (22.2%) | 62 (19.3%) | |
| - partly agree | 6 (2.8%) | 6 (5.6%) | 12 (3.7%) | |
| - fully agree | 1 (0.5%) | 4 (3.7%) | 5 (1.6%) | |
| Summary score | 0.5 (0.7) | -0.1 (0.8) | 0.3 (0.8) | <0.001 |

For legend see Suppl. Table 1.

Suppl. Table 4. Statements about considering acupuncture/homeopathy as a complement to conventional medicine (upper part) and about opportunistic motives (lower part). Values are absolute frequencies (percentages) or means (standard deviations)

| Statement (number of missing observations) | Acupuncture (n = 220) | Homeopathy (n = 113) | Total (n = 333) | P-value |
|--|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|---------|
| Conventional medicine satisfies me (12)* | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -0.2 (1.0) | -0.3 (1.1) | -0.2 (1.0) | 0.21 |
| - do not agree at all | 27 (12.7%) | 20 (18.3%) | 47 (14.6%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 38 (17.9%) | 21 (19.3%) | 59 (18.4%) | |
| - uncertain | 97 (45.8%) | 45 (41.3%) | 142 (44.2%) | |
| - partly agree | 43 (20.3%) | 20 (18.3%) | 63 (19.6%) | |
| - fully agree | 7 (3.3%) | 3 (2.8%) | 10 (3.1%) | |
| I engage in acupuncture/homeopathy because conventional medicine is not sufficiently holistic (12) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 0.8 (1.1) | 0.7 (1.3) | 0.8 (1.2) | 0.97 |
| - do not agree at all | 9 (4.2%) | 10 (9.2%) | 19 (5.9%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 24 (11.3%) | 11 (10.1%) | 35 (10.9%) | |
| - uncertain | 31 (14.6%) | 13 (11.9%) | 44 (13.7%) | |
| - partly agree | 88 (41.5%) | 41 (37.6%) | 129 (40.2%) | |
| - fully agree | 60 (28.3%) | 34 (31.2%) | 94 (29.3%) | |
| I will use acupuncture/homeopathy as a part of my medical practice wherever applicable (11) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | 1.3 (0.8) | 1.0 (1.0) | 1.2 (0.9) | 0.02 |
| - do not agree at all | 0 (0.0%) | 2 (1.8%) | 2 (0.6%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 4 (1.9%) | 6 (5.5%) | 10 (3.1%) | |
| - uncertain | 32 (15.0%) | 27 (24.8%) | 59 (18.3%) | |
| - partly agree | 82 (38.5%) | 33 (30.3%) | 115 (35.7%) | |
| - fully agree | 95 (44.6%) | 41 (37.6%) | 136 (42.2%) | |
| Summary score | 0.7 (0.7) | 0.7 (0.9) | 0.7 (0.8) | 0.45 |
| It will be easier to earn money with acupuncture/homeopathy than with conventional medicine (12) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -1.0 (1.0) | -1.2 (0.9) | -1.1 (1.0) | 0.04 |
| - do not agree at all | 79 (37.4%) | 55 (50.5%) | 134 (41.9%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 71 (33.6%) | 30 (27.5%) | 101 (31.6%) | |
| - uncertain | 47 (22.3%) | 18 (16.5%) | 65 (20.3%) | |
| - partly agree | 12 (5.7%) | 5 (4.6%) | 17 (5.3%) | |
| - fully agree | 2 (0.9%) | 1 (0.9%) | 3 (0.9%) | |
| I am interested in acupuncture/homeopathy because it is in vogue (11) | | | | |
| - mean (SD) | -1.5 (0.8) | -1.6 (0.7) | -1.5 (0.8) | 0.36 |
| - do not agree at all | 141 (66.2%) | 77 (70.6%) | 218 (67.7%) | |
| - tend to disagree | 45 (21.1%) | 22 (20.2%) | 67 (20.8%) | |
| - uncertain | 19 (8.9%) | 8 (7.3%) | 27 (8.4%) | |
| - partly agree | 7 (3.3%) | 1 (0.9%) | 8 (2.5%) | |
| - fully agree | 1 (0.5%) | 1 (0.9%) | 2 (0.6%) | |
| Summary score | -1.2 (0.7) | -1.4 (0.7) | -1.3 (0.7) | 0.06 |

For legend see Suppl. Table 1.