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postpartum urinary incontinence

Incontinence urinaire du postpartum

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1. Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analysis

1.1. Chu 2025 (Acupuncture combined with pelvic floor rehabilitation)

Chu W, Deng X, Gao L, Gao X. Acupuncture combined with pelvic floor rehabilitation training for postpartum stress urinary incontinence: A systematic review and meta-analysis. Clin Rehabil. 2025 Mar 11;2692155251324585. <https://doi.org/10.1177/02692155251324585>

Objective	Postpartum stress urinary incontinence is a common postpartum complication. Acupuncture combined with pelvic floor rehabilitation training has certain clinical effects. This systematic review and meta-analysis aims to investigate the efficacy of acupuncture combined with pelvic floor rehabilitation training in the treatment of postpartum stress urinary incontinence.
Methods	Data sources. We searched randomized controlled trials in eight databases including PubMed, Web of Science, EMBASE, Cochrane Library, CNKI, Wanfang, VIP, and Sinomed, as well as the Chinese Clinical Trial Registry and ClinicalTrials.gov databases. T he search was conducted on 6 February 2025. After the retrieved literature were screened and the relevant data were extracted, RevMan 5.4 software was used to conduct the statistical analysis. The risk of bias was assessed using the methods recommended in the Cochrane Handbook.
Results	Twenty-one studies with 1867 participants were included in the review. Compared with pelvic floor rehabilitation training alone, acupuncture combined with pelvic floor rehabilitation training improved the clinical efficacy rate (relative risk (RR) = 1.24, 95% CI = 1.19-1.29) and pelvic floor muscle potential (mean difference (MD) = 10.85, 95% CI = 9.28-12.43) and reduced the International Consultation on Incontinence Questionnaire-Urinary Incontinence Short Form score (MD = -2.32, 95% CI = -3.06 to -1.58) and 1-hour pad test (MD = -1.80, 95% CI = -2.32 to -1.28) in patients with postpartum stress urinary incontinence.
Conclusion	Current literature reviewed here suggests that the combination of acupuncture and pelvic floor rehabilitation training may offer benefits in the management of stress urinary incontinence in postpartum women over pelvic floor rehabilitation training alone.

1.2. Chen 2024

Chen L, Han Y, Wang L, Zhang H, Zheng Y, Zhang R, Meng G, Zhang YP, Ji D. Conservative Interventions for Urinary Incontinence on Postpartum Women: A Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis. J Midwifery Womens Health. 2024 Sep-Oct;69(5):663-671. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jmwh.13653>

Introduction	Urinary incontinence (UI) is common in postpartum women and can lead to a reduced quality of life and withdrawal from fitness and exercise activities. Conservative management interventions such as pelvic floor muscle training (PFMT), use of vaginal cones, and biofeedback have been recommended as first-line treatment. We aimed to explore the effects of conservative interventions on UI rate, severity, and incontinence-specific quality of life in postpartum women with UI.
Methods	Nine databases were searched from inception to August 2022: PubMed, EMBASE, Web of Science, Cochrane Central Register of Controlled Trials, CINAHL, Wanfang, China National Knowledge Infrastructure, China Biological Medicine, and VIP Journal Integration Platform. Randomized controlled trials examining the effects of conservative interventions on postpartum UI were included.
Results	Initial searches produced 1839 results, of which 17 studies were eligible . All included studies had a low to moderate risk of bias. Supervised PFMT and use of a vaginal cone were more effective than individual PFMT in decreasing rates of UI (odds ratio, 0.29; 95% CI, 0.14-0.61). Individual PFMT combined with acupuncture (mean difference, -1.91; 95% CI, -2.46 to -1.37) or electroacupuncture and supervised PFMT combined with moxibustion were more effective than individual supervised PFMT alone in improving the severity of symptoms. Furthermore, electrical stimulation and biofeedback combined with acupoint stimulation or core training were more effective than electrical stimulation and biofeedback alone. For improving the incontinence-specific quality of life, supervised PFMT was more efficacious than individual PFMT; electrical stimulation and biofeedback plus core training were more beneficial than electrical stimulation and biofeedback alone.
Discussion	Supervised PFMT and use of a vaginal cone were more beneficial in decreasing rates of UI compared with individual PFMT. Superior effects in decreasing UI severity may be achieved by combining PFMT or electrical stimulation and biofeedback with other therapies. Electrical stimulation and biofeedback plus core training, as well as supervised PFMT, are most effective in improving incontinence-specific quality of life. Further research is required to provide more evidence on the efficacy of these therapies.

1.3. Liu 2023

Liu DC, Gao L, Liu Y, Wang J, Li Y, Xu RY. Effect of different interventions on the efficacy of postpartum urinary incontinence in China: A systematic review and network meta-analysis. *Medicine (Baltimore)*. 2023 Oct 6;102(40):e35473. <https://doi.org/10.1097/MD.00000000000035473>

Background	Currently, numerous treatment measures exist for postpartum stress urinary incontinence (PSUI); however, the study results are inconsistent.
Method	Computer searches of PubMed, Embase, Web of Science, CKNI, and Wanfang databases were conducted to search the literature on 13 different intervention modalities for PSUI from the date of establishment to January 2023 for analysis. The literature was independently screened, and the information was extracted by 2 researchers. A reticulated meta-analysis was conducted using Stata software.

Results	The findings of the reticulated meta-analysis revealed that, in terms of the effectiveness of the 13 interventions for treating PSUI from highest to lowest, the most effective was acupressure + pelvic floor muscle training (94.6%). Following this, the interventions ranked from best to worst were electroacupuncture + trans moxibustion (79.1%), pelvic floor muscle training + acupuncture (64.3%), pelvic floor muscle training + pelvic floor electrical stimulation (60.3%), biofeedback electrical stimulation + acupuncture (60.0%), pelvic floor muscle training + biofeedback electrical stimulation (59.8%), biofeedback electrical stimulation + acupuncture + herbal hot compresses (56.6%), moxibustion + pelvic floor muscle training (56.6%), pelvic floor muscle training + pelvic floor electrical stimulation + acupuncture (53.1%), biofeedback electrical stimulation + moxibustion (52.1%), pelvic floor muscle training (17.6%), biofeedback electrical stimulation (16.1%), and health coaching (0.2%). The evidence indicates that acupressure + pelvic floor muscle training may be the most effective intervention for treating PSUI occurrence.
Conclusion	Improvement in 13 clinical indicators was observed in patients with PSUI, and significant enhancement was achieved through acupressure + pelvic floor muscle training.

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