



# Center for Acupuncture and Herbal Medicine, P.A.

## CANCER

### OAT CELL LUNG CANCER CASE STUDY

**History:** Patient is a 60 year old female with a chief complaint of oat cell Lung cancer. The cancer was diagnosed approximately 1 year prior to our initial visit. Over the course of the year, patient has undergone 30 treatments of chemotherapy (CPT-11 and Cisplatin), as well as 30 treatments of radiation therapy. Patient was strongly discouraged by her doctor (due to lack of knowledge of acupuncture and Chinese medicine) from seeking acupuncture and/or herbal medicine therapy during her treatments. At the time of our visit, patient's western treatments had been stopped for approximately 2 months due to a decline in her white blood cell counts (approximately 2.0). At her last oncologist appointment (1 week ago), x-ray and CT scans revealed that the cancer was still present. Due to this finding, patient turned to Chinese medicine for help.

**Current Health Status:** Patient presented extremely fatigued. She has been housebound for approximately 1 year during the course of her chemo and radiation. During chemo she experienced cold sweats. She suffers from insomnia (trouble falling and staying asleep) and requires medication to have a restful night sleep. She has poor appetite, abdominal pain, gas, belching, bad breath, nausea and vomiting. She has alternating constipation and diarrhea. She went through menopause at 43 years old without experiencing any symptoms. She has tinnitus, dry mouth and throat and canker sores from the chemotherapy. She suffers from anxiety and depression, high blood pressure and dizziness.

**Past Medical History:** seasonal allergies (sinus congestion), high blood pressure

**Family Health History:** both parents had heart disease, father had diabetes (type II)  
Husband died of Lung cancer 10 years ago

**Medications:** atenolol, hydrochlorazide, paxil, atavan, ambien

**Allergic History:** seasonal allergies

#### Physical Exam:

- a. Tongue: body: pinkish purple, dry, thin, scalloped, puffy in Lung (anterior third)  
coat: dry yellow burnt  
veins: slightly dark
- b. Facial complexion: pale withered
- c. Body shape and posture: overweight; flaccid muscle tone
- d. Shen/Spirit: depressed and anxious
- e. Listening and Smelling: raspy hoarse voice, labored breathing
- f. Palpation:
  - i. Pulse:  
Right – thin weak faint forceless  
Left – imperceptible; feeble-absent
  - ii. Abdomen/Channels: n/a

**First Treatment:** September 25  
Acupuncture: LU 7, KI 6, KI 7, LU 8  
Herbs: (raw ½ bag per day)

Ren Shen 12g	Ling Zhi 12g
Bai Zhu 15g	Sha Ren 6g
Ban Xia 6g	Mai Men Dong 12g
Tian Men Dong 12g	Jin Yin Hua 20g
Pu Gong Ying 20g	Bai Hua She She Cao 20g
Pi Pa Ye 9g	Ba Yue Zha 12g
Sheng Di Huang 12g	Huang Lian 6g
Jiao Gu Lan 9g	Fu Ling 9g
Dan Shen 6g	

**Second Treatment:** October 2

Notes: White blood cells doubled since first treatment. Chest x-ray shows status quo, no mets. Tumor is in lymph.

Right pulse was deep thin and vacuous; left pulse extremely faint and thin

Acupuncture: Right LU 7, Left KI 6, Left LU 5, Right LU 11, bilateral LV 8, ST 36, SP 9  
Ear: Lower Lung

Notes: *During treatment patient felt strong aching and sharp sensation deep inside chest/lungs*

Herbs: Continue on same prescription

**Third Treatment:** October 9

Notes: Patient had x-ray yesterday. Tumor/cancer is GONE. No signs of cancer. Right pulse is fuller, left pulse has more force

Acupuncture: Right LU 7, Left KI 6, Left LU 5, LI 11, bilateral SP 9, ST 25, ST 37

Herbs: Continue on same prescription plus add Jie Geng 6g