

Hara Diagnosis: Oketsu, Immune & Adrenal

Joseph Audette, MD

Hara Diagnosis: Palpation Based Treatment Principles

Synthesis of a number of styles of Modern Japanese Masters by Kiiko Matsumoto

Dr. Manaka, Masters Nagano and Kawai,
Systems seek guidance from readings of Chinese Classic Acupuncture Texts
Nan Jing, Su Wen and Ling Shu among others

Underlying Principles

- Patient not Theory guides treatment
- Internal Changes in the Health of the Organism is reflected on the Body Surface
- Palpation of the Abdomen or Hara Provides Reliable Information About the Constitution

Treatment Principles Cont.

- Hara Diagnosis and Treatment is a Constitutional or *Root* Treatment
 - Often can also resolve symptomatic complaint
- *Branch* or Symptomatic complaints are best treated with indirect methods which in turn provides diagnosis
 - Example: Shoulder pain with restricted motion on right side responds to treatment for Blood stagnation and Liver Excess

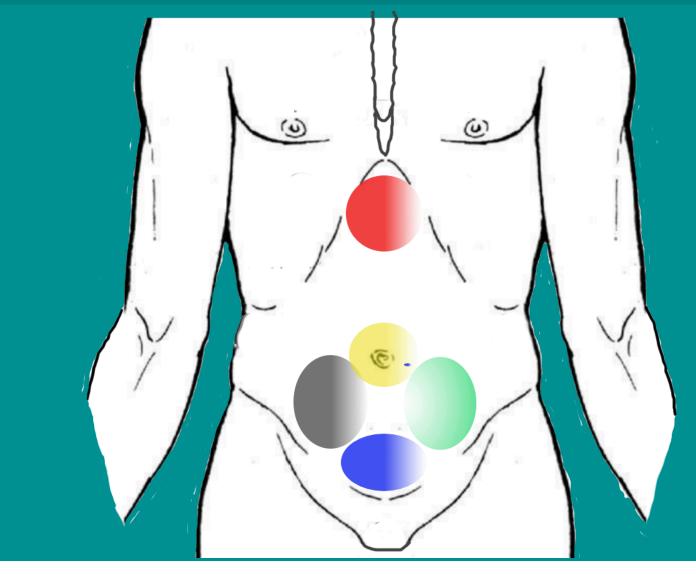
Body Centered Diagnosis

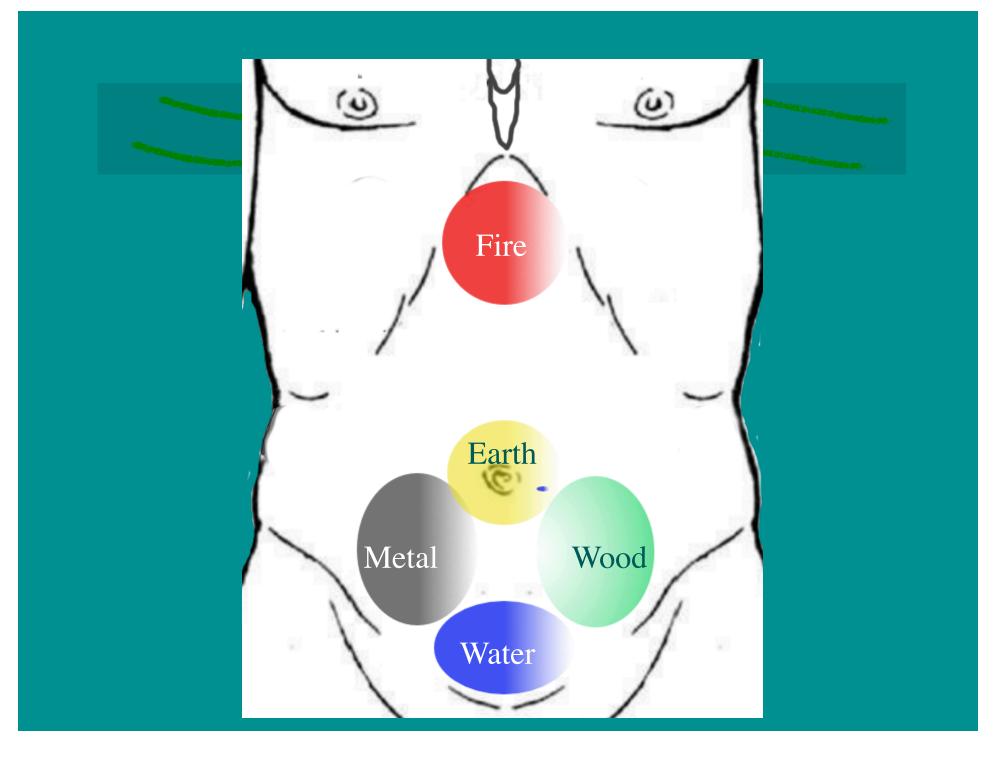
- Patient's body guides treatment not theory
 - Acupuncture Points chosen only if an objective reproducible change occurs on the table
 - Pulse
 - Palpatory findings in Reflection Zones
 - Structural Balance (Joint ROM, Leg length)
 - Muscle and Ligamentous Tension
 - Pain

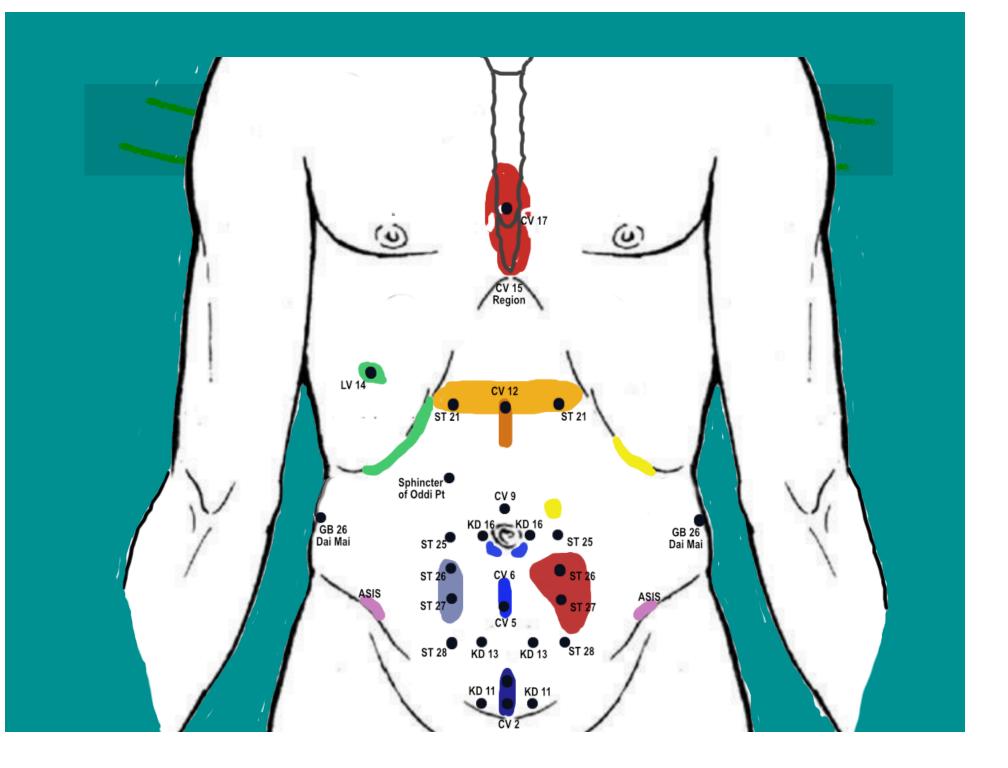
Root → Branch Treatment Principle

- To have a sustained effect on the symptomatic complaint of the patient, begin with the root or constitutional treatment
- 5 Main Constitutional Issues
 - Oketsu \rightarrow Liver, Wood, Blood Stagnation
 - Immune Dysfunction → Lung, Metal, Internal/ External Wind
 - Adrenal → Kidney, Water, Jing Deficiency
 - Stomach Qi Deficiency → Earth/Absorption
 - Shao Yang → Fire, Triple Warmer, Autonomic disturbance/Shen









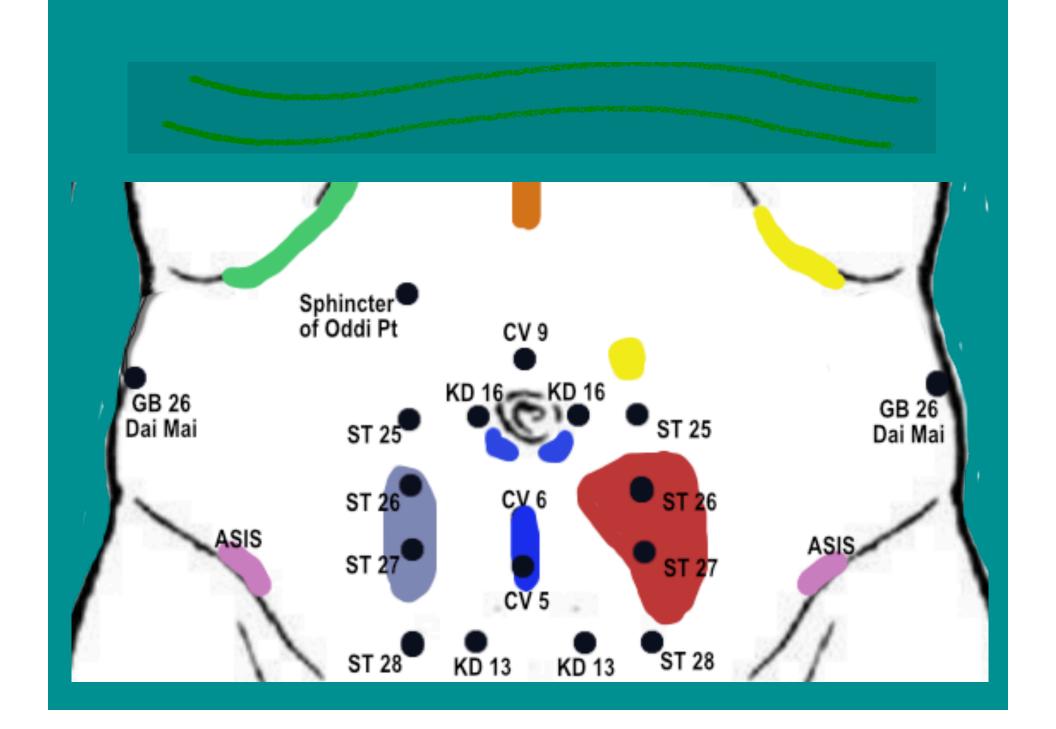
Oketsu and Immune

Oketsu Reflection

Left Stomach 26-27 area
Treatment: Left LV 4, LU 5

Immune Reflection

Right Stomach 26-27 area
Treatment: Bilateral LI 10-11 area
» GUMMY HUNT



Oketsu – Left St 26-27 region



• Stagnation of Blood in the Abdomen

 Due to surgery, bruising, chronic medication or drug use, respiratory disorders, hormonal imbalance, infections, high fever

Oketsu

- Lu 5 may be more influential point on Oketsu if Immune/ Respiratory is predominant cause
 - Use bilateral Lu 5 with Left Lv 4 in this case
- Related to rectal vein congestion (may also be associated with pressure pain at Left BL35) with toxins absorbed in blood caused by chronic constipation.

5 Phases and Oketsu Treatment

- Control point of Liver (Wood element)
 -LV 4 (Metal Point) on left
 - Add LU 5 on left to prevent the effect from being too strong (water point on metal meridian provides nourishment to Liver (wood)

Palpatory Release of Oketsu with LV 4



Needle goes in same as the finger

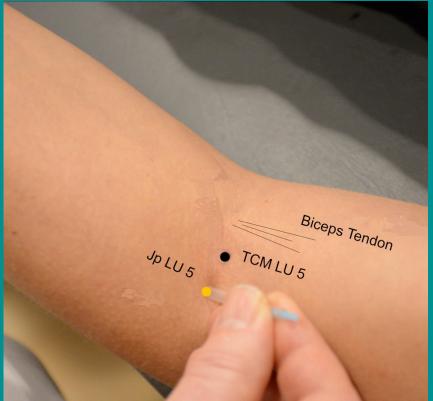


Left LV 4 with LU 5

In fascial hole medial to tibialis anterior tendon

Japanese Left Lu5 lateral to TCM point





Immune = Lung

- Right ST 26 to Right ST 27
- Pressure pain here often indicative of weakened or imbalanced Lung/immune system
- Often associated with pressure pain at TW16
- Other causes of pressure pain here include:
 - Difficulty with deep inhalation
 - Problems associated with ileocecal valve or appendix (including post-surgical adhesions)
 - Tailbone injury (In Chinese classics, coccyx is Gate of Po, the Spirit housed by the Lung)

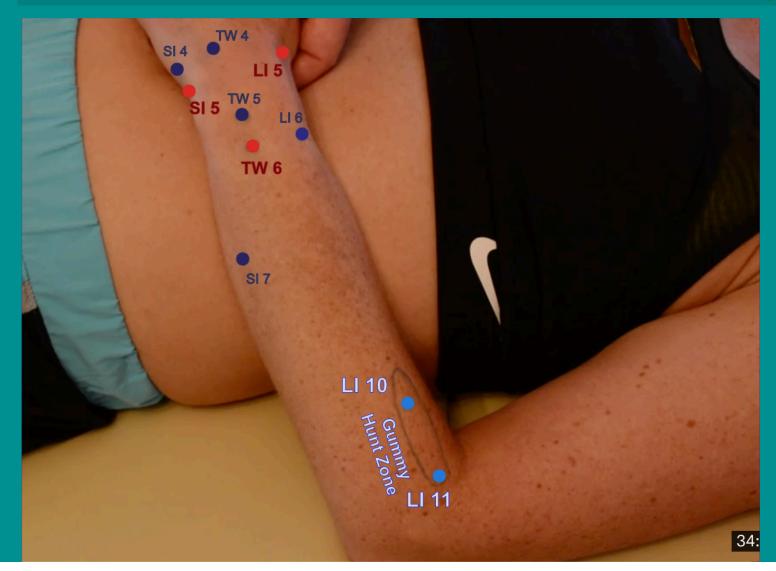
Immune – Right ST 26-27 region



Treatment of Immune

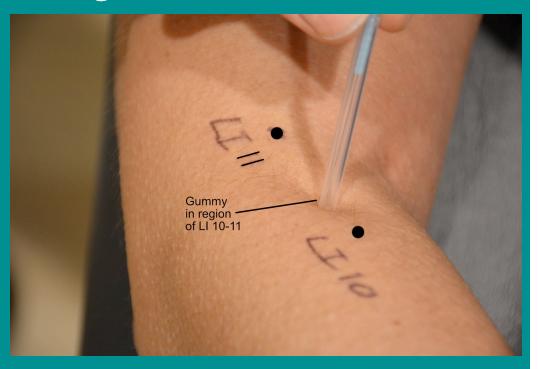
- Main treatment points are Master Nagano's immune points at LI 11 and TW 16
- Master Hukaya's LU 4 (Oxygen Supply Point) if pressure pain is due to shallow breathing or inhalation problems
- Add SP 9 and SP 5 if pressure pain is due to ileocecal valve spasm or adhesions from appendectomy
 - Kiiko also adds GB 37 against flow of meridian for "appendectomy" pain

Bilateral LI 10 – 11 Gummy Hunt Zone





• Bilateral LI 10-11 region



Adrenal Treatment

- Pressure pain on KD 16 or area slightly below
 - Treat with Kid6, LU 5, and KD 27 (possibly KD 3, KD 7, KD 9)
- Dr. Manaka: Rim of umbilicus as reflection zone of kidney-
 - Treat with GB 25 (Kidney Mu Point)



- Energetic Center of Body –Below Umbilicus
 - Underlying Source of 5 yin and 6 yang organs
 - Moving fire between Kidneys is Source Qi

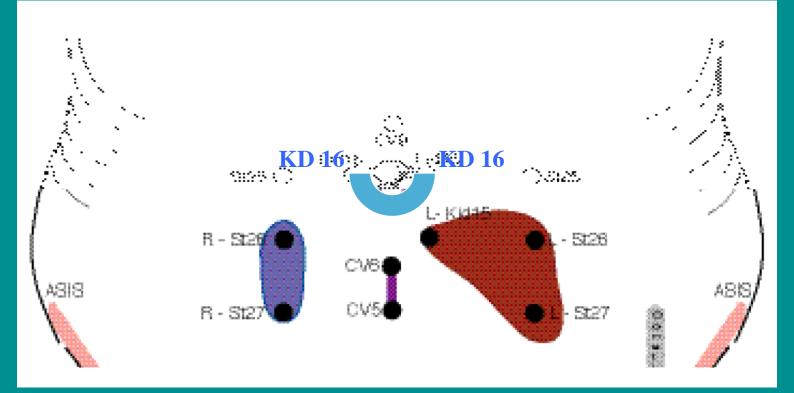
Kidney 16 – Adrenal Reflection

- Energetic Center of Body
 - Nan Jing states that the 12 sources emanate from the moving Qi between the Kidneys
 - Implies that the qi of the meridian system (365 points) is derived from the 5 yin organs which have 12 corresponding sources all of which are derived from the Kidney whose energetic center is the Hara

Kidney or Adrenal Depletion

- Excess stress
- Fright or shock (Kidney injury)
- Lack of Nourishment to allow the creation of Post-natal Jing
 - Depletes Kidney of Pre-natal Jing

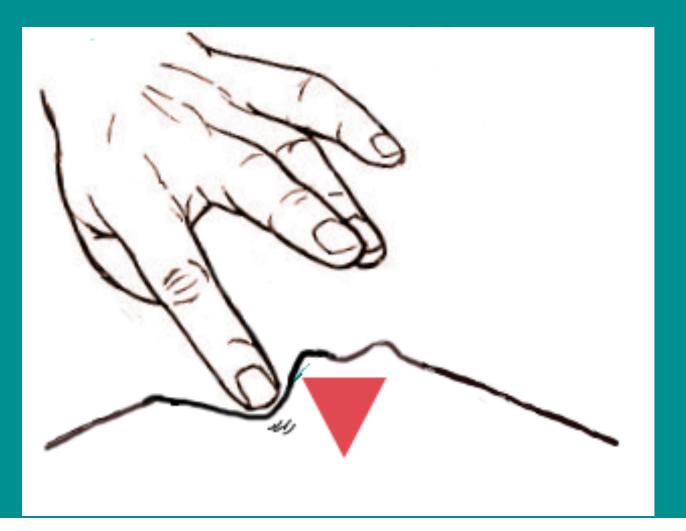


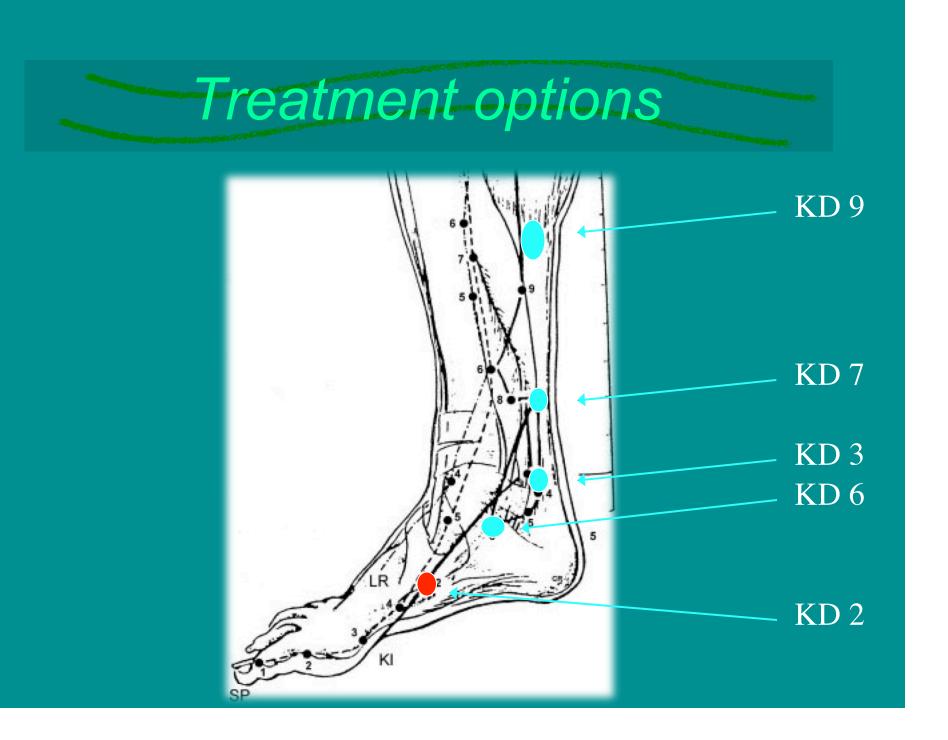


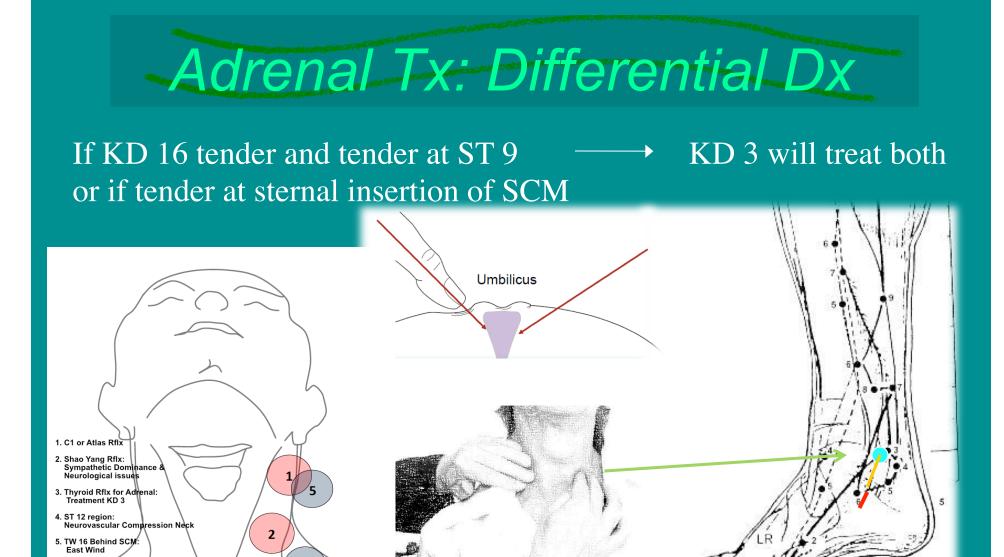
Adrenal Reflex – KD 16







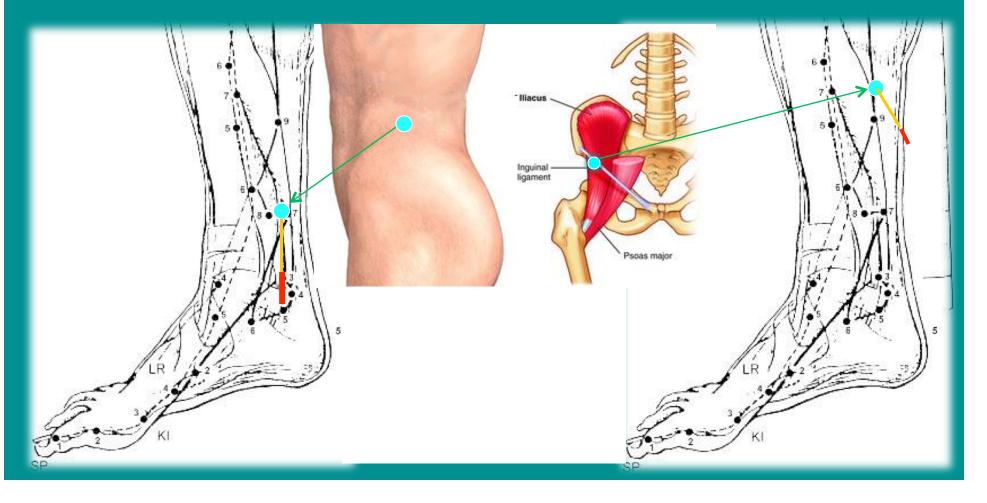


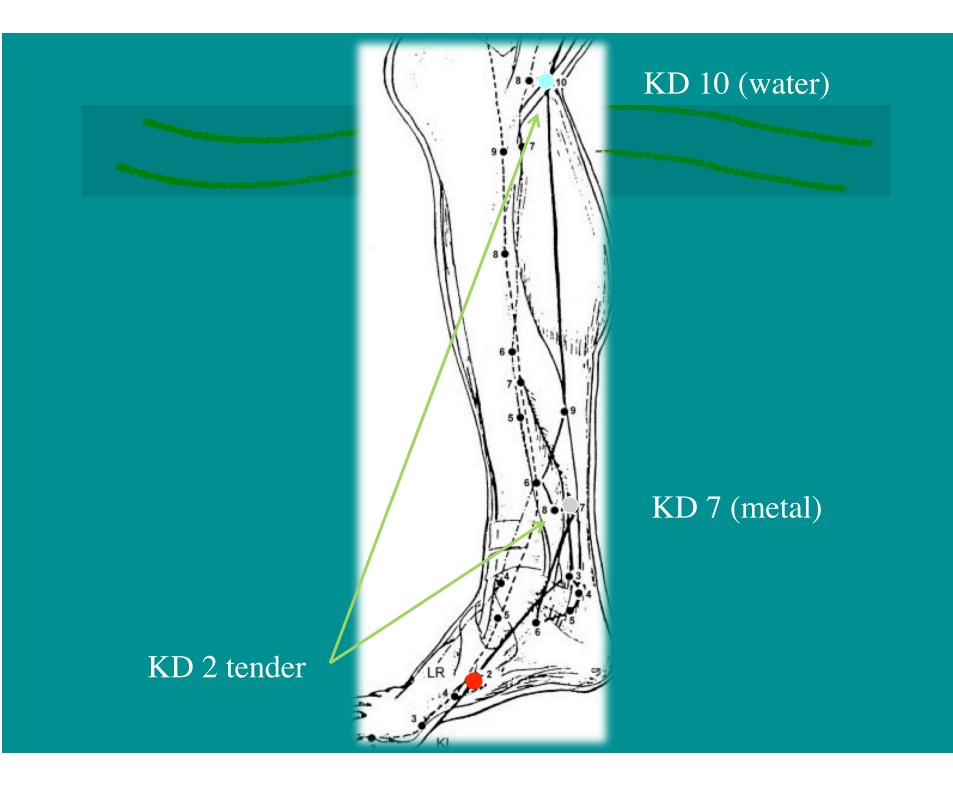


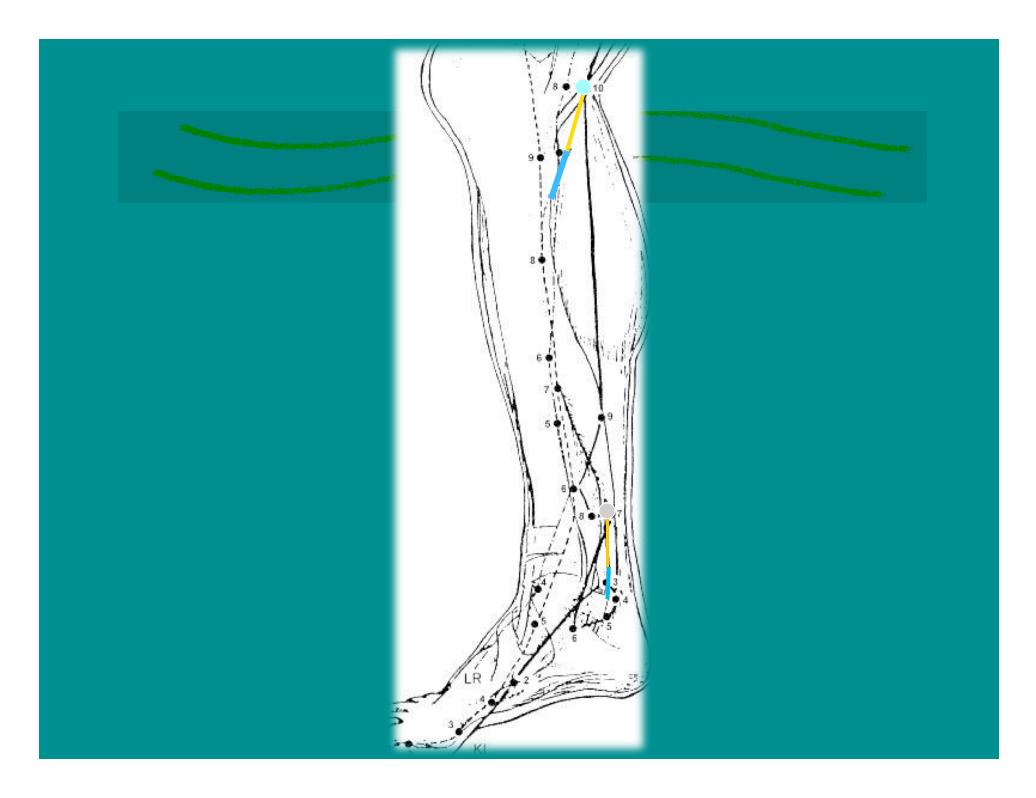
Adrenral Tx: Differential Dx

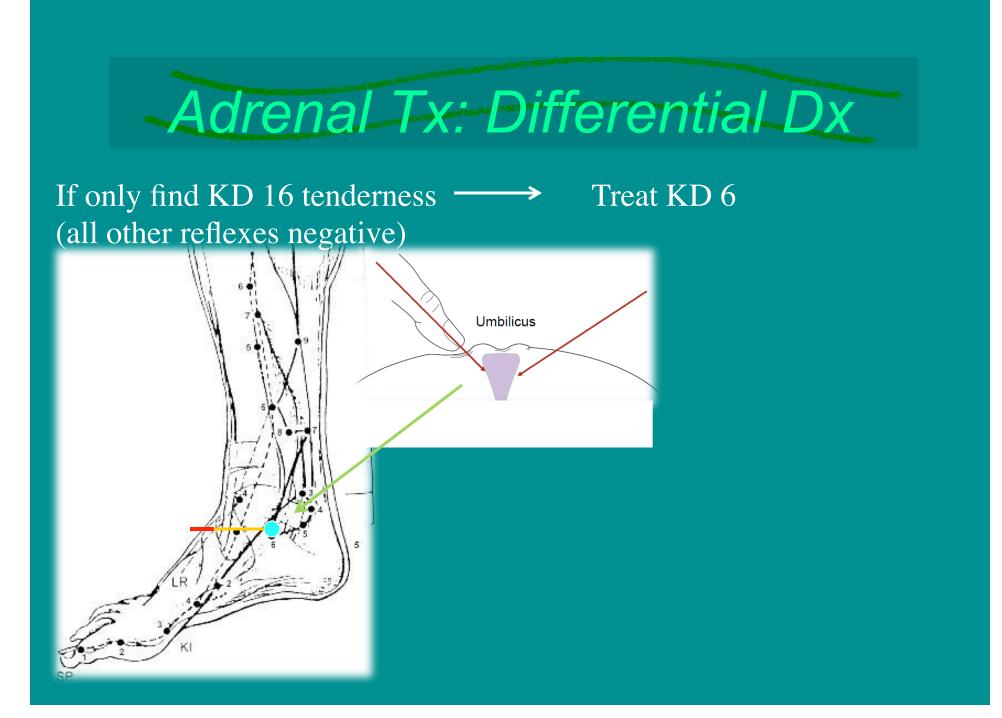
KD 7 if tender at Dai Mai (GB 26)

KD 9 if tender at ASIS









Adrenal Differential

- If Thyroid or insertion of SCM into sternum tender "ST 9"
 - Treat with KD 3, KD 27
- If Dai Mai (GB 26) tender
 - Treat with KD 7, KD 27
- If ASIS (GB 27) tender
 - Treat with KD 9
- If KD 2 (Fire point) tender
 - Treat with KD 10 (water), KD 7 (metal), KD 27
- If only KD 16 tender
 - Treat with KD 6, KD 27

Conclusions Using Delection of distal points to test if points

- Using Palpation of distal points to test if painful areas improve will enhance the effectiveness of your acupuncture technique and your ability to individualize treatment
- In many cases, just treating these constitutional findings will have a significant affect on the chief complaint of patient shortening treatment time
- Enhances you confidence and the patient's confidence in your skill