

International Conference and Exhibition on

# Pain Medicine

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## Anti-epileptics and anti-depressants for neuropathic pain: Lessons from Cochrane overviews and systematic reviews

**Phil Wiffen**

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Anti-epileptics and anti-depressants are widely used to manage a variety of neuropathic pain conditions. Using well-established evidence based medicine approach a resume will be given of the development of overviews to summarize systematic reviews and make information more accessible to practitioners. The session will discuss the randomized controlled trial literature and present the results of two major Cochrane overviews on these classes of medicines. These show that not all anti-epileptics or anti-depressants are equal and that some of the mainstays of neuropathic pain treatments such as carbamazepine are largely unsupported by good quality evidence. The session will end with a view of the flaws in many of the published randomized trials together with some suggestions for grading evidence in order to stimulate higher quality research into effectiveness.

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## Medical acupuncture: Basics then and now

**Rosalie Tassone**

University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System, USA

Acupuncture has a long tradition in treating medical conditions, including pain, in China for thousands of years. Its use in the West has had a shorter history, but with an increasing interest, particularly since the 1970's. This lecture will focus briefly on the contextual history of acupuncture in China and in the West, particularly the United States. Basic concepts of acupuncture, including qi, the five elements, meridians, and yin-yang concepts will be covered. Additionally, significant acupuncture research will be presented, including basic science theories, functional MRI studies, and clinical studies will be presented. Finally, a practical experiential case will be presented.

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