Peripheral nerve activity potential difference among TaiYang, TaiYin, ShaoYang and ShaoYin

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Abstract

Objects

Explain the mechanism of PNAP Characteristic changes for each Korean Medicine Sasang typology.

Methods

By ways of question form and expert's deliberation, 1000 healthy volunteers are distinguished into corresponding Sasang types, then detect median, ulnar, peroneal, tibial nerves' CMAP and F-Wave, to analyze nerve conduction's characteristic changes between groups or within group.

Results

Within group, TaiYin: Median nerve's right side MCV is declined than left side; Ulnar and Peroneal and tibial nerves left side MCV is declined than right side. ShaoYang: Ulnar and tibial nerves left side MCV is declined than right side. Between groups, TaiYin & ShaoYang: About median and tibial nerve's Distal Amplitude (DA), MCV, TaiYin is declined than that of ShaoYang; TaiYin & ShaoYin: About tibial nerve's DA, MCV, The shortest latency of F-wave (FL), TaiYin is declined or extended than that of ShaoYin; ShaoYang & ShaoYin: For median nerve's MCV, FL, ShaoYin is declined or extended than that of ShaoYang (P<0.05). Nerve amount rate of FL ≥ 2SD (ShaoYang as standard), for peroneal and tibial nerves, TaiYin is greater than ShaoYang and ShaoYin (P < 0.1). Nerve amount rate which conduction is under-activity, for tibial nerve, TaiYin is greater than ShaoYang (right) and ShaoYin (left) (P < 0.01). AMP./ DUR. rate of median nerve: ShaoYin > ShaoYang > TaiYin (P < 0.05).

Conclusions

Median nerve's left side has advantage than right side, however the ulnar and tibial nerve's right side is well than left side, this characteristic is much more obvious in TaiYin; PNAP of ShaoYang is well than TaiYin and ShaoYin; AMP./ DUR. rate of median nerve shows sensitively about constitutional differences.

Significance

Provide foundation of clinical diagnosis and treatment on a constitutional basis.

Introduction

The different constitutions will result in the differences of the susceptibility to some pathogenic factors and the tendency of disease development while the course of disease, hence distinguishing constitution is important to predict the occurrence and evolution of disease.

Based on the theory of Tai-Shao-Yin-Yang and five constitutional states of human in Ling-shu Tong-tian, Jima Li (1837–1891, Korean Hamhung) spit out the Yin-Yang balanced, then divided others into four different constitutional types (Sasang), namely "That the people with large lungs and small liver is called TaiYang; the people with large Liver and small lung is called TaiYin; the people with large splenic and small kidney is called ShaoYang; the people with large kidney and small spleen is called ShaoYin (Ji-ma LI,1921)."

Basic studies on Sasang typology have been reported successively, such as specific studies on motor nerve and sensory nerve based on Sasang constitutional theory of Korean medicine(Chun-yu JIN, et al., 2012; Chun-yu JIN and Masayuki BABA, 2012), and studies on correlation between acupuncture induction and SEP (He LIU, et al., 2016). However, until now, no research has been found on the characteristic change mechanism of peripheral nerves based on Sasang typology. Therefore, this study mainly explored the specific variation rules and occurrence mechanism of peripheral nerves among Sasang typologies, laying a neurological foundation upon the development of Korean constitutional medicine.

Material And Methods

1 General Material

In the laboratory at room temperature of about 26 degrees, 1,000 healthy volunteers (the Han nationality, because in the previous study we found that the Han nationality has the lowest potential injury rate of terminal nerve (Zhen-he HAN et al., 2010; Chun-yu JIN and Masayuki BABA, 2009). were distinguished into respective Sasang typology and tested for nerve conduction. Before the experiment, they were informed of the experiment content and signed the informed consent. 1,000 volunteers (427 male), including 34 left-handed; average age of 21.5 years old.

Inclusion criteria: healthy volunteers aged 18 to 34.

Exclusion criteria: sensory disturbance of limbs; history of peripheral neuropathy.
2 Diagnosis of Sasang typology

2.1 Volunteers filled the questioning table. The questioning table was made mainly based on the diagnosis points from Li Jima’s ‘Dong-Yi-Shou-Shi-Bao-Yuan’ and combined the related theories from famous Korean medical books.

2.2 After having research of questioning table, 3-5 clinical experienced Korean medical experts diagnosed each volunteer’s Sasang typology by directly observing their appearance, skeletal muscle and pulse.

3 Nerve conduction examination

3.1 Test method

Test the median, ulnar, peroneal, tibial nerves’ CMAP and F-Wave by using Portabook electromyogram induce(NICOLET Co., USA). All test have been conducted in same time and same condition. During the examination, the subjects took a lying position and were completely relaxed, then stimulated the nerves with saddle stimulator and recorded action potential with surface electrode. The recording electrodes were placed on the abdominals of abductor pollicis brevis, abductor digitii minimi, abductor pedis and extensor digitii brevis respectively, and the standard electrodes were placed on the distal tendons of the same muscle. The stimulating electrodes were located at the wrist, elbow, ankle and knee respectively. The grounding electrode was located between the stimulating electrode and the recording electrode. The distance between the recording electrode and the stimulating electrode was the same on the left and right sides. During the detection, the stimulation intensity gradually increased and stops at 120% of the CMAP amplitude when it no longer increased. This stimulation intensity was called super stimulation. Using super stimulation to detect F-wave at wrist or ankle, continuously stimulated for 24 times, and recorded the shortest latency of F-wave. The filter amplifier has a bandwidth of 20-2000 Hz, a scanning speed of 5-20 ms / cm and a sensitivity of 0.2 mV / div. The stimulation frequency is 1 Hz and the time limit was 0.2 ms.

3.2 MCV calculation method and statistical process

Calculation formula: $MCV = D / (proximal\ latency - Total\ latency)$. $D(Distance)$ is Body surface distance of ganglion segment measured. Distal Latency (DL) is latency period for wrist or ankle stimulation. Proximal Latency is latency period for stimulation of the elbow or knee. Using SPSS19.0 statistical software to process the measured data. Measurement data, for One-Way ANOVA or independent $t$ -test processing. Counting data for chi-square test. The experiment and analysis process are shown in Figure 1.

(Insert Figure 1)

Results

1 Sasang typology data analysis

1.1 General situation

There were 10 volunteers with incomplete test data, which will be eliminated. Among the other 990, 539 were TaiYin, 12 were TaiYang, 269 were ShaoYin and 170 were ShaoYang. See Table 1 for age, weight and length. The age of TaiYin was older than that of ShaoYang ($P < 0.01$). The weight of TaiYin was higher than that of ShaoYang and ShaoYin ($P < 0.01$). The height of TaiYin was higher than that of ShaoYang and ShaoYin ($P < 0.01$).

(Insert Table 1)

1.2 Sex ratio

The ratio of men to women among the Sasang groups is shown in Figure 2. There was no significant difference in the ratio of men and women between groups ($P > 0.05$).

(Insert Figure 2)

1.3 ABO blood type ratio

See Figure 3. for the ABO blood type ratio among the Sasang groups. In ShaoYin group, the proportion of men and women of type O is larger than that of type A, B and AB, which is statistically significant ($P < 0.05$).

(Insert Figure 3)

2 Nerve conduction parameters

2.1 See Table 2 for the comparison of CMAP and F-wave parameters within and between Sasang groups.

2.1.1 Comparing right and left side within group

TaiYang: Median nerve’s left side FL (F-wave’s shortest latency) is extended than right side ($P < 0.05$); Ulnar nerve’s right side DL is extended than left side ($P < 0.05$).

TaiYin: Median nerve’s right side DL is extended ($P < 0.01$) and MCV is declined ($P < 0.01$); Ulnar nerve’s left side DA (Distal of
Amplitude peak to peak) and MCV is declined (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$); Peroneal nerve’s right side DL is extended ($P < 0.01$) and DA, MCV is raised (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$); Tibial nerve’s right side DL is extended ($P < 0.05$) and MCV is raised ($P < 0.01$) and left side FL is extended ($P < 0.01$).

ShaoYang: Median nerve’s right side MCV is declined ($P < 0.01$); Ulnar nerve’s right side DA, MCV is raised (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$); Peroneal nerve’s right side DL is extended ($P < 0.05$); Tibial nerve’s left side MCV is declined ($P < 0.05$) and FL is extended ($P < 0.01$).

ShaoYin: Ulnar nerve’s left side DA, MCV is declined (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$); Peroneal nerve’s left side DL is extended ($P < 0.01$) and MCV is raised ($P < 0.01$); Tibial nerve’s left side MCV is declined ($P < 0.01$) and FL is extended ($P < 0.01$).

2.1.2 Comparison between groups

- TaiYin & ShaoYang: For median nerve’s DL, DA, MCV, FL (R, Right), TaiYin is extended or declined (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$, $P < 0.05$); For ulnar nerve’s DA, FL (L, Left), TaiYin is declined or extended (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.05$); For peroneal nerve’s FL, TaiYin is extended ($P < 0.01$); For tibial nerve’s DA, MCV (L), FL, TaiYin is extended or declined (respectively $P > 0.01$, $P > 0.05$, $P > 0.01$).
- Taiyin & ShaoYin: For median nerve’s DL (R), DA, TaiYin is extended or declined (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$); For ulnar nerve’s DL (L), DA (L), ShaoYin is extended or declined (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.05$), however FL (R) is extended in TaiYin ($P < 0.05$); For peroneal nerve’s FL, TaiYin is extended ($P < 0.01$); For tibial nerve’s DA, MCV, FL, TaiYin is extended or declined (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$).
- ShaoYang & ShaoYin: For median nerve’s DL, DA, ShaoYin is raised ($P < 0.01$); For ulnar nerve’s DA, FL, ShaoYin is declined ($P < 0.01$), however MCV, FL is extended or declined (respectively $P < 0.01$, $P < 0.05$); For ulnar nerve’s DA, ShaoYin is declined ($P < 0.01$). For others, no significant difference is observed ($P > 0.05$).

(Insert Table 2)

2.2 Neural ratio of FL≥2SD

Regarding FL=2SD of both sides nerves of ShaoYang as the standard (Because the FL data of ShaoYang is the shortest and there is no obvious injury), the neural ratio of FL≥2SD is shown in Figure 4. As the figure shown,

- Median nerve: ShaoYang right side’s ratio is smaller than ShaoYin ($P < 0.01$); TaiYin and ShaoYang left side’s ratio is smaller than ShaoYin ($P < 0.05$).
- Ulnar nerve: TaiYin left side’s ratio is greater than ShaoYin ($P < 0.01$).
- Peroneal nerve: TaiYin’s ratio is greater than ShaoYang and ShaoYin (respectively $P < 0.05$, $P < 0.01$).
- Tibial nerve: TaiYin’s ratio is greater than ShaoYang and ShaoYin (respectively $P < 0.01$, $P < 0.01$).

(Insert Figure 4)

2.3 Neural ratio of poor conduction function

Under the condition of DL≥2SD∥FL≥2SD∥DA≤2SD∥MCV≤2SD, the nerves with more than two conditions are considered as having poor conduction function. See Figure 5. In tibial nerve, TaiYin right side’s is greater than ShaoYin ($P < 0.01$); TaiYin left side is greater than ShaoYin ($P < 0.05$). The difference between the left and right sides of each nerve in TaiYin has no statistical significance ($P > 0.05$).

(Insert Figure 5)

3 Ratio of AMP/ DUR.

When stimulating wrist, ankle, the AMP (Amplitude) / DUR. (duration) ratio of the median, ulnar, peroneal and tibial nerves is shown in Figure 6. In median nerve, ShaoYin is greater than TaiYin and ShaoYang (respectively $P < 0.01$, $P < 0.05$); ShaoYang is greater than TaiYin ($P < 0.01$). In tibial nerve, ShaoYang is greater than TaiYin ($P < 0.01$).

(Insert Figure 6)

**Discussion**

The proportion of each Sasang typology is 1% of TaiYang, 54% of TaiYin, 17% of ShaoYang and 27% of ShaoYin. Dong-Yi-Shou-Shi-Bao-Yuan said “At this time, we can see 10,000 people in a county. In a nutshell, there are 5,000 people is TaiYin, 3,000 is ShaoYang, 2,000 is ShaoYin, and only three or four people is TaiYin.” Myung Jin Oh, et al. (2013) used QSCCI method to diagnose 40 healthy people, with result of that TaiYin and ShaoYin accounted for 39.0% and ShaoYang for 19.5% respectively. The Sasang typology proportion of 265 healthy volunteers reported by Kim is 41.9% in TaiYin, 37.6% in ShaoYang and 20.5% in ShaoYang (Sun Ho Kim, 1996). The above results are basically consistent with this study. The results showed that the weight and height of TaiYin were higher than those of ShaoYang and ShaoYin. The traditional medical books recorded that "TaiYin is well-developed and obese (Zhen-nan XUAN, 2005)". Chun-yu JIN, et al. (2012) reported that the body mass and height of TaiYin were higher than those of ShaoYang and ShaoYin. The above results are basically consistent with this study. This time, there were more men are ShaoYin and more women are TaiYin, but the difference was not statistically significant. Sun Ho Kim, et al. (1996) reported that in men, the number of ShaoYin is more than that of TaiYin, while in women, the number of TaiYin is more than that of ShaoYin, which is very similar to this result. Within ShaoYin group, There is a significant difference between men and women in type O, A, B and AB, which is statistically significant. The characteristics of ShaoYin’s viscera are "large kidney and small spleen", the function of lower energizer (Kidney, baldder, large intestine, small intestine) tends to strong. Its reproductive capacity is stronger than other Sasang typologies. Biyun Zhang, et al. (2017) found that the highest proportion of premature ovarian failure (POF) patients was type A, and the lowest was type O. It just shows that the function of kidney is more powerful with type O.
There are few specimens of TaiYang, so we should study them later. The right side of DL and MCV of the median nerve in the TaiYin is extended or declined. The right side of ulnar, peroneal and tibial nerves are conductive advantage. 96% of the volunteers were right-handed, and they used their right hands to write more in their study and life, besides TaiYin has the characteristics of large liver, small lung, astringent Qi and turbid blood, which leads to more microcirculatory diseases than other Sasang typologies. In the same right hand, the ulnar nerve is conductive to the right side, suggesting that there may be a potential conduction disorder in the carpal tunnel. Ying LIU, et al. (2017) examined 180 CTS patients, found that 78 of the left hand and 102 of the right hand had CTS, which indicated that the incidence rate of right hand was higher than that of left hand. Compared with asymptomatic or healthy people, the SCV of median nerve declined and DL extended in patients with symptomatic CTS, but there was no significant difference in DA reduction (Yao YAO, 2017). It is speculated that the right hand is the most flexible and commonly used limb, and the risk of injury is higher than that of the left hand.

Huang-Di-Nei-Jing said "the spirit is well managed when Yin-Yang is balanced". As Yang has the function of warming and promoting Yin, TaiYin who has more Yin characteristic would cause slow metabolism and endogenesis of phlegm dampness. This would lead to Physiological and pathological environment of terminal nerve. This may be the reason why the conduction function of the right side of the median nerve is lower than that of the left side.

DA and MCV of ulnar nerve and MCV and FL of tibial nerve in TaiYin, ShaoYang and ShaoYin were extended or declined on the right side. That says, the right side of ulnar and tibial nerves’ conduction is superior. In the initial state of study of 100 healthy subjects, the right side of ulnar and tibial nerves’ MCV was increased than the left (Chun-yu JIN, et al., 2011). The PA of the median nerve of TaiYin is higher on the left side; The PA of the ulnar nerve of ShaoYin is higher on the right side; The MCV of the ulnar and tibial nerves of ShaoYang is increased on the right side. In patients with diabetic peripheral neuropathy (DPN), DL of median, ulnar, posterior tibial and right side of common peroneal nerve extended, DA and MCV is declined (Guo-ping XING, 2009).

Through acupuncture and moxibustion, MCV of the left median, ulnar and right peroneal and tibial nerves increased significantly (Dong-cai WANG, 2017). It is speculated that the right handedness is one of the possible factors for the conduction advantage of the right limb.

In this study, DL, FL (R), DA, MCV of median nerve and DA,FL (L) of ulnar nerve and DA, MCV, FL (L) of peroneal nerve are extended or declined in TaiYin than that of ShaoYang. Chun-yu JIN, et al. (2012) showed that DL and FL of median, ulnar, tibial and peroneal nerves in TaiYin were extended than those in ShaoYang, which was consistent with the results of this study. It is said in: "Tai-Shao-Yin-Yang has different Visceral pattern, which depends on variation of Yin-Yang balance (Zhen-nan XUAN, 2015)." Ling-Shu·Ni-Shun-Fei-Shou said "Fat people, whose blood is black and turbid, whose Qi is unsmooth and slow. Thin people, whose blood is clear and Qi is smooth." Above shows that different amount of Yin-Yang in viscera pattern, which depends on variation of Yin-Yang balance (Zhe-nan XUAN, 2015)." said "the sprit is well managed when Yin-Yang is balanced". As Yang has the function of warming and promoting Yin, TaiYin who has more Yang characteristic would cause slow metabolism and endogenesis of phlegm dampness. This would lead to Physiological and pathological environment of terminal nerve. This may be the reason why the conduction function of the right side of the median nerve is lower than that of the left side.

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DA (R), DA of median nerve, DA, MCV of tibial nerve, FL of peroneal nerve extended or declined in the TaiYin than that of ShaoYang. DL (L), DA of ulnar nerve extended or declined in ShaoYin than that of TaiYin. FL (R) of median nerve is extended in TaiYin than that of ShaoYin. According to traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) that Yang is functional for warming and motivating. Meanwhile, Yin is functional for moist and nourishing. Since TaiYin has larger Yin/Yang balance than ShaoYin has, so the nerve conduction function of TaiYin tends to weak. Li-yan JIN (2009) compared the Hui nationality group with the mixed group and the Han nationality group, the Hui nationality group’s DL of common peroneal nerve extended, MCV and DA declined. Anatomically, the position of the peroneal nerve is shallow so it is vulnerable to external influences such as physical squeeze. It is speculated that living habits (such as kneeling, sitting, etc.) are the important reasons for the potential injury of the anterior peroneal nerve of ankle joint.

In this study, DL, FL (R), DA, MCV of median nerve and DA,FL (L) of ulnar nerve and DA, MCV, FL (L) of peroneal nerve are extended or declined in TaiYin than that of ShaoYang. Chun-yu JIN, et al. (2012) showed that DL and FL of median, ulnar, tibial and peroneal nerves in TaiYin were extended than those in ShaoYang, which was consistent with the results of this study. In patients with diabetic peripheral neuropathy (DPN), DL of median, ulnar, posterior tibial and right side of common peroneal nerve extended, DA and MCV is declined (Guo-ping XING, 2009).

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Huang-Di-Nei-Jing said "the spirit is well managed when Yin-Yang is balanced". As Yang has the function of warming and promoting Yin, TaiYin who has more Yin characteristic would cause slow metabolism and endogenesis of phlegm dampness. This would lead to Physiological and pathological environment of terminal nerve. This may be the reason why the conduction function of the right side of the median nerve is lower than that of the left side.
For median nerve, ShaoYin is greater than ShaoYang and TaiYin (L) \( P < 0.05 \); For ulnar nerve, TaiYin is greater than ShaoYin (L) \( P < 0.01 \); For peroneal and tibial nerve, TaiYin is greater than ShaoYang and ShaoYin \( P < 0.01 \). In addition, the ratio of nerves with low conduction function in tibial nerve, that TaiYin was higher than ShaoYin (R) and ShaoYang (L). It is said in "Dong-Yi-Shou-Shi-Bao-Yuan" that "The Qi of grief and anger rises, the Qi of like and happy drops. If you have too much rising Qi, the lower energizer will be damaged. If you have too much descending Qi, the upper energizer will be damaged. The temperament characteristics of ShaoYin is freely like and deeply happy. The Qi of descent is too much to damage the upper energizer. Their internal organs are characterized by small spleen and large kidney and their body shape is that upper body is thin, while the lower body is thick. ShaoYin have small spleen which functions to transport and disperse essence, so they are easily to lose Qi-Xue and the spleen tends to be weak and cold. Therefore, the proportion of injured nerves in upper limbs is significantly higher than that in lower limbs. The temperament characteristics of ShaoYang is suddenly grief and deeply angry, so the Qi of rising is too much to damage the lower energizer. Their internal organs are characterized by small kidney and large spleen and their body shape is that lower body is thin, while the upper body is thick. ShaoYin have more amount of Yang with less amount of Yin that they have weak kidney function so the kidney is easy to be overheated. Therefore, their nerve conduction function is rather stronger and the ratio of FL ≥ 2SD is the smallest. The temperament characteristics of TaiYin is freely happy and deeply like. Their internal organs are characterized by small lung and large liver and their body shape is characterized by waist hypertrophy. Because of they have small lung and the weakness of promoting blood, TaiYin are prone to be in the state of "blood turbid and Qi astringent. The proportion of injured nerves in lower limbs was significantly higher than that in ShaoYin and ShaoYang.

Tibial nerve hypofunction rate is TaiYin (R) greater than ShaoYin \( P < 0.01 \); TaiYin (L) greater than ShaoYang \( P < 0.05 \). It can be seen that constitutional specificity leads to the susceptibility of the body to certain diseases. Compared with ShaoYang and ShaoYin, TaiYin are more likely to suffer from potential nerve damage because of their constitution characteristics of "big liver, small lung, turbid blood and astringent Qi".

There is a significant correlation between AMP. and DUR. It is a stable electrical characteristic of skeletal muscle motor unit, when it exceeds a certain time limit, the variability of amplitude becomes larger (Yang QIN, et al., 2011). The ratio of the median nerve is ShaoYin > ShaoYang > TaiYin, i.e. DL is ShaoYang/ShaoYin < TaiYin; Proximal latency is ShaoYang < ShaoYin/TaiYin; Proximal duration is ShaoYang/ShaoYin < TaiYin; DA/PA is ShaoYin > ShaoYang > TaiYin. The integrity of CMAP waveforms in the median nerve of ShaoYin was verified, suggesting that it can be used to distinguish the Sasang typology. The change of tibial nerve ratio suggests that the conduction function of TaiYin is lower than that of ShaoYin and ShaoYang. It was found in previous studies that among the different TCM Syndromes of CTS patients, the median nerve conduction function of healthy volunteers is better than that of "cold dampness blocking collaterals" group, then the "cold dampness blocking collaterals" group is better than "Qi and Yin deficiency group" (Shuo ZHANG, 2011). Among the different TCM Syndromes of DPN patients, the most significant difference of MCV and DA had been observed between "Yang deficiency, cold coagulation" group and "phlegm and blood stasis” “Qi and yin deficiency” groups, especially in the median nerve (Guo-xin GAO, 2013). In addition, DPN nerve conduction test is characterized by high abnormal rate of MCV in tibial and median nerve (Zhu LIU, et al., 2014). In aerobic exercise group, DL and MCV of common peroneal and posterior tibial nerves were significantly improved (Yan WANG, 2015).

The above median, ulnar, peroneal and tibial nerve conduction parameters show that the nerve conduction function of ShaoYang with overheated constitution is superior to that of TaiYin with astringent Qi constitution and ShaoYin people with supercooled constitution. The ratio of AMP. / DUR. of median nerve can sensitively reflect the difference of constitutions, and can be used in the differential diagnosis of Sasang typology.

Conclusions

In conclusion, median nerve’s left side has an advantage than right side, however the ulnar and tibial nerve’s right side is well than left side, this characteristic is much more obvious in TaiYin; PNAP of ShaoYang is well than TaiYin and ShaoYin; AMP. / DUR. rate of median nerve shows sensitively about constitutional differences.

Abbreviations

PNAP
Peripheral Nerve Activity Potential
CMAP
Compound Muscle Activity Potential
DL
Distal Latency
DA
Distal Amplitude peak to peak
MCV
Motor Conduction Velocity
FL
The shortest Latency of F-wave
SD
Standard
R
Right
Declarations

Ethics approval and consent to participate

After deliberation by the medical ethics committee of Yanbian University, the experimental design and implementation plan of the study fully considered the principles of safety and fairness. The research content does not constitute harm and risk to the subjects. The recruitment of the subjects will be based on the principles of voluntary and informed consent, and try to protect the privacy of the subjects as much as possible. There is no conflict of interest in the research content and results.

Medical College of Yanbian University understood the purpose and content of this experiment about the nerve conduction velocity detection in detail, and agreed to assist as the experimenter.

Consent for publication

Not applicable.

Availability of data and materials

Please contact author for data requests.

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Competing interests

The authors declare that there is no conflict of interests regarding the publication of this manuscript.

Authors' contributions

Li-yan JIN carried out the NCS studies, Jin-long JIANG coordinated all processes, Dao-xuan ZHENG performed statistical analysis. Chun-yu JIN mainly participated in the design and conduction of the study. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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Tables

Table 1 General data of TaiYang, TaiYin, ShaoYang ShaoYin (Mean±SD)
### Table 2 CMAP and F-wave parameters of the right and left side

|           | TaiYang | TaiYin | ShaoYang | ShaoYin |
|-----------|---------|--------|----------|---------|
|           | Right   | Left   | Right    | Left    | Right   | Left    | Right   | Left    |
| **Median**|         |        |          |         |         |        |         |         |
| DL        | 3.16±0.40 | 3.11±0.29 | 3.19±0.39** | 3.13±0.37 | 3.06±0.38** | 3.12±0.44** | 3.11±0.45 |
| DA        | 11.45±3.94 | 12.01±2.06 | 10.51±3.54 | 10.30±3.36 | 11.21±3.47** | 11.24±3.00** | 12.24±3.81** | 12.45±3.57** |
| MCV       | 60.33±2.50 | 60.17±3.76 | 60.52±4.15** | 61.15±4.57 | 61.75±3.95** | 62.64±3.93** | 60.58±3.85** | 60.86±4.18** |
| FL        | 23.68±1.27* | 24.1±1.15 | 23.84±1.71 | 23.81±1.67 | 23.53±1.66** | 23.62±1.62 | 24.10±1.87** | 24.04±1.90** |
| **Note**  |         |        |          |         |         |        |         |         |
| DL        | 2.48±0.30** | 2.41±0.38 | 2.48±0.30 | 2.46±0.29 | 2.46±0.32 | 2.46±0.32 | 2.50±0.32 | 2.52±0.32** |
| DA        | 10.11±2.30 | 10.83±2.58 | 10.61±2.55* | 10.43±2.57 | 11.28±2.62** | 10.92±2.73** | 10.44±3.07** | 10.04±2.59** |
| MCV       | 60.36±4.34 | 59.42±4.03 | 59.43±5.70** | 57.99±5.99 | 59.77±5.48** | 58.74±6.19 | 59.31±5.85** | 57.92±5.88 |
| FL        | 24.25±1.48 | 24.43±1.60 | 24.48±1.90 | 24.46±1.91 | 24.18±1.86 | 24.09±1.82** | 24.17±1.86** | 24.24±1.78 |
| **Ulnar** |         |        |          |         |         |        |         |         |
| DL        | 4.00±0.60 | 4.00±0.67 | 3.96±0.59** | 3.88±0.59 | 3.97±0.64* | 3.90±0.58 | 3.98±0.61** | 3.86±0.52 |
| DA        | 7.46±4.21 | 6.82±2.88 | 7.83±3.33* | 7.52±3.40 | 8.06±3.68 | 7.78±3.71 | 7.54±3.53 | 7.77±3.44 |
| MCV       | 53.75±2.01 | 51.42±4.38 | 52.22±3.77** | 51.64±3.64 | 52.02±3.45 | 51.73±3.74 | 52.40±3.88** | 51.64±3.78 |
| FL        | 43.41±2.58 | 43.92±3.70 | 44.10±3.59 | 44.19±3.62 | 43.14±3.09** | 43.27±3.13** | 43.22±3.08** | 43.09±2.95** |
| **Peroneal** |       |        |          |         |         |        |         |         |
| DL        | 3.93±0.47 | 3.71±0.56 | 3.94±0.66* | 3.88±0.67 | 3.93±0.70 | 3.88±0.68 | 3.92±0.70 | 3.90±0.63 |
| DA        | 16.88±8.58 | 16.88±7.85 | 15.80±7.25 | 16.00±7.30 | 18.47±7.61** | 17.97±7.77** | 17.27±7.76** | 17.13±7.50** |
| MCV       | 49.17±3.88 | 49.25±4.97 | 47.82±4.95* | 46.45±5.13 | 48.19±4.77* | 47.45±5.23* | 48.58±5.01** | 47.25±4.97** |
| FL        | 43.53±2.65 | 43.44±3.36 | 43.96±3.51** | 44.15±3.50 | 42.91±2.87** | 43.21±2.71** | 42.97±3.00** | 43.29±3.22** |

**Note**: Comparing with the left side *P<0.05**; **P<0.01** Comparing with the same side of TaiYin □□ P<0.05 □□ P<0.01 □□ Comparing with the same side of ShaoYang ▲ P<0.05 ▲ ▲ P<0.01 One-way Anova

**Figures**
Figure 1

Experiment and analysis process
Figure 1

Experiment and analysis process
Figure 2

Rate of men and women in Sasang groups
Figure 2

Rate of men and women in Sasang groups
Figure 3

ABO blood type rate in Sasang groups (unit: %) Note: Upper left is TaiYang; Upper right is TaiYin; Bottom left is ShaoYang; Bottom right is ShaoYin. Chi-square Test.
Figure 3

ABO blood type rate in Sasang groups (unit: %) Note: Upper left is TaiYang; Upper right is TaiYin; Bottom left is ShaoYang; Bottom right is ShaoYin. Chi-square Test.
Figure 4

Neural ratio of FL ≥ 2SD in Median, Ulnar, Peroneal, Tibial nerves

Note: Neural ratio formula = Nerves count for FL ≥ 2SD / Nerves count for FL < 2SD %.
White: TaiYang; Light grey: TaiYin; Dark grey: ShaoYang; Black: ShaoYin, (M, Median; U, Ulnar; P, Peroneal; T, Tibial; R, Right; L, Left). Same as below.
Figure 4

Neural ratio of FL ≥ 2SD in Median, Ulnar, Peroneal, Tibial nerves. Note: Neural ratio formula = Nerves count for FL ≥ 2SD / Nerves count for FL < 2SD %. White: TaiYang; Light grey: TaiYin; Dark grey: ShaoYang; Black: ShaoYin, (M, Median; U, Ulnar; P, Peroneal; T, Tibial; R, Right; L, Left). Same as below.
Figure 5

Neural ratio of any two or more parameters beyond the 2SD range (unit: %) Note: Ratio of people with more than 2 conditions among the conditions DL ≥ 2SD, FL ≥ 2SD, DA ≤ 2SD, MCV ≤ 2SD.
Note: Ratio of people with more than 2 conditions among the conditions DL > 2SD, FL > 2SD, DA ≤ 2SD, MCV ≤ 2SD.

Figure 5

Neural ratio of any two or more parameters beyond the 2SD range (unit: %) Note: Ratio of people with more than 2 conditions among the conditions DL > 2SD, FL ≥ 2SD, DA ≤ 2SD, MCV ≤ 2SD.
Figure 6

Right and left side AMP / DUR. ratio (average value) Note: *P<0.05, **P<0.01. AMP. (amplitude of base to peek). One Way ANOVA.
Figure 6

Right and left side AMP / DUR. ratio (average value) Note: *P<0.05, **P<0.01. AMP: (amplitude of base to peak). One Way ANOVA.