

POSTER PRESENTATION

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# P02.112. Mind-body medicine therapies for the depression spectrum: a systematic review

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From International Research Congress on Integrative Medicine and Health 2012  
Portland, Oregon, USA. 15-18 May 2012

## Purpose

This paper aims to systematically compare and contrast the evidence for the use of mind-body therapies to address varying degrees of depressive symptoms in populations with and without other chronic co-morbidities. Systematic literature searches of PubMed (Medline), Embase, CINAHL, and the 7 databases encompassed by Current Contents, Web of Science and Web of Knowledge were conducted from 1966 onward.

## Methods

Studies had to be designed as prospective control-comparison, using a mind-body medicine modality at least 2 weeks long, in an adult population that speaks English, with a sample size > 30, and with depression as a primary or secondary outcome measured on an established scale. Methodological quality was evaluated using the modified Scale for Assessing Scientific Quality of Investigations (SASQI) for Complementary and Alternative Medicine (CAM).

## Results

Of the 2964 papers identified by database searches, 90 met our inclusion and exclusion criteria. Sixty percent of these papers received a SASQI score >9 and were deemed of sufficient quality to be included in the review. Seventy-two percent of these selected quality papers demonstrated positive effects on the improvement of depressive symptoms. Self-regulation (biofeedback, guided imagery and hypnosis) and interventions with mixed modalities had a higher proportion of positive results than movement (yoga, taichi and qigong) and mind-based (meditation and mindfulness) categories, although the latter two categories have been better studied.

## Conclusion

Along with established psychiatric treatments of therapy and medications for depression, the use of evidence-based mind-body therapies can provide further relief of symptoms in a patient-centered manner. The likely long-term increased cost-effectiveness of integrating these therapies deserves further investigation.

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Published: 12 June 2012

doi:10.1186/1472-6882-12-S1-P168

Cite this article as: D'Silva et al.: P02.112. Mind-body medicine therapies for the depression spectrum: a systematic review. *BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine* 2012 **12**(Suppl 1):P168.

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