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Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references.
Nota di contenuto	Mechanisms of acupuncture in pain : a physiological perspective in a clinical context / Thomas Lundeberg -- Traditionally based systems of acupuncture : their explanatory nature, models, needs and requirements for testing them / Stephen Birch -- The ontological status of meridians / Hong Hai -- Modern scientific explanation of traditional acupuncture theory / Ching-Liang Hsieh -- Cognitive neuroscience, acupuncture and pain treatment, does a sting always hurt? / Konstantina Theodoratou -- Frequent weaknesses in acupuncture trials / Edzard Ernst -- The complexities inherent in placebo-controlled acupuncture studies / Lao Lixing and Zhang Ruixin -- Research methodology in acupuncture / Lee Tat Leang and Zheng Zhen -- The use of placebos in acupuncture trials / Dylan Evans -- Improving the quality of randomized controlled trials (RCTs) in acupuncture / Bian Zhaoxiang ... [et al.] -- Acupuncture treatment for addiction / Leung Ping Cheung ... [et al.] -- Dense cranial electroacupuncture stimulation for neuropsychiatric disorders : rationale and clinical application / Zhang Zhang-Jin and Man Sui-Cheung.
Sommario/riassunto	Acupuncture is widely practised in the 21st century in scientifically developed countries for a wide range of ailments ranging from chronic pain, giddiness and high blood pressure to gastrointestinal disorders

and sexual dysfunction. Yet the reasons for its vaunted efficacy remain a matter of controversy. In traditional Chinese medical theory, the mechanism of action in acupuncture was understood in terms of the flow of *qi* and the balance of *yin* and *yang* through the body's meridians, a complex network painstakingly charted but never fully understood. Modern medical researchers have examined old and new theories.

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