**Case Study** Achilles Tendonitis Dr. Anthony Piana, DC, FPACT

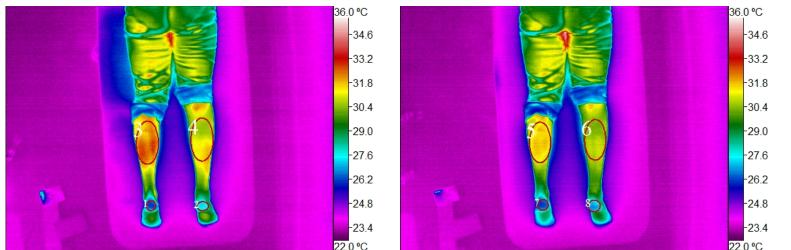
**Symptoms:** Pain in right Achilles tendon **Points Used:** Shihmien, BL-56, BL-61, Local Achilles Point

**Background**: Acupuncture science dictates that two bilateral points should display a reasonable degree of physiological symmetry. Thermographic Analysis is an excellent way to show physiology through skin surface analysis. Proper acclimation techniques were used, as well as a calibrated ICI 9640 medical thermal camera and software. A PACT Board Certified thermographers analyzed the results.

**Methods and Calculations:** Thermographic Analysis showed a heat imbalance in the calves and calcaneus. Pre-needling values showed an average delta T of 1.12 in the heel, and a 1.11 DT in the posterior leg. Images compare DT values before and after needling. Image 27 versus Image 34 show a significant drop in DT from 1.12 to .81 in the heel and 1.11 to .85 in the posterior leg.

**Discussion:** It is important when comparing values in testing to keep the same scale as shown to the right of each image. The Delta T measurement is important to show a relative change. A temperature decrease or increase independent of the opposite side comparison is of little to no value as a temperature change may happen secondary to a change in room climate. The comparison takes this in to account as both sides of the body would have cooled symmetrically.

**Conclusion:** The change in temperature seen is significant and shows a direct response of needling. A greater balance in the zones studied has been accomplished.



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Extra_27 (Pre-needling)				Extra_34 (Post Needling)			
Image	Zone	Min	Delta T(Min)	Max	Delta T(Max)	Avg	Delta T(Avg)
Left	1	26.06	-1.22	27.92	-0.53	26.59	-1.12
Left	2	27.28		28.45		27.71	
Left	3	25.87	-1.48	33.37	0.96	32.37	1.11
Left	4	27.35		32.41		31.26	
Right	5	26.09	-2.71	32.37	0.84	31.66	0.85
Right	6	28.80		31.53		30.81	
Right	7	26.02	0.37	27.29	-1.36	26.52	-0.81

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