

### Electroacupuncture According to Voll

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**Dr. Reinhold Voll**

**The Inventor of Bioenergetic Testing Device called “Electroacupuncture according to Voll”** also known as EAV or EDS (Electrodermal testing Device) is none other than Reinhold Voll, M.D., of Germany. In the 1970’s Voll invented Dermatron (TM), a galvanometric device. Following that numerous devices have been created based on the theory of Electroacupuncture according to Voll.

Born in Berlin on 17 February 1909 as the son of an architect, Dr. Reinhold Voll soon developed an interest in technology and as a radio amateur during his high school years laid the foundation for his later research in Electro-Acupuncture. After graduating from high school he followed in his father’s footsteps and took up studies in architecture at the Technical University of Stuttgart only to find out that medicine was his real vocation. His interest during medical studies at the Universities of Tuebingen and Hamburg soon focused on anatomy and it is only with a sound basis in human anatomy that modern acupuncture can be practiced effectively.

During his medical career Dr. Voll engaged in preventive medicine both in industry and child welfare and settled down as a medical practitioner in Southern Germany in 1943. Dr. Voll was diagnosed as having terminal bladder cancer without any hope of a cure through Western medical means. But through acupuncture he was able to cure himself of his terminal bladder cancer. He developed the first electrodermal testing instrument in 1953. As early as 1953 he began practicing Electro-Acupuncture and since 1959 has exclusively devoted his entire medical activity to this newly developed science.

He incorporated Chinese acupuncture theory and knowledge via current technical facilities into electroacupuncture, without foreseeing that he had created a method that today is of utmost significance in view of the persevering discussions about cost reduction and efficiency. What a contribution to the World!

In his struggle to integrate the very different system of acupuncture with his knowledge as a western, anatomically trained medical doctor, he found that there were electrical resistance differences that could be measured with a modified galvanometer on the surface of the skin (no needles!) on these reputed acupuncture points.

In 1956 he founded and intensively promoted the Association for Electro-Acupuncture, which was changed into an international organization in 1961 with Dr. Voll as the president until 1972, when he became honorary president.

#### **E.A.V. TESTING**

EAV is a system screening device that can measure various electrical imbalances along the acupuncture points. It functions on a principle that a deviation of electrical resistance at any of over two thousand acupuncture points indicates that a problem in the organ corresponding to the

acupoint is a possibility. Electroacupuncture according to Voll (EAV) or such instruments measure galvanic skin resistance (G.S.R.) on acupuncture points on the hands and feet using a 1 volt, 6-12 microamp current. In this type of electrodermal testing, electrical resistance measurements are taken by the practitioner touching the positive probe to the point while the subject holds the negative probe in the opposite hand. There is no feeling of electrical shock due to the extremely low voltage involved. The ideal reading would be at "50" on the scale. Higher readings suggest inflammation or infection, while lower reading suggest degeneration or deficiencies. Readings that drop after a few seconds suggests a long standing energy imbalance in the related area or a chronic condition. EAV provides an accurate diagnosis about the energy flow status in the body. According to Oriental medical theory, if there is a free flow of energy in the body, that body is said to be healthy. If there is any disturbance in the free flow of energy through acupuncture meridians, that body may be suffering from any number of diseases in varying intensities depending on the condition of the patient. EAV is very suited for early identification of any disease process. EAV is a non-invasive testing device, and can be used safely on children, adults, weak or strong person. Infants, small children, sick or debilitated can be screened through surrogates to detect their energy status.

According to NAET theory, presence of an unsuitable energy in the electromagnetic field of a person can initiate energy disturbance in the meridians. The energy disturbance can lead to allergies and allergies can lead to various health disorders. If EAV can be used to detect energy disturbances in the specific meridians, then EAV can be used to identify the allergens that initiated the energy disturbance. Then EAV can be used in screening all possible allergens before the allergens produce energy disturbances and later diseases. Yes, EAV is a great instrument to measure allergies in people.

EAV devices are marketed by several companies, most of which also sponsor educational seminars. The EAV relies on classical acupuncture and its's basic knowledge of energetics

## RESEARCH FINDINGS

A literature search showed a few published studies on this instrument.

A study was performed at the U.C.L.A. School of Medicine to determine if the E.A.V. lung test readings would be worse on confirmed lung cancer patients as compared to controls. A high degree of correlation was noted with 26 of the 30 E.A.V. examinations matching the chest X-ray results in a blind test. ["Evoked Electrical Conductivity on the Lung Acupuncture Points in Healthy Individual And Confirmed

Lung Cancer Patients," American Journal of Acupuncture, Vol. 13, No. 3, July-Sept 1985.]

Another fascinating study sought to measure the effectiveness of E.A.V. testing in measuring food allergy. It compared the electrodermal testing with five conventional medical methods of food allergy testing-skin, RAST, IgE, history, and food challenge. Results showed a high degree of correlation, particularly with food challenge, probably the most accurate of the conventional methods. ["A Food Allergy Study Utilizing the EAV Acupuncture Technique," American Journal of Acupuncture, Vol. 12, No. 2, April-June 1984.]

We need to conduct many more studies to prove the efficacy of this tool. Practitioners who are using them in their daily practices understand the importance of this instrument: how it helps guide the practitioner towards the right direction to look for a diagnosis. EAV can only point towards the energy disturbed area in the body. It is the practitioner/tester who forms the diagnosis, not just by reading via EAV, but looking at the overall status of the patient. EAV should be considered as just a screening tool only.

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