

# Space Age Acupuncture

By Mikaela Quinn

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Donald Collins was in the wrong place at the wrong time. Somebody ahead of him tripped the wire on a booby-trapped land mine and it exploded right next to him. It was 1967. He was 19 years old, and stationed in Viet Nam with the 9th Infantry Division.

“It pretty well blew off the flesh on my left leg, blew a hole in my right foot, a piece of shrapnel got up under my helmet – scarred up the back of my head and gave me a concussion,” he says.

He spent the next four months on his back in a military hospital, had 16 surgeries in those four months, and then contracted gangrene. When the doctors told him they had to amputate his leg to save it, he flatly refused.

His decision ultimately saved his leg, but made his life a living hell. “I’ve had 56 surgeries in 42 years, and they still can’t get all the shrapnel out, or get rid of the pain,” he says. “I’ve been taking pain meds and anti-inflammatory drugs and everything you can think of for the last 42 years – more and more, the medicine just doesn’t work. You get acclimated to it, and they keep upping the milligrams and changing the prescriptions.”

On a scale of one to 10, with 10 being the highest, Collins says his daily pain level was about a 10,000. “I’ve been on 400 milligrams a day of oxycodone [a narcotic pain reliever similar to morphine] since 2008 – which would probably bring an elephant down, but I’d got so immune to the stuff that they couldn’t give me enough to stop even 50 percent of my pain,” he says. “Then this February, I had my first LiveWave experience.”

He’s talking about the IceWave pain patches, a powerful new health product manufactured by a company named LifeWave. Developed by LifeWave’s founder, David Schmidt – an inventor with degrees in Management Information Systems and Biology – the patches have been on the market for four years. In addition to patches for pain, LifeWave also has developed patches for energy, sleep, anti-aging, and weight loss.

LifeWave patches are unlike any other patch technology currently sold. While other patches placed on the skin deliver substances into the body, the LifeWave patches are non-transdermal. That means nothing enters the body from the patches – no chemicals, no drugs, no needles.

Collins’ wife, Sandy, began using the Energy Enhancer patches in January and started “running rings around” her 21-year-old assistant. Sandy told Donald she thought the pain patches might help him. She showed him a brochure.

“This is snake oil,” he told her with a heavy dose of skepticism. “There is no way in the world these patches can do what they claim.”

So Sandy volunteered him to have a patching demonstration for his pain at a LifeWave meeting in Tucson. Reluctantly, he finally went. “They put these two little round band aid-like patches on me and my pain went from a 10,000 to about a two in three minutes,” he said, shaking his head slowly. “It was unbelievable.”

Dr. Steven Haltiwanger, a medical doctor and clinical

nutritionist, explains, “The patches are designed to stimulate acupuncture points without having to use needles, and they can create a number of effects, from enhancing sleep, to lowering pain, to raising energy levels, to improving antioxidant production.”

Think of the patches as software for the body.

“It’s Space Age Acupuncture,” says Haltiwanger, laughing. “Seriously, herbs, homeopathy and acupuncture all work – but people are concerned about needles. So these patches are more effective than needles.”

Seven years ago, Schmidt was seeking funding to manufacture the patches. A potential investor contacted Dr. Haltiwanger to prove that the patches did not work. The guy didn’t want to invest in something that wasn’t going to work. After a careful review of the research material, Haltiwanger concluded that LifeWave was “the most exciting technology” he had ever seen. Today, he is LifeWave’s Health and Science Director.

Marcelle Hannish, RN, Lac, uses the LifeWave patches both on herself and with all of her acupuncture patients at her Mesa, Ariz. clinic. “Acupuncture is just one way of removing the blockages in the body’s energy meridian system,” she says. “The patches seem to have a residual effect. I think the body holds the cellular memory of the patches, similar to the way acupuncture works. They unblock energy pathways in the body, just as acupuncture does, and both help put your body in balance.”

Hannish initially came to the patches for relief from overall body pain and exhaustion, after traditional medicine failed to heal her. She says she is especially impressed with the results of the Glutathione patches on her patients who have Parkinson’s and other neuromuscular conditions.

The Glutathione booster patch was originally made as a “skin care patch” which produced “beauty from the inside out” but it also detoxifies. It works by signaling the body to elevate its own glutathione levels. When toxins are cleansed from inside, it shows on the outside as well in the quality of one’s skin. This is a new way of neutralizing free radicals, supporting the immune system, detoxifying your liver of heavy metals, promoting longevity and reducing chances of disease. Hannish says the Glutathione patch also helps reduce tremors.

The Carnosine booster patch functions as an antioxidant, protecting our cells’ DNA from damage. Senility and Alzheimer’s are thought to be linked to plaque formation on the brain, and studies on Carnosine have shown that it is one of the protective mechanisms of the microvasculature of the brain, holding off the formation of plaque. Carnosine has the ability to turn old cells into young and healthy cells by repairing cellular damage.

Hannish points out the ground-breaking work done by cellular biologist Bruce H. Lipton Ph.D. who opened the door to stunning new discoveries about the interaction between our mind and body and the processes by which cells receive information.

Lipton has shown that genes and DNA do not control our biology; instead DNA is controlled by signals from outside the cell, including the energetic messages emanating from sound, color and our thoughts. Many physicians – including Larry Dossey, Bernard Siegel, Andrew Weil, Elmer Green, Norman Sheely, and Richard Gerber – use vibrational

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medicine to heal through sound, color, thought/visualization and homeopathy.

Scientists now know cell membranes have receptors on them that work just like tuning forks; they vibrate and resonate at the same frequency of their environment, and the energy meridians of the body are like tiny streams of highly polarized water that react to light and transmit bioelectric signals along their pathways. Studies have shown that, when placing a LifeWave patch within six inches of the body, there is an immediate heating, cooling and electrical effect that can be measured by a variety of diagnostic techniques.

Haltiwanger says LifeWave is involved in ongoing research on the patches. To date, the company has completed more than 16 double blind placebo controlled studies that show the safety and effectiveness of their products, which are registered as Class I Medical Devices by the FDA.

Hannish says drinking adequate amounts of water improve performance of the patches. "We need at least eight glasses of water a day. The liquid in sodas and coffee don't count as water," she says. Only pure water can penetrate the cells and make them receptive to bioelectric signals.

Although the Silent Nights sleep patch increases sleep quality by as much as 50 percent and increases Delta brain waves during sleep – the higher the percentage of Delta waves, the better the sleep quality – Hannish says the sleep patches can also be worn safely during the day. "They work well on people who have high anxiety, and relax your muscles, but will not put you to sleep unless you lie down, close your eyes and have the intent to actually go to sleep," she says.

Professional athletes were first to grasp "the power of the patches." After world records were broken while wearing the Energy Enhancer patches, skeptics screamed that the patches must have "steroids or something." They don't. LifeWave patches have been rigorously tested and cleared by the U.S. Anti-Doping agency, the International Olympic Committee, and the NCAA. Their research concluded that the patches are safe and approved for use by their athletes. The Energy Enhancer patches create increased energy, stamina and strength, as well as accelerated fat burning within minutes of applying them.

Jane [not her real name; she requested we use a pseudonym because her daughter is highly skeptical about her using the patches], 71, uses the energy patches and sometimes the ones for pain. She had a car accident years ago, and slight brain damage from the accident caused a stroke in January. That's what brought her to the LifeWave patches.

"An MRI confirmed that the stroke had caused a hole in my pituitary gland," she says. "I was off-balance and kept falling down. My chiropractor told me about the LifeWave patches so I went to a meeting and volunteered to be patched. The minute they put the patches on my neck and head, I could feel something happening in my brain – like a knitting sensation."

She began wearing the patches. Her doctor had previously ordered three more MRI's, so six weeks later she had those done. Her doctor was stunned and puzzled. "The new MRI's showed absolutely nothing," she says. "The hole in my pituitary was not there anymore."

The LifeWave SP6 Patches help curb hunger and sugar cravings – without any drugs, stimulants or needles entering the body. Donald Collins has used the SP6 patches to curb his craving for the pain medications he's been forced to take for 42 years. His primary care physician would not lower his oxycodone dosage, and told Collins he would have to go into a detox center and gradually lower the dosage over many years.

The pain patches took away his pain, and with the pain gone he wanted to be free of his addiction to his meds. So Collins took it upon himself to lower the amount of daily pills he was taking. With the SP6 patch, his craving has completely gone away. He says he has not had to take any medication since May 30.

"These LifeWave patches saved my life, my marriage, everything," says Collins. "I don't have to take narcotics anymore. I don't have pain anymore. I'm able to work and be functional. For the first time in 42 years I have my life back."

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