

Restoration of Mubun School Dashin

Filiform needle insertion is common in Japanese acupuncture, however, there are techniques which do not involve needle insertion such as **kodaishin**^{※1} and abdominal dashin.

Mubun school dashin is an acupuncture technique that involved tapping needle with mallet and developed in Japan about 500 years ago during the age of provincial wars.

This acupuncture technique went out of use during the Meiji Era, but it has been recently revived under the name “**Hokushinkai style**,” devised by Renpu Fujimoto, which has contributed to the health of many patients and now serves as a representative style of acupuncture in Japan.

The differences between filiform acupuncture and dashin are listed below:



Filiform needle	Dashin
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ With needle insertion ◆ While needle guide tube is widely used in Japan, Hokushinkai style does not use it but employs flexural needle insertion. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Without needle insertion ◆ While Mubun school dashin involved tapping sharp-tip needle with a mallet for insertion, Hokushinkai style involves tapping round-tip needles with a mallet without insertion. 

Table: Differences between filiform needle and dashin

Hokushinkai style can be characterized in the correlation of all four examinations by:

- (1) detailed interviews,
- (2) careful and multi-faceted observation of the body's surface,
- (3) judgment of cause and mechanism of disease on the basis of abundant information, and
- (4) treatment using a small number of acu-points, distinguishing between the root and tip of the disease aspects.

Mubun school dashin, now applied under the name of Hokushinkai style, has undergone numerous changes tailored to the physical features of Japanese people in the present age, and exerts beneficial effects with no needle insertion.

Acupuncture of this style is applied quite delicately, regardless of needle insertion or tapping needle with mallet.

The needle tapping technique can also cope well with patients with severe chronic debilitating disease, showing marked deficiencies of Qi and blood, and that are rated as being at high risk for needle insertion.

This is a rare technique of acupuncture expected to show high efficacy in alleviating severe pain, at least to some extent, even in cases demonstrating unfavorable pattern/syndrome which is named as Gyakusho.

※1 “*kodaishin*” . . . *Kodaishin is replicas of gold and silver needles excavated from the Man-cheng Han-mu of Liu Sheng in Han Dynasty and is to be used for touching.*

