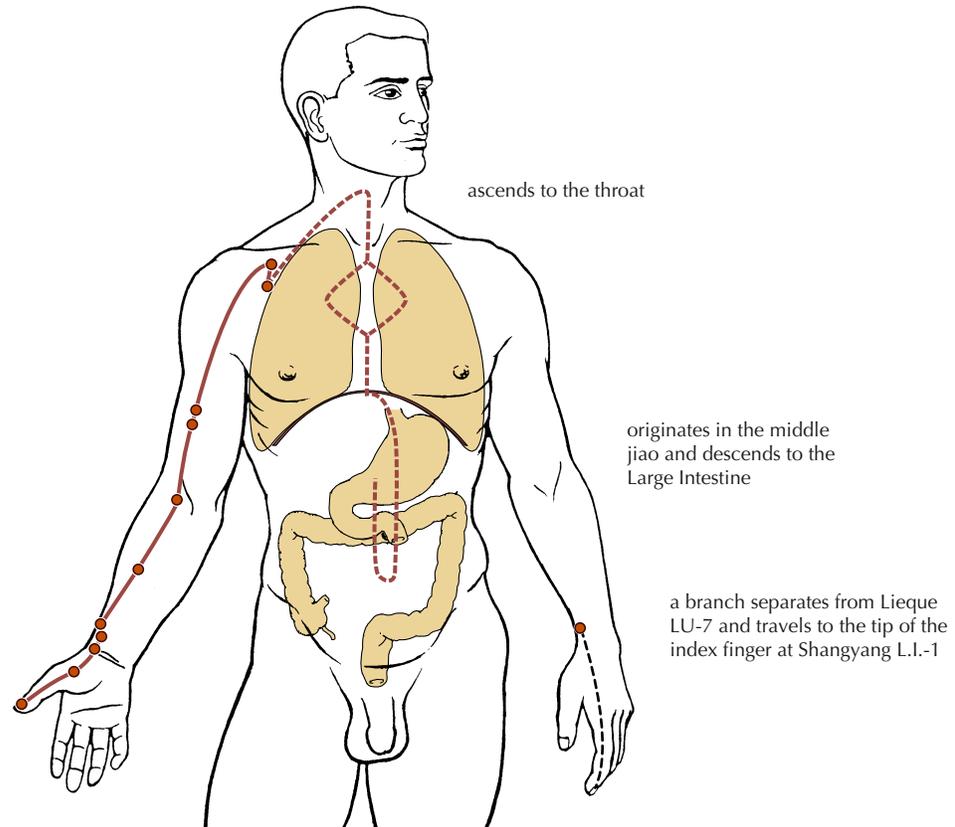

手太陰肺經

THE LUNG CHANNEL
OF HAND TAIYIN

THE LUNG CHANNEL OF HAND TAIYIN



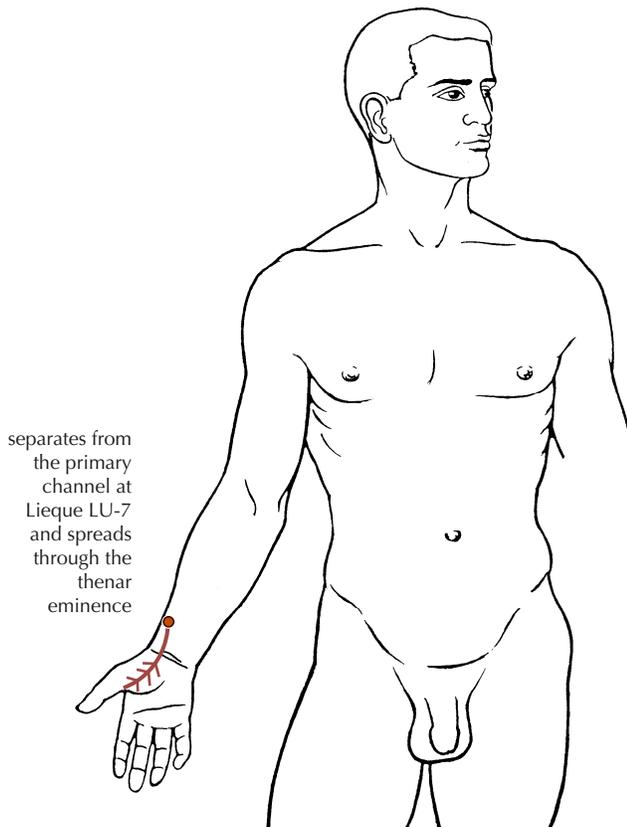
The Lung primary channel

THE LUNG PRIMARY CHANNEL

- originates in the middle jiao, in the region of the Stomach,
- descends to connect with the Large Intestine,
- returns upwards to pass the cardiac orifice of the Stomach and traverses the diaphragm,
- penetrates the Lung,
- ascends to the throat region,
- passes obliquely downwards towards Zhongfu LU-1 where the channel emerges,
- ascends one rib space to Yunmen LU-2 in the centre of the hollow of the delto-pectoral triangle,
- descends along the antero-lateral aspect of the upper arm, lateral to the Heart and Pericardium channels, to the cubital fossa of the elbow at Chize LU-5,
- passes along the antero-lateral aspect of the forearm towards the styloid process of the radius,
- follows the lateral border of the radial artery to the wrist at Taiyuan LU-9,
- traverses the thenar eminence to terminate at the radial side of the thumbnail at Shaoshang LU-11.
- a branch separates from the main channel at Lieque LU-7, at the styloid process, and travels directly to the radial side of the tip of the index finger, where it links with the Large Intestine channel at Shangyang L.I.-1.

The Lung primary channel connects with the following zangfu: Stomach, Large Intestine, Lung.

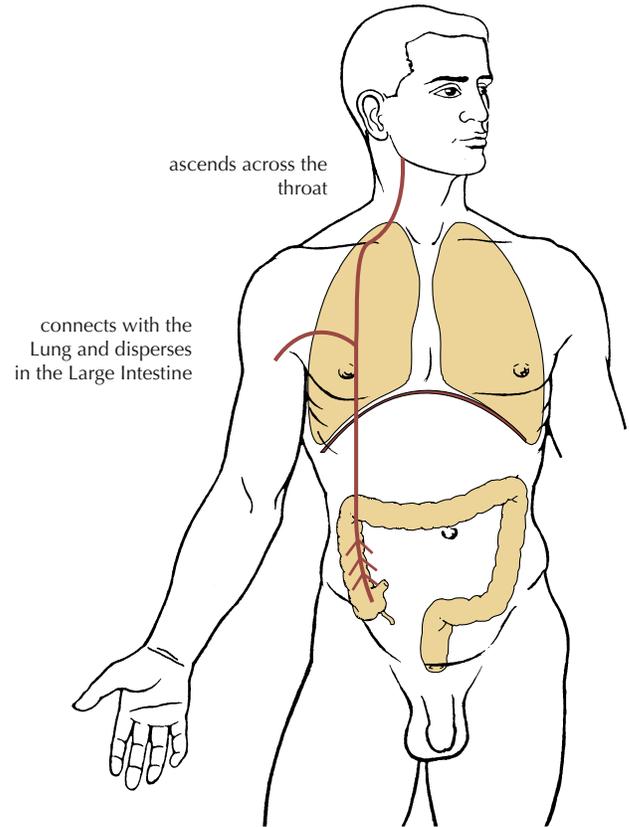
The Lung primary channel meets with other channels at the following points: None.



The Lung Luo-connecting channel

THE LUNG LUO-CONNECTING CHANNEL

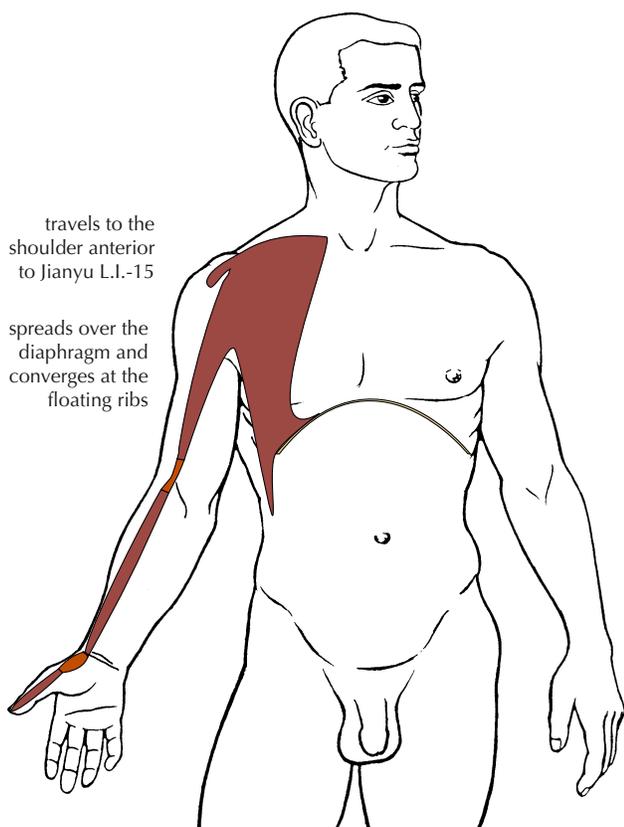
- separates from the Lung primary channel at Lieque LU-7,
- follows the Lung channel into the palm and spreads through the thenar eminence,
- connects with the Lung channel's interiorly-exteriorly related Large Intestine channel.



The Lung divergent channel

THE LUNG DIVERGENT CHANNEL

- diverges from the Lung primary channel at the axilla and passes anterior to the Heart channel in the chest,
- connects with the Lung and disperses in the Large Intestine,
- a branch ascends from the Lung, emerges at the supraclavicular fossa, ascends across the throat and converges with the Large Intestine channel.



The Lung sinew channel

THE LUNG SINEW CHANNEL

- originates on the thumb at Shaoshang LU-11 and ascends to bind at the thenar eminence,
- follows the radial pulse and ascends the flexor aspect of the forearm to bind at the centre of the elbow,
- continues along the antero-lateral aspect of the upper arm to enter the chest below the axilla,
- emerges in the region of Quepen ST-12 and travels laterally to the shoulder, anterior to L.I.-15,
- returns to the supraclavicular (Quepen ST-12) region and descends into the chest,
- spreads over the diaphragm and converges in the region of the floating ribs.

Pathological symptoms of the Lung sinew channel

Cramping and pain along the course of the channel. When severe there is accumulation of lumps below the right lateral costal region, tension along the lateral costal region and spitting of blood.

DISCUSSION

The Lung channel of hand taiyin is interiorly-exteriorly coupled with the Large Intestine channel, and paired with the Spleen channel according to six channel theory. The Lung-Large Intestine relationship is further strengthened by the fact that:

- the interior pathway of the Lung primary channel descends to the Large Intestine fu.
- a branch of the Lung primary channel separates from Lieque LU-7 to connect with Shangyang L.I.-1.
- the Lung luo-connecting channel connects with the Large Intestine channel.
- the Lung divergent channel descends to the Large Intestine fu and connects with the Large Intestine channel in the neck.

In addition, it is helpful to note that:

- the Lung primary channel originates in the middle jiao in the region of the Stomach.
- the Lung primary and divergent channels ascend to the throat.
- the Lung channel does not connect directly with the nose, but does so indirectly via the Large Intestine channel.

The Lung has five principal functions:

- governing qi and controlling respiration.
- controlling disseminating and descending.
- regulating the water passages.
- controlling the skin and body hair.
- opening into the nose.

It is by virtue of these functions, as well as the channel pathways discussed above, that many of the actions and indications of the points of the Lung channel can be explained. These can be summarised as:

- treating rebellion of Lung qi manifesting as respiratory disorders such as coughing, dyspnoea, wheezing, asthma and shortness of breath.
- restoring the Lung's disseminating function when this is impaired by exterior pathogenic factors which lodge in the superficial portion of the body.
- treating nasal disorders, including nosebleed and nasal obstruction.
- treating disorders of the throat such as dryness, soreness, congestion, swelling and pain.
- treating oedema and obstructed urination when this is caused by impairment of the Lung's function of regulating the water passages and controlling disseminating and descending.
- treating vomiting due to rebellion of Stomach qi.