Conclusions: This study suggests that SPS is a non-toxic and non-irritant medicine that does not cause any eye irritation in rabbits, but it has no antibacterial effects on bacterial species that are well known to cause keratitis. These results suggest that more research is required on extracts from herbal medicines for treating keratitis.
Key Words: antibacterial effect; eye drops; Eye irritation; Samjeong pharmacopuncture solution (SPS)

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Modulatory Effects of Chrysanyhemi Flos Pharmacopuncture on Nitric-oxide (NO) Production in Murin Macrophagy Cells

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Abstract

Objectives: Much evidence exists that herbs have effective immunomodulatory activities. Chrysanthemi Flos (CF) is effective in clearing heat, reducing inflammation, reducing blood pressure and treating headache and is used as a pharmaceutical raw material for immune enhancers. The purpose of this study was to investigate the modulatory effect of Chrysanthemi Flos pharmacopuncture on nitric-oxide (NO) production in activating macrophages.
Methods: After a murine macrophage cell line, RAW 264.7, had been cultured in the presence of lipopolysaccharide (LPS), the immune-modulating abilities of CF were evaluated by using NO, interleukin-6 (IL-6) and tumor necrosis factor-alpha (TNF-α) production, well as the phagocytic activity of macrophages.
Results: CF enhanced the activities of macrophages by increasing the phagocytic activity and decreasing NO production. Especially, both LPS and CF, 200 /ml, treatment could significantly reduce the NO production, but did not change the production of IL-6 on TNF-α.
Conclusion: The results of this study indicate that CF may have immunomodulatory value, especially for adverse diseases, due to increased NO production. It may also have potential for use as an immunoenhancing pharmacopuncture.
Key Words: CF; herb; immunomodulatory; macrophage; nitric-oxide (NO); RAW 264.7

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Influence of Prescribed Herbal and Western Medicine on Patients with Abnormal Liver Function Tests: A Retrospective Quasi-experimental Study

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Abstract

Objectives: The aim of this study was to investigate the safety and the efficacy of using Korean herbal, western and combination medicine in patients with abnormal liver function tests.
Methods: We investigated nerve disease patients with abnormal liver function tests who were treated with Korean herbal, western and combination medicine at Dong-Eui University Oriental Hospital from January 2011 to August 2011. We compared aspartic aminotransferase (AST), alanine aminotransferase (ALT), alkaline phosphatase (ALP) and total bilirubin (T-bil) levels before and after taking medicine and excluded patients who had liver-related diseases when admitted.
Results: AST and ALT were decreased significantly in patients who had taken herbal and western medicine. AST, ALT and ALP were decreased significantly in patients who had taken combination medicine. Compare to herbal medicine, AST, ALT and ALP were decreased significantly in patients who had taken western medicine, and ALT and ALP were decreased significantly in patients who had taken combination medicine. There were no significant differences between western and combination medicine.
Conclusions: This study suggests that prescribed Korean herbal medicine, at least, does not injure liver function; moreover, it was shown to be effective in patients with abnormal liver function tests.
Key Words: drug induced; herbal medicine; liver function tests; liver injury

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