21. Others

Reference

Terashima Y, Hamazaki K, Itomura M, et al. Effect of a traditional Chinese medicine, maobushisaishinto, on the antibody titer after influenza vaccination: A randomized, placebo-controlled, double-blind trial. *Journal of Traditional Medicines* 2007; 24: 59-66. Ichushi Web ID: 2007258196 J-STAGE

1. Objectives

To evaluate the effect of maobushisaishinto (麻黄附子細辛湯) on antibody titer after influenza vaccination.

2. Design

Double-blind randomized controlled trial (DB-RCT).

3. Setting

Two university hospitals, Japan.

4. Participants

One hundred and six healthy subjects aged 20–71 years.

5. Intervention

Maobushisaishinto (麻黄附子細辛湯) and placebo capsules were donated by Kotaro Pharmaceutical Co., Ltd. The following drugs were orally administered from day –14 to –1 of influenza vaccination (A/H1N1, A/H3N2, B). All subjects were vaccinated in late November, before the influenza season.
Arm 1: Kotaro Maobushisaishinto (麻黄附子細辛湯) Extract Capsules (6 capsules/day), n=23.
Arm 2: placebo capsules, n=24.

6. Main outcome measures

Serum hemagglutination inhibition titers were measured at weeks 0, 1, 2, 4, and 12.

7. Main results

After excluding 57 subjects with antibody titers of more than 1:80 and 2 subjects diagnosed with influenza during the study period (one in each arm), 23 and 24 subjects were enrolled for analysis. There was no significant between-arm difference in antibody titer against A/New Caledonia/20/99(H1N1), A/New York/55/2004(H3N2), and B/Shanghai/361/2002. However, anti-H3N2 virus antibody titer was significantly higher in arm 2 than in arm 1 at week 4. Subgroup comparisons (smokers *vs* non-smokers and older subjects [≥40 years old] *vs* younger subjects [<40 years old]) found no significant between-arm differences in antibody titers.

8. Conclusions

No adjuvant effect of maobushisaishinto on antibody titer after influenza vaccination is observed.

9. From Kampo medicine perspective

None.

10. Safety assessment in the article

Not documented.

11. Abstractor's comments

Previous studies have shown the adjuvant effect of maobushisaishinto on influenza vaccination in animals and in elderly subjects. This paper aims to verify this effect.

12. Abstractor and date

Fujisawa M, 15 January 2009, 1 June 2010.