

2. Cancer (Condition after Cancer Surgery and Unspecified Adverse Drug Reactions of Anti-cancer Drugs)**Reference**

Yoshikawa K. Evaluation of anti-inflammatory efficacy of daikenchuto*. *Dai 5 Kai Nippon Shokakan Gakkai Sokai Gakujutsu Syukai (5th Annual Meeting of the Japanese Gastroenterological Association) (Workshop 5) 2009: 9-10.*

1. Objectives

To evaluate the anti-inflammatory efficacy of daikenchuto (大建中湯) in postoperative patients with liver carcinoma.

2. Design

Randomized controlled trial (RCT).

3. Setting

One hospital (Tokushima University Hospital), Japan.

4. Participants

Twenty patients who underwent hepatectomy.

5. Intervention

Arm 1: TSUMURA Daikenchuto (大建中湯) Extract Granules (dose and duration of treatment, unknown; n=11).

Arm 2: not treated with daikenchuto (大建中湯) (n=9).

6. Main outcome measures

In addition to the number of days to postoperative flatulence, white blood cell count, lymphocyte count, C-reactive protein (CRP) level, β -D glucan level, and *Candida* antigen level were determined before and 1, 3, 5, and 7 days after the operation.

7. Main results

There were between-arm differences in age, sex, stage, duration of the operation, blood loss, etc., but no mention of their significance. The number of days to postoperative flatulence, white blood cell count, lymphocyte count, or *Candida* antigen level was not described. The CRP and β -D glucan levels were significantly lower in arm 1 than in arm 2 on postoperative day 3 ($P<0.05$).

8. Conclusions

Daikenchuto may be useful in inhibiting early postoperative inflammation after surgery for liver carcinoma.

9. From Kampo medicine perspective

None.

10. Safety assessment in the article

None.

11. Abstractor's comments

Inhibition of postoperative inflammation after surgery for liver carcinoma to reduce medical costs and hospital stay is an interesting issue. β -D glucan, a fungal cell wall component, is measured to determine fungal infection. In this study, no mechanism has been offered to explain the transient increase in β -D glucan after surgery for liver carcinoma in arm 2 (the control group). Transient bacterial translocation is unlikely after only a few days of postoperative fasting. To explain the early postoperative anti-inflammatory effect of daikenchuto, the author referred to daikenchuto-mediated inhibition of inflammatory cytokine production, intestinal mucosal villous damage, and bacterial translocation demonstrated in a fasted rat model. Further analysis of the effects of daikenchuto after abdominal surgery on the general condition (appetite, sleep, bowel movement, hot flushes, etc.) of postoperative patients will be needed before its use in treatment is deemed appropriate.

12. Abstractor and date

Hoshino E, 1 June 2010, 31 December 2013.