

21. Others

Reference

Takayama S, Okitsu R, Iwasaki K, et al. The effect of warming the abdomen with herbal medicine or thermal therapy on superior mesenteric artery blood flow. *Kampo to Saishin Chiryō (Kampo & the Newest Therapy)* 2011; 20: 253-8 (in Japanese with English abstract). Ichushi Web ID: 2011349495

1. Objectives

To evaluate the effect of daikenchuto (大建中湯) and abdominal thermotherapy on blood flow through the superior mesenteric artery.

2. Design

Randomized controlled trial (RCT).

3. Setting

No mention of participating centers (the authors belong to the Advanced Course in Kampo Medicine, Department of Traditional Asian Medicine, Tohoku University), Japan.

4. Participants

Forty-three healthy volunteers with no cardiovascular or gastrointestinal disease.

5. Intervention

Arm 1: TSUMURA Daikenchuto (大建中湯) Extract Granules (5 g) + distilled water (50 mL) group (n=14).

Arm 2: Abdominal warming group (n=15).

Arm 3: Distilled water (50 mL) group (n=14).

6. Main outcome measures

Comparison of changes in superior mesenteric artery blood flow monitored using a heat conduction control device at commencement of abdominal warming for 20 minutes, at oral administration of daikenchuto, and every 10 minutes (up to 50 minutes) after oral administration of distilled water.

7. Main results

Superior mesenteric artery blood flow was significantly increased in arms 1 and 2 compared to arm 3 ($P < 0.01$ in both) but was not significantly different between arms 1 and 2.

8. Conclusions

The traditional medical therapy of abdominal warming increases superior mesenteric artery blood flow to the same extent as oral daikenchuto.

9. From Kampo medicine perspective

None.

10. Safety assessment in the article

Not mentioned.

11. Abstractor's comments

It is significant that this study demonstrated with objective indicators that warm tonification (the Kampo medical concept of warming the body and tonifying qi) and warming (the therapeutic method used in acupuncture and moxibustion) both have the characteristic of increasing superior mesenteric artery blood flow. Further study is warranted to determine the significance of this increase.

12. Abstractor and date

Nakata H, 31 December 2013.