

**15. Ante/Post-partum Diseases****Reference**

Takushima Y, Inoguchi H, Study on usefulness of kyukichoketsuin for control of puerperium – comparison with methylergometrine maleate (1st report) \*. *Progress in Medicine* 2001; 21: 1535-42 (in Japanese). Ichushi Web ID: 2002032923 [MOL](#), [MOL-Lib](#)

**1. Objectives**

To evaluate the usefulness of kyukichoketsuin (キユウ婦調血飲) for control of puerperium.

**2. Design**

Quasi-randomized controlled trial (quasi-RCT).

**3. Setting**

None (authors belong to the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Yamato Municipal General Hospital), Japan.

**4. Participants**

Forty-seven puerperants, who had a vaginal delivery after the 36<sup>th</sup> week of pregnancy and no abnormal bleeding of more than 1,000 mL, were randomized to receive either kyukichoketsuin or methylergometrine maleate.

**5. Intervention**

Arm 1: oral administration of 1 sachet (2.0 g) of TAIKODO Kyukichoketsuin (キユウ婦調血飲) Extract Granules (EK-230) t.i.d. (n=23)

Arm 2: oral administration of 1 tablet (0.125 mg) of Metenarin t.i.d. (n=24)

**6. Main outcome measures**

Uterine volume, length of uterine fundus, lower abdominal pain score, and amount of lactation during 1 to 5 days postpartum. Improvement in outcome measures compared between groups.

Adverse drug reactions: described symptoms.

**7. Main results**

Statistical analysis used *t*-test, chi-square test, and Wilcoxon's signed-rank test. There was no significant between-group difference in uterine volume or length of uterine fundus. Lower abdominal pain was significantly less frequent in patients receiving kyukichoketsuin on postpartum days 1 ( $P<0.0028$ ), 2 ( $P<0.0005$ ), and 4 ( $P<0.0232$ ). Patients receiving kyukichoketsuin secreted significantly more milk on postpartum days 3 ( $P<0.0345$ ), 4 ( $P<0.0368$ ), and 5 ( $P<0.0177$ ). Regarding safety, pain associated with uterine contraction was so severe in patients receiving Metenarin as to preclude continued treatment in 2 patients, whereas no adverse drug reactions occurred in the kyukichoketsuin group.

**8. Conclusions**

Kyukichoketsuin could be an alternative medication to methylergometrine maleate.

**9. From Kampo medicine perspective**

None.

**10. Safety assessment in the article**

Treatment was discontinued in two patients receiving methylergometrine maleate because of severe lower abdominal pain (associated with uterine contraction), whereas no adverse drug reactions occurred in the kyukichoketsuin group.

**11. Abstractor's comments**

The routine use of postpartum methylergometrine maleate has been criticized and is now limited only to cases such as uterine subinvolution. Therefore, this paper highlighting the effect of kyukichoketsuin, which is associated with few adverse drug reactions, is meaningful. However, since this paper does not address the effect of suckling stimulation and breast massage on uterine contraction and lactation promotion, further investigation of the effectiveness of oral kyukichoketsuin is expected.

**12. Abstractor and date**

Nakata H, 1 April 2008, 1 June 2010, 31 December 2013.