

5th International Conference and Expo on

Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine

July 27-28, 2017 Chicago, USA

A case report of aspiration pneumonia treated with Yukgunja-tang**Sung-Woon Park and Jae-Hwan Lew**
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Statement of the Problem: Aspiration pneumonia is a pneumonia that occurs when food or vomitus enters the trachea and is common to patients with dysphagia. The aspiration is easy to enter the right side, because of the structural features of the bronchi. When the gastric juice is mixed with the aspiration, the lung damage due to the chemical stimulation of the gastric juice itself is stronger than the simple infectious disease, so it is extremely difficult and the prognosis is poisoning.

Objectives: This clinical study is aimed to report the effects of Yukgunja-tang on aspiration pneumonia.

Methodology & Theoretical Orientation: This case is about a patient (M/77) who is in a coma. This patient suffered from continuous regurgitation. He showed symptoms of aspiration pneumonia with accompanying gastroesophageal reflux. We gave this patient Yukgunja-tang for 28 days and observed the changes of symptoms. Yukgunja-tang, a medicine prescribed by Chen Ziming of the Song dynasty, is a combination of Sagunjatang and Yijintang. Sagunjatang is a medicine for enhancing qi and Yijintang is a medicine for treating phlegm-fluid retention syndrome. In modern times, Sanggunjatang is used to treat gastrointestinal diseases such as chronic gastritis, gastric emptying.

Results: During the period we gave this patient Yukgunja-tang, he defecated himself without glycerin enema, regurgitation occurred less frequently and symptoms of aspiration pneumonia got improved.

Conclusions: Yukgunja-tang helped his bowel movement move more quickly and smoothly through his colon. As a result, Yukgunja-tang prevented regurgitation and aspiration pneumonia.

Biography

Sungwoon Park works as a Resident Physician at East-West Cooperation Center, Kyung Hee University Hospital, South Korea. She is so passionate for Integrated Medicine that she also studies at East-West Medicine Department, Graduate School of East-West Medical Science, Kyung-Hee University. She devoted herself to her patients in ICU for about two years, and this training gave her special experience. Among her recent publications, case report of aspiration pneumonia treated with Yukgunja-tang has especially received attention of many doctors in the Society of Internal Korean Medicine. The report was about a patient in ICU suffered from continuous regurgitation. Yukgunja-tang helped his bowel movement move more quickly and prevented regurgitation and aspiration pneumonia. She is interested in getting more treatment cases using oriental medicine.

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