

Assessment of the efficacy of traditional Chinese medicine treatment in Tibetan taeniasis carriers, China

Tiaoying Li, Xingwang Chen, Dongchuan Qiu, Munehiro Okamoto, Ning Xiao, Patrick Giruadoux, Philip S. Craig and Akira Ito

Methods

- > Study period: from 2007 to 2009
- Study subjects: volunteers with a history of expulsion of proglottids within previous two years in Tibetan communities of Yajiang and Danba Counties of northwest Sichuan Province
- Treatment: traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) (pumpkin seeds combining areca nuts) plus purge (magnesium sulfate)

Geographic location of treated patients in northwest Sichuan



Dosage (adult)





areca soup (500 ml)

Results (1)

> Of 193 persons treated, 130 (67.4%) were observed to expel whole worms or proglottids 5 hr after treatment

Results (2)

 Table 2. Species confirmation of tapeworms expelled from 130 persons by multiplex PCR

Species	No. cases	Total		
Species	whole worms	proglottids		
T. solium	7	3	10	
T. saginata	97	18	115	
T. asiatica	3	1	4	
Dual infection (<i>T.solium/ T.saginata)</i>	1	0	1	
Total	108	22	130	

Results (4)

Table 3. Gradier	it infection of	taeniasis in 108	cases with ex	pulsion of whole worms
------------------	-----------------	------------------	---------------	------------------------

Species	No. cases	No. worms
T. solium	7 ^a	32
T. saginata	97 ^b	153
T. asiatica	3	3
Dual infection (<i>T.solium/ T.saginata)</i>	1 ^c	3
Total	108	191

^a two of 7 cases infected with multiple worms of *T. solium* (7 and 20, respectively)

^b Seventeen of 97 cases infected with multiple worms of *T. saginata* (2~6)

^c three worms with 1 as *T. solium* and 2 as *T. saginata*





A 43-year old Tibetan lady



A 13-year old Tibetan girl







Adverse effects

> Intestinal upset including nausea, vomiting in a minor cases

> Dizziness

>Well tolerated by the majority

> No risk to reduce epileptic seizure in carriers with NCC

