Oncotherapy combination with Traditional Chinese Medicine: Proposal on Chinese herbal medicine approach

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Objective

Hyperthermia is an ancient oncology method. It is the very first treatment modality for this type of disease, having 5000 year history [1], based on the Sun as the overall curative force in ancient Egypt. Later Hippocratic paradigm described it using physiological process (acclimation) to eliminate the malignant tissue. This natural approach is in well consistent with the far away developed medical concept in the same ancient time: The Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) [2]. This medical philosophy was based on natural harmony inside and outside the human organism. In progress of historical time TCM has been more sophisticated and developed, but the hyperthermia could not keep abreast with the development of the Western medical methods. However, by the middle of 20th century a new paradigm of hyperthermia was developed, the oncothermia method (OTM) [3]. OTM applies the ancient hyperthermia on different way, replacing the static thermal driving force to dynamical equilibrium concept, promoting the natural processes in curative direction [4]. It is a matter-of-course to make synergy between the two approaches, unifying the best line of TCM and OTM. Our present article underlines the main connections with the herbal medicine of TCM (Chinese Herbal Medicine CHM) and oncotherapy.

Method

TCM history sketches

TCM Oncology traces its roots as far back as the 16th – 11th centuries BCE, as recorded on bones & tortoise shells. Oncology was first recorded in text form in Zhou Li compiled between 221 & 287 BCE. Tumors were first discussed in the earliest recorded book on Chinese Medicine, Huang Di Nei Jing. The Jin, Sung & Tang Dynasties, 960 – 1191 CE. Theories of tumors developed very rapidly during this period especially between 960 & 1368 CE. Herbal prescriptions were more widely used in the treatment of Cancer. Pattern identification & treatment as well as prognosis became more well developed. In the 19th century, the Ming Dynasty (1368-1644 CE) compiled the “Grand Compendium of Materia Medica” by Li Shizhen into 52 volumes, which became one of the world’s greatest medical books. The Ming Dynasty also introduced the world to the first scientific study of disease, epidemiology, and diagnosis.

Cancer and TCM0

Combining TCM & Western Medicine in Surgery, Chemotherapy & Radiotherapy

The role of TCM in Cancer Treatment Strategies

- Supporting Vital Qi & Cultivating the Root
- Dispel Pathogenic Factor

TCM in reducing the side-effects & increasing the effectiveness of Radiotherapy & Chemotherapy:

- Enhance the overall results of the treatment & prevent local complications & recurrence.
- Reduce toxic reactions & adverse side effects.
- Improve hemopoiesis to protect renal & hepatic functioning.
- Reduce gastrointestinal side effects.
- Alleviate radiation pneumonitis, proctitis & cystitis.
- Reduce vomiting.
- Increase immune function & raise long-term survival rates.

Before Surgery

- Supplement Qi & nourish Blood.
- Fortify the Spleen & harmonize the Stomach.
- Enrich & supplement the Liver & Kidneys.
- Relieve toxin & transform Phlegm.
- Clear heat & resolve toxicity.

Proposal

There are various CHM substances acting palliative or curative on tumorous diseases. For example, pain reducing the “Sianosis pallinate”. For cure, various special combination techniques with various complex mixture of herbs could be applied [5]. Synergetic effects of the OTM and CHM is expected due to the well targeted tumor tissue by OTM in combination with the effective CHM like Tongyong-sumplant. Also the effect of ginseng & its NS2 cancer preventive action with oncotherapy is investigated & generally the apoptotic possibilities for various TCM herbs. The effect of synergy will be investigated by in vivo, in vitro and in vivo experiments, using special OTM device for laboratory use (EYH110, Oncotherapy). The latest histomorphological and immunohistochemical methods will be used for evaluation:, mainly concentrating on p53 tumor-suppressor protein and the apoptic pathways, including beta-catenin. Protocols of clinical studies will be worked out on the basis of the experimental results.

Potential of the synergy of high-tech OTM and TCM is extremely huge. We are ready to work out the European alternative of the “East meets West in cancer care collaboration” [6] on the basis of the widely applied TCM evidences [7].

References


