



Effectiveness of Huangqi Guizhi Wuwu Decoction on Adult Diabetic Neuropathic: A Systematic Review

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Chinese herbal medicine formula Huangqi Guizhi Wuwu decoction (HGWD) is commonly used for arthritis, spondylosis, stroke, etc. Previous research showed that HGWD also suggested diabetic neuropathic (DNP) treatment

Objective: To evaluate the effectiveness and safety of HGWD in treating adult DNP.

Methods: Six databases, including Pubmed, Cochrane Library, EMBASE, China Network Knowledge Infrastructure (CNKI), Wanfang, and Chinese Scientific Journals were searched from their inception to May 2022. Only randomized control trials (RCTs) that evaluated HGWD for adult DNP were included in this review. Two investigators independently evaluated and extracted the data.

Results: A total of 181 RCTs and 15,657 participants were included in the review. In these studies, oral HGWD single used or HGWD combined with oral drugs were compared with oral methylcobalamin, epalrestat, etc., single used. The outcomes of effective rate and adverse events were analyzed. The effective rate of HGWD is higher than other pharmacotherapies (RR:4.50, 95% CI [4.09,4.96], $P < 0.05$). The results showed the intervention group had fewer adverse events (RR: 0.54, 95% CI [0.34, 0.86], $P < 0.05$), which included nausea, abnormal liver and kidney function, gastrointestinal overreaction, etc.

Conclusion: The meta-analysis results showed that HGWD is effective and brings fewer adverse events to adult DNP. It is recommended in treating DNP, but further research about the mechanism is necessary for deeper understanding.

Keywords: *Huangqi Guizhi Wuwu decoction; Chinese herbal medicine formula; diabetic neuropathic; systematic review, Meta-analysis*