

CLINICAL RESEARCH

Effectiveness and Safety of JinYe Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) for Acute Upper Respiratory Tract Infection: A Systematic Review and Meta-analysis

DAI Wen-kang (戴文康)^{1,2}, LV Jian (吕健)¹, SUN Meng-hua (孙梦华)¹,
XIE Yan-ming (谢雁鸣)¹, JIANG Jun-jie (姜俊杰)^{1*}

1. Institute of Basic Research in Clinical Medicine, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing 100700, China

2. Wang Jing Hospital, China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, Beijing 100102, China

Correspondence to: XIE Yan-ming, leading Researcher, Doctoral Supervisor, Tel: 13911112416, E-mail: ktzu2018@163.com; JIANG Jun-jie, Tel: 010-64093294, E-mail: 18910206360@163.com;

Supported by: National Key Research & Development plan (2018YFC1707400, 2018YFC1707410)

ABSTRACT To evaluate the effectiveness and safety of JinYe Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) for acute upper respiratory tract infection(AURTI). Database such as CNKI, Wan-fang, VIP, SinoMed, Web of science, Clinical Trials gov, Medline、EMBASE, CENTRAL, Cochrane Library were retrieved to collect randomized controlled trials (RCTs) on JinYe Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in treating AURTI from the establishment of the database to March 2019. A total of 2 reviewers independently screened the literature according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria, and extracted material and the quality evaluation of the included studies. Quality evaluation adopted Cochrane Handbook 5.1 evaluation standards and tools. RevMan5.3 was used to perform Meta-analysis for the adopted study. Finally a total of 4 RCTs involving 636 patients were included. Meta-analysis results showed that: compared with conventional Western medicine alone, JinYe Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) combined with Western medicine in the treatment of acute upper respiratory tract infection can improve the total effective rate of clinical efficacy [RR=0.13, 95% CI (0.06, 0.29), $P<0.00001$], shorten the time of antipyretic time for acute upper respiratory tract infection [MD=-1.22, 95% CI (-1.43, -1.00), $P<0.00001$], shorten the time of pharyngeal pain [MD=-1.97, 95% CI (-2.97, -0.96), $P<0.0001$] and shorten the cough disappear time [MD=-1.97, 95% CI (-2.97, -0.96), $P<0.0001$]. There were 2 papers reporting adverse reactions during the study period, and one of them specifically reported diarrhea, nausea, vomiting and stomachache in the experimental group. In the control group: diarrhea, nausea and adverse reactions disappeared after drug withdrawal; the incidence of adverse reactions was 3.92% in the control group and 5.88% in the observation group. There was no significant difference between the 2 groups ($P>0.05$). Based on existing data and methods, the systematic evaluation showed that, compared with Western medicine alone, JinYe Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) combined with Western medicine alone could improve the total effective rate of clinical efficacy, reduce the time of fever, sore throat, and the disappearance of cough with less adverse reactions. However, due to the low quality of the included study, large samples, multicenter, randomized, double-blind trials and trials are still needed to randomized controlled trials with reference to the CONSORT standard and the STRICTA statement.

KEYWORDS JinYe Baidu Granules(金叶败毒颗粒); Acute upper respiratory tract infection; Randomized controlled trial; System evaluation; Meta-analysis

Acute upper respiratory tract infection^[1] is referred to as "upper sensation", which is caused by various viruses and bacteria. It is clinically manifested by symptoms such as fever, cough, and sore throat etc. It can occur throughout the year,

but it occurs frequently in winter and spring. It often occurs in the elderly, child patients and people with chronic respiratory diseases. If not treated in time, tracheitis, pneumonia, and acute myocarditis etc. can occur, which seriously affect the patient's health.

For the treatment of acute upper respiratory tract infections, Western medicine mainly provides symptomatic supportive treatments such as anti-virus and anti-infection etc. However, many studies have reported^[3-6] that drug resistance has increased significantly due to the extensive abuse of antibiotics. The course of treatment is longer. The symptom relief of the patients is slower, and the effects are not good^[6]. The disease belongs to the category of wind-warmth lung heat disease (heat in lung-wei pattern of traditional Chinese medicine. The principle of treatment is to clear heat through the surface.

The treatment results of previous clinical studies have shown that: JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) has a clear clinical effects in treating wind-warmth lung heat disease (heat in lung-wei pattern), having a good advantage especially in terms of improving pharyngeal symptoms, with comparatively better safety^[10].

JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) is composed of *Lonicera japonica* Thumb (Jin Yin Hua), *Folium Isatidis* (Da Qing Ye), *Herba Taraxaci* (Pu Gong Ying) and *Herba Houttuyniae* (Yu Xing Cao), and has the function of cooling and dispersing, clearing heat and removing toxicity^[16]. Modern pharmacological studies have shown that: *Herba Taraxaci* (Pu Gong Ying) and *Herba Houttuyniae* both (Yu Xing Cao) have effects such as antibacterial, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, and immune-enhancing etc^[17]; *Lonicera japonica* Thumb (Jin Yin Hua) has effects such as antiviral, antipyretic, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial, and pharmacological that inhibit endotoxin. *Folium Isatidis* (Da Qing Ye) can be antibacterial and antiviral to improve immunity^[22]. Although JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) has been used in clinical practice, no related research in the field of evidence-based evaluation has been reported, and there is a lack of systematic evaluation of related efficacy. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to systematically evaluate the clinical research results of JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) for acute upper respiratory tract infection, with a view to providing more reliable evidence for the clinical application of JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Screening Criteria

Study type

Randomized controlled trial, without restrictions on publication language.

Research subjects

In accordance with the diagnostic criteria for acute upper respiratory infections/wind-warmth lung heat disease (heat in lung-wei pattern)^[20], regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, and no other allergic diseases.

Intervention test group

Experimental group: JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) or control group intervention + JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒). The control group: conventional Western medicine (antiviral, anti-infective drugs such as amoxicillin Capsules, clarithromycin, cephalosporin antibiotics, ribavirin), and the control group did not contain JinYE Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒).

Outcome indicators

Main outcome indicators: total effectiveness; secondary outcome indicators: antipyretic time, sore throat time, cough disappearance time, and adverse reactions. In the case of consistent efficacy standards, the total effective index is used, the total effective rate = (the number of significant cases + the number of effective cases) / the total number of cases × 100%.

Exclusion criteria

① Research reports that did not provide the basic information of the subjects or on relevant information on the intervention measures; ② Repetitive publications or data duplication studies (the former retained 1 paper, and the latter retained 1 paper of the most complete data); ③ The research data was seriously wrong.

Retrieval Strategy

Chinese databases searched included: SinoMed, CNKI, VIP, Wanfang Database; Web of science, Clinical Trials, Medline searching through PubMed, clinical trial registry of EMBASE, CENTRAL, and Cochrane Library searched by Ovid. The retrieval time range of each database was from

the earliest index date of the database to March 2019. Chinese search terms were "金叶败毒颗粒", "急性上呼吸道感染", "风湿肺热病 (热在肺卫证)", and English search terms were "acute upper respiratory tract infection", "Jinye Baidu". Based on the characteristics of the database, a comprehensive search of the subject words combined with free words is performed. In addition, gray papers such as dissertation and conference papers were searched in the Chinese database mentioned above, by using Google, Baidu, other search engines and manual search as supplements, and the references included in the literature were traced.

Evaluation Method

Literature screening

In this study, a total of 2 researchers independently screened the literature based on the inclusion and exclusion criteria. For those literature inconsistent with the screening results and difficult to determine whether to be included, a third party was requested to evaluate them. The screening process was to use Note Express software to check the literature, to remove duplicate literature, to read the titles and abstracts of the literature, and to exclude the documents that obviously did not meet the inclusion criteria. The documents that may meet the criteria were downloaded and the full text was read to rescreen, to determine whether to include.

Data extraction

Data extraction was performed for the included literature, and the specific contents mainly included: first author, study year, sample size, number of men and women, patient age, intervention measures, course of treatment, outcome indicators, and efficacy standards. When the study had 1 or more common intervention groups, the method recommended by the Cochrane manual was selected, by grouping and combining. And the multi-arm trial was converted to a two-arm trial^[23].

Methodological quality evaluation of included literature

A total of 2 researchers independently evaluated the methodological quality of the literature back-to-back, and in case of disagreement, discussed or decided by a third researcher. The

quality of the included literature was assessed according to the risk bias assessment tool in the evaluation manual developed by the Cochrane Working Group, including ① random sequence generation; ② allocation concealment; ③ blind method for patients and testers; ④ blind method for outcome assessors; ⑤ incomplete result data; ⑥ selective reporting; ⑦ other biases (such as potential biases or statements of fraud related to research and special research design etc.). Finally, the judgments of "low risk", "high risk", and "unclear risk" were made on the included research literature. After the paper was completed, a self-assessment was performed according to the PRISMA statement and the AMSTER standard.

Statistical analysis

This study used RevMan 5.3 software provided by Cochrane Collaboration Network for Meta-analysis. Relative data (RR) was used as the statistical analysis of efficacy, and the mean difference (MD) used by measurement data was as the efficacy analysis statistics. Both were expressed by the effect size and its 95% confidence interval (CI). I^2 test was used to evaluate the statistical heterogeneity: if $I^2 \leq 50\%$, it indicated that the statistical homogeneity was good, and a fixed effect model was used for Meta-analysis; if $I^2 > 50\%$, it indicated that the statistical heterogeneity was greater. Random effect model was used for Meta-analysis. If the results of the heterogeneity were too large and the study was not suitable for Meta-analysis, a descriptive analysis was performed. If papers included in an outcome indicator ≥ 10 , a funnel chart was used to analyze whether there was publication bias.

RESULTS

Literature Search Results

A total of 33 related literature were initially collected. There were 3 English literature and 30 Chinese literature. Bibliographic titles were imported into the Note Express software. A total of 22 duplicate papers duplicated were excluded, and 11 papers were obtained after excluding. A total of 2 papers in the Cochrane Library were translated from Chinese and were recorded as as duplicate literature. After reading the title and abstract, a total of 8 papers were included and initially screened, and the remaining 8 papers

were downloaded and read for the full text. Finally, 4 papers were included. The literature screening process and results were shown in Figure 1.

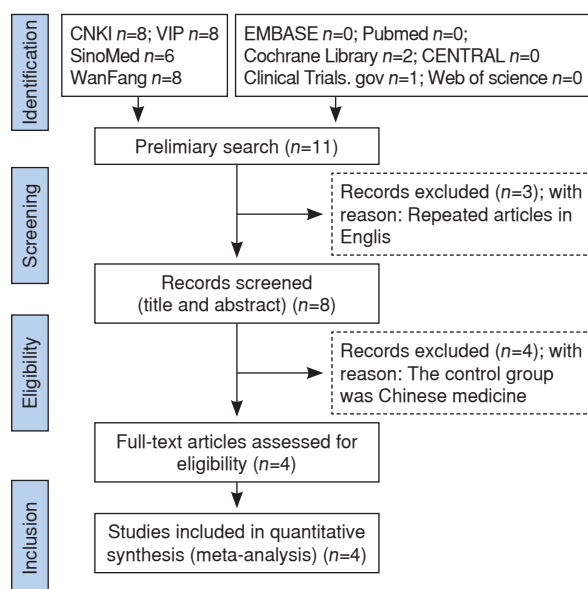


Figure 1. Literature Screening Process

Basic Characteristics of Included Studies

The 4 RCTs studied were all located in China, with a total of 636 patients. The interventions included in the literature were: Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) + conventional Western medicine vs conventional Western medicine. We extracted the

basic data of each included study, including: author, year of publication, number of included cases (experimental group, control group, total number of cases), specific interventions, course of treatment, outcome indicators and efficacy criteria (cured: clinical symptoms, body temperature; laboratory tests returned to normal; markedly effective: clinical symptoms markedly improved; body temperature returned to normal; and laboratory tests were all close to normal; invalid: clinical symptoms improved, body temperature lowered, and laboratory tests have not improved compared with the previous ones, and even worsened).^[26] The study mentioned that the experimental group and the control group were similar in baseline and comparable, with treatment courses ranging from 1 to 7 days. The basic characteristics of the included studies were shown in Table 1.

Risk Bias Evaluation of Included Studies

Random grouping was mentioned in 4 studies, and 1 study^[12] reported specific random methods. All studies did not mention the allocation concealment of the random allocation scheme. Nor mentioned the report on the implementation of blind methods. Other bias sources were unclear. The results were shown in Figure 2 and Table 2.

Table 1. Basic Information Included in the Study

Study	Sample size			M/W		Age		Intervention Test group	Control group	Course treatment/d	Outcome ①—④	Efficacy standard
	T	C	Total	T	C	T	C					
YU Shan-qin 2019 ^[8]	180	180	360	T:102/78 C:107/73	T:18-59Y C:18-57Y			Conventional Western medicine (C)+Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) 1 pack/time, tid	Clarithromycin sustained release tablets 0.5 g/time, tid+Compound Paracetamol Dispersible Tablets; 1 capsule/time, bid	3—7	①②③	Cured; Markedly effective; Valid; Invalid
GAO wei-hua 2010 ^[13]	42	40	82	T:28/14 C:28/12	T: 32 ± 13Y C: 32 ± 12Y			Clarithromycin sustained release tablets 0.5gqd+Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶 败毒颗粒) 10gtid	Clarithromycin sustained release tablets 0.5 g qd+ Ribavirin Granules 0.15 g tid	3—7	①②	Cured; Markedly effective; Valid; Invalid
LIU Dan 2018 ^[9]	46	46	92	T:26/20 C:24/22	T: 18-35Y C: 18-36y			Cefuroxime Sodium 1.5 g+100 ml Saline, + Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) 10 g/timetid	Cefuroxime Sodium 1.5 g+100 ml Saline	1—7	①②④	Cured; Markedly effective; Valid; Invalid
MAO Hong-bo 2015 ^[12]	51	51	102	T:31/20 C:30/21	T: 17-63Y C: 16-64Y			C+Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒), 1 pack/timetid	Clarithromycin sustained release tablets 0.5 g/time, qd, Shuanghuanglian oral solution 1 stick/timetid	3—7	①③	Cured; Markedly effective; Valid; Invalid

Note: T. Test group; C. Control group; Outcomes: ① Total effective rate; ② Time of fever, sore throat, nasal congestion and rhinorrhea, cough disappearing and total treatment time; ③ incidence of adverse reactions; ④ CRP, IL-1 β, IL-4, PCT.

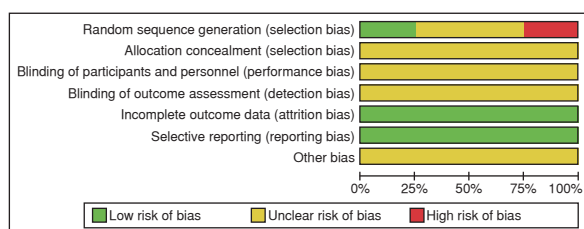


Figure 2. Percentage of Projects Included in the Study That Produced a Risk of Bias

Meta Analysis Results

Total effective rate of clinical efficacy

A total of 4 studies^[8,9,12,13] with 636 patients were included. The heterogeneity among the results was small ($P=0.92$, $I^2=0\%$), so a fixed effect model was used for Meta-analysis. The results showed that: Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) + conventional Western medicine was superior to conventional Western medicine in the total effective rate of clinical efficacy [RR=0.13, 95% CI (0.06, 0.29), $P<0.00001$]. See Figure 3.

Antipyretic time

A total of 3 studies^[8,9,13] were included with 534 patients. The heterogeneity between the results of each study was large ($P<0.0001$, $I^2=90\%$), so a random effect model was used for Meta-analysis. The results showed that Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) combined with conventional Western medicine was superior to conventional Western medicine in shortening the time of fever reduction [MD=-1.22,

95% CI ($P1.43$, $P1.00$), $P<0.00001$]. When the LIU Dan's study was removed, $P=0.19$, $I^2=42\%$, and the results of the Meta-analysis showed: MD=-1.12, 95% CI (-1.26, -0.99), $P<0.00001$. The analysis of the reasons for the large heterogeneity may be related to the different course of treatment included in the LIU Dan's study. See Figure 4.

Sore throat resolution time

A total of 3 studies were included with 534 patients. There was statistical heterogeneity between the results of the studies ($P<0.00001$, $I^2=95\%$), so a random effect model was used for Meta-analysis. The results showed that Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) + conventional Western medicine treatment was superior to conventional Western medicine treatment in shortening the sore throat time [MD=-1.97, 95% CI (-2.97, -0.96), $P<0.0001$]. When LIU Dan's study was removed, $P=0.66$, $I^2=0\%$, and the Meta-analysis results showed that MD=-1.47, 95% CI (-1.72, -1.21), and $P<0.00001$. The major reasons analyzed resulting in heterogeneity may be related to the different treatment courses. See Figure 5.

Cough disappearance time

A total of 3 studies^[8,9,13] were included with 534 patients. There was statistical heterogeneity between the results of the studies ($P<0.0001$, $I^2=89\%$), and a random effect model was used for Meta-analysis.

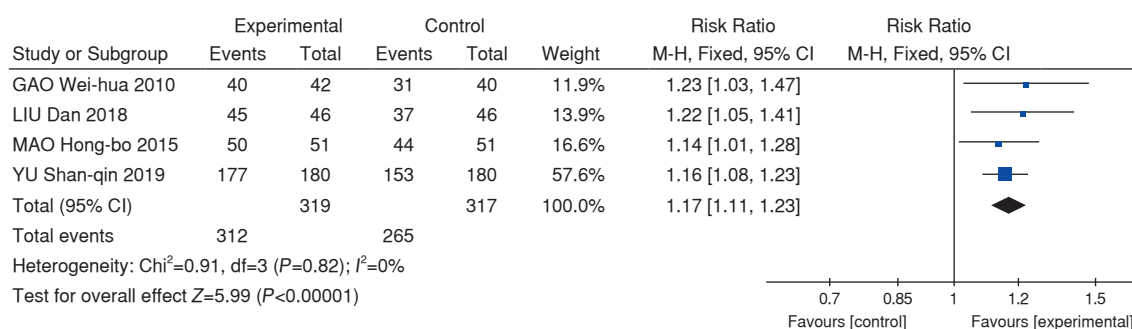


Figure 3. Forest Map of Total Effective Rate

Table 2. Risk Assessment of Bias in the Included Studies

	Sequence generation	Allocation concealment	Blind method			Incomplete result data	Selective result reporting	Other biases
			Research object	Tester	Outcome evaluator			
MAO Hong-bo 2015 ^[12]	low	unclear	unclear	unclear	unclear	low	low	unclear
YU Shan-qin 2019 ^[8]	unclear	unclear	unclear	unclear	Unclear	low	Low	unclear
GAO Wei-hua 2010 ^[13]	unclear	unclear	unclear	unclear	Unclear	low	Low	unclear
LIU Dan 2018 ^[9]	high	unclear	unclear	unclear	Unclear	low	Low	unclear

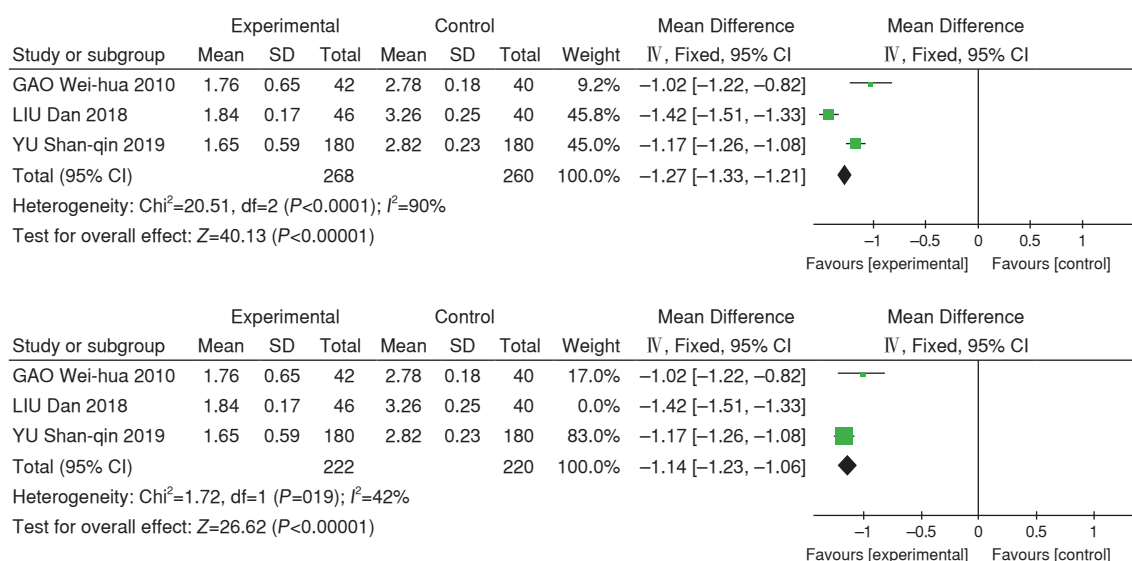


Figure 4. Forest Map of Antipyretic Time

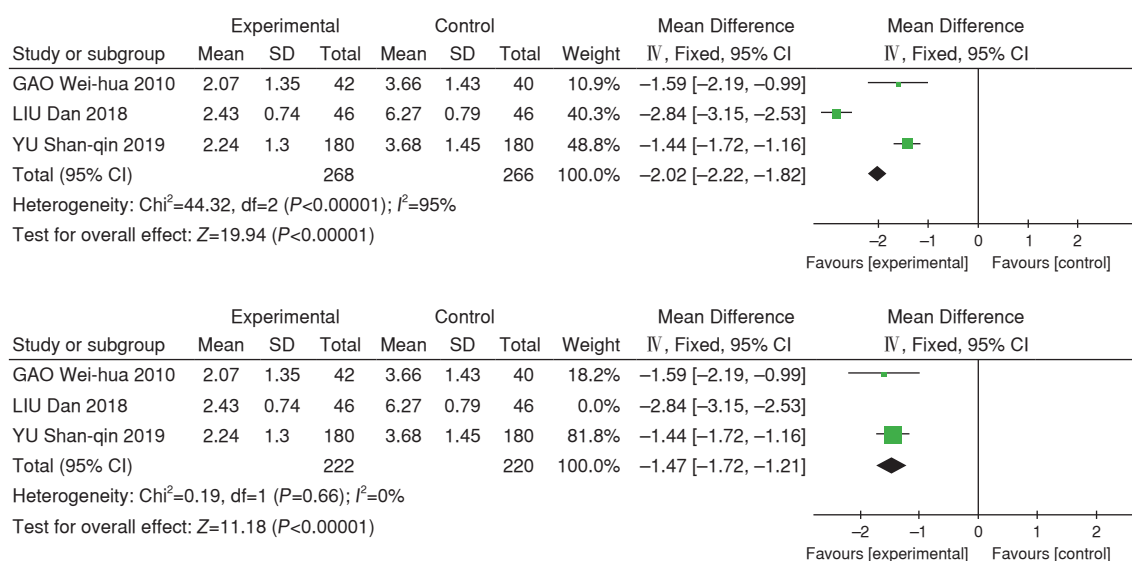


Figure 5. Sore Throat Regression Time Forest Map

The results showed that Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) + conventional Western medicine treatment was better than conventional Western medicine in shortening the cough disappearing time [MD=-1.97, 95% CI (-2.97, -0.96), $P<0.0001$]. When the LIU Dan's study was removed, $P=0.2$, $I^2=40\%$. The results of the Meta-analysis showed that MD=-1.65, 95% CI (-1.95, -1.35), $P<0.00001$, and the reasons for heterogeneity were the same as above. See Figure 6.

Adverse reactions

Of the 4 studies, 2 studies reported that no adverse reactions of the related drugs occurred during the treatment period, and 2 other studies

reported adverse reactions occurred during the study period, of which 1 study^[8] had adverse reactions in the experimental group: diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, stomach pain; adverse reaction rate was 3.33%; adverse reactions in the control group were: diarrhea, nausea; adverse reaction rate was 1.67%; the incidence of adverse reactions in the control group of 1 study^[12] was 3.92% (2/51), and the observation group was 5.88% (3/51). There was no significant difference between the 2 groups of data, and it was not statistically significant ($P>0.05$). Symptoms disappeared after discontinuation of drugs.

Evaluation report bias

In view of the fact that the funnel chart was

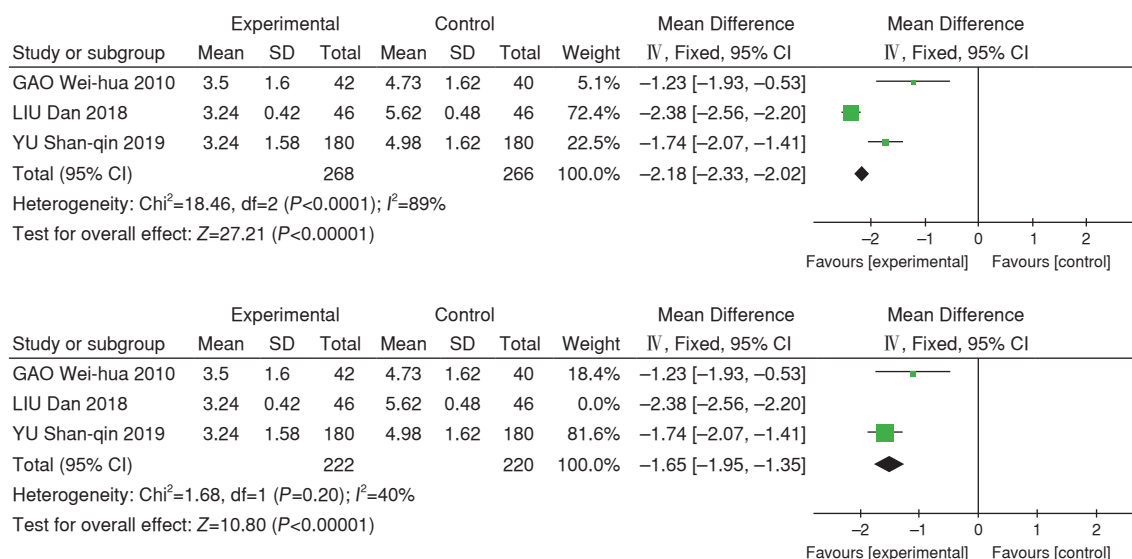


Figure 6. Forest Map of Cough Disappearing Time

applicable to the case where the number of studies were greater than 10. The largest number of studies included in this study was the total effective rate, the number of which was 4, so no funnel chart analysis publication bias was performed

DISCUSSION

Effectiveness of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in the Treatment of Acute Upper Respiratory Tract Infection

This study mainly systematically evaluated the effectiveness of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in the treatment of acute upper respiratory tract infections from the total effective rate, antipyretic time, sore throat disappearance time, cough disappearance time, and adverse reaction. Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) + conventional Western medicine was superior to conventional Western medicine in terms of the overall effectiveness of clinical efficacy. Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) as an adjuvant drug combined with conventional Western medicine in the study to improve the overall effectiveness was analyzed; in terms of shortening the antipyretic time and time of sore throat and cough disappearing time, wind-warmth lung heat disease being caused by wind-heat pathogen was analyzed. The oncologist YE Tianshi of the Qing Dynasty once said that "exogenous pathogen was attacked from mouth and nose and the lungs was first attacked." Exogenous pathogen invaded from the snout, skin and hair. The

lung-wei was the 1st attacked. The disharmony of defensive exterior leads to fever, slight aversion to cold, and pantalgia; impaired depurative descending of lung qi leads to cough and pharyngalgia. Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) have the functions of cooling and dispersing, clearing heat and removing toxicity^[16]. Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) are composed of *Lonicera japonica* Thumb (Jin Yin Hua), *Folium Isatidis* (Da Qing Ye), *Herba Taraxaci* (Pu Gong Ying) and *Herba Houttuyniae* (Yu Xing Cao). In *Chinese Materia Medica Volume 2 Selected Book*, it is said that *Lonicera japonica* Thumb (Jin Yin Hua) is sweet and cold, is good at clearing the heat of the lung-wei, and is light and fragrant. It also has the function of dispersing. At the beginning of the treatment of warm disease, the pathogen is in the lung-wei, the fever is severe and the aversion to cold is light and thirsty as the main medicine."; *Herba Houttuyniae* (Yu Xing Cao) is pungent, slightly cold into the lung channel, having the function of clear heat and remove toxicity, detumescence and expel pus, diuretic and free strangury, as a minister drug, with *Lonicera japonica* Thumb (Jin Yin Hua) clearing the lung heat. *Folium Isatidis* (Da Qing Ye), which is bitter and cold, enters the 2 channels of the stomach and the heart, having the functions of clearing heat and removing toxicity, cooling blood and removing spots. *Herba Taraxaci* (Pu Gong Ying), which is bitter and sweet cold, enters the liver and stomach channels, and has the functions of clearing heat and removing toxicity,

detumescence and resolving masses, diuretic and freeing strangury. *Folium Isatidis* (Da Qing Ye) and *Herba Taraxaci* (Pu Gong Ying) both clear heat and remove toxicity, and help *Flos Lonicerae* (Pu Gong Ying) and *Herba Houttuyniaeto* (Yu Xing Cao) clear the pathogen of heat and toxicity in lung-wei and throat heat. Modern pharmacological studies have shown that: *Herba Taraxaci* (Pu Gong Ying) and *Herba Houttuyniaeboth* (Yu Xing Cao) have antibacterial, antiviral, anti-inflammatory, and immune-enhancing effects^[17]; *Lonicera japonica Thumb* (Jin Yin Hua) has antiviral, antipyretic, anti-inflammatory, antibacterial^[18], and pharmacological effects that inhibit endotoxin^[21]. *Folium Isatidis* (Da Qing Ye) can be antibacterial and antiviral to improve immunity^[22]. In addition, studies have shown that Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) have both direct anti-inflammatory effects and indirect anti-inflammatory effects by exciting the pituitary adrenal cortex system^[27]. The antiviral, anti-infective and anti-inflammatory mechanisms of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in treating acute upper respiratory tract infection was explained from the perspective of pharmacology.

Safety of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in the Treatment of Acute Upper Respiratory Tract Infection

This study mainly reflected the safety of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in treating acute upper respiratory tract infection from the incidence of adverse reactions and the specific situation of adverse reactions. A total of 2 papers reported there were no related adverse reactions of drugs during the study. A total of 2 papers^[8,12] reported adverse reactions during the study, one^[8] of which specifically reported the experimental group: diarrhea, nausea, vomiting, and stomach pain; control: diarrhea, nausea, which disappeared after withdrawal, among which 1^[12] paper reported the incidence of adverse reactions in the control group was 3.92%. The observation group was 5.88%. There was no significant difference between the 2 groups of data ($P>0.05$). However, there were the relatively few research literature included according to the standard, and the drug treatment course included in the study was generally 7 days, and the follow-up time was relatively short. Therefore, the

long-term safety of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) in the treatment of acute upper respiratory infections needs to be further verified by modern pharmacological research, with more large sample, multi-center, randomized, double-blind trials. And it was recommended that randomized controlled trials in the future should refer to the CONSORT standard first^[28].

Limitations of the Research

Of the 4 clinical randomized controlled trial literature included in this study, 1 was specifically written in the random number table. No hidden grouping, blinding and lost follow-up were reported. It showed that when conducting clinical controlled trials (RCTs), researchers paid more attention to the implementation of random allocation schemes, but ignored other methodological quality aspects that may affected the efficacy. In addition, 2 of the 4 literature did not report adverse reactions in the trial. The inadequate reporting of adverse reactions will affect the clinical diagnosis and treatment of patients, indicating that researchers will pay more attention to adverse reactions when designing and reporting RCT.

Clinical Significance and Prospect of the Research

According to the results of this systematic review, Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) combined with conventional Western medicine for the treatment of acute upper respiratory tract infections need high-quality research evidence to confirm^[28,29]. Based on this, the following prospects are proposed: first, the current clinical application of Jinye Baidu Granules (金叶败毒颗粒) is rarely used according to TCM theory for differentiation and classification, but only for diseases or symptoms (such as sore throat). This approach seems to expand the population. But in fact it is not conducive to highlighting the TCM characteristics of the drug. The systematic review found that this phenomenon needs to be improved through analysis. Because Chinese medicines ("Chinese Medicine" or "Traditional Chinese Medicine") refers to the guidance by TCM theory, and they have a unique theoretical system and application form. Chinese patent medicines also emphasize research,

development and use under the guidance of TCM theory. Only with the accurate medication under the guidance of the theoretical system of TCM (derived from "Fifty-two Diseases") and syndrome differentiation (originated from *Treatise on Febrile and Miscellaneous Diseases*) can the efficacy of this medicine be highlighted. In the future clinical application, it is recommended that clinicians strictly follow the instructions when using these medicines, especially Western medicine doctors diagnose the disease as acute upper respiratory infection, and in line with TCM wind-warmth lung heat disease (The syndrome differentiation belongs to heat in lung-wei pattern). Secondly, I hope that future research will refer to the CONSORT standard^[28], STRICTA statement^[29], and the ROB tool entries^[26] formulated by the Cochrane Collaboration Network, to report in detail the generation of random allocation sequences, allocation concealment, blindness of research objects and researchers, incomplete outcomes etc. Thirdly, I hope that researchers will formulate criteria for the inclusion in the diagnosis of diseases, and comprehensively consider all factors in determining the outcome indicators, TCM efficacy indicators, and fuzzy comprehensive evaluation of TCM clinical efficacy^[30-31], in order to improve the clinical reference value of the study.

REFERENCES

- Shen XM, Wang WP. Pediatrics. 7th edition. Beijing: People's Medical Publishing House, 2008: 261.
- Ye RG, Lu ZY. Internal Medicine. 5th Edition. Beijing: People's Medical Publishing House, 2000: 11-13.
- Chris D, Mar CD, Glasziou P. Treatment of upper respiratory tract infections. Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine, 2004 (4):274-277 + 284.
- Bartlett JG. Management of upper respiratory tract infections. Infections Diseases in Clinical Practice. 1997, 6(4):212-220.
- Luo GY, Yang XQ, Zhang Y, et al. The role and correlation analysis of 25-hydroxyvitamin D 3 and antibacterial peptides in repeated upper respiratory infections. Chongqing Medical Journal, 2016, 45(29):4053-4055.
- Yu C. Therapeutic effects of Reduning Injection on acute pediatric upper respiratory infection in child patients. Evaluation and Analysis of Drug Administration in Chinese Hospitals, 2015,15(12):1610-1612.
- Yang XH, Jiao Y, Jiang LD. Discussion on the internal trauma foundation of wind-warmth lung heat disease—a case study of 69 cases of wind-warmth lung heat disease type. Chinese Journal of Emergency Medicine, 1995, 4(6):270.
- Yu SQ. Exploration on the efficacy of clinical application of Jinye Baidu Granules on acute upper respiratory tract infection. Chinese Community Physician, 2019, 35(4):123-126.
- Liu D, Liu X, Jiang Y. Clinical study of Jinye Baidu Granules combined with cefuroxime sodium in the treatment of acute upper respiratory tract infections. Modern Medicine and Clinic, 2018, 33(11):2876-2879.
- Jiang JJ, Xie YM, Wang YY, et al. A random, double-blind, parallel, controlled study of Jinye Baidu Granules for the treatment of wind-warmth lung heat disease (heat in lung-wei pattern). China Journal of Chinese Materia Medica, 2017, 42(8):1467-1473.
- Liang ZF. A randomized controlled clinical study of Jinye Baidu Granules in treating wind-warmth lung heat disease (heat in lung-wei pattern). Shandong University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 2016.
- Mao HB. Observation of curative effects of Jinye Baidu Granules on acute upper respiratory tract infection. Medical Theory and Practice, 2015, 28(11):1466-1467.
- Gao WH. Observation on the curative effects of Jinye Baidu Granules combined with clarithromycin on acute upper respiratory tract infections. Medical Theory and Practice, 2010, 23(11):1309-1310.
- Ding L, Wu ZM. Observation on the curative effects of Jinye Baidu Granules in treating acute upper respiratory tract infections. Chinese Journal of Emergency Medicine, 2009,18(12):1965-1966.
- Mao B, Tu JW, Zhang RM. A randomized double-blind clinical trial of Jinye baidu Granules in treating wind-warmth lung heat disease (heat in lung-wei pattern). Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine, 2003 (2):115-120.
- Bai TM, Yan XH, Zhang Y. Clinical study of Jinye baidu Granules combined with Reduning Injection in treating pediatric viral pneumonia. Modern Medicine and Clinic, 2017, 32(9):1687-1691.
- Liang MH. Study on chemical constituents and pharmacological effects of *Herba Houttuyniae*. Chinese Medical Guide, 2019,17(2):153-154.
- Gao P. Research progress on the clinical pharmacological effects of *Lonicera japonica Thunb.* Medical Information, 2018, 31(23):37-39.
- Cui WL, Li HF, Liu JT. Research progress on antiviral

- and bacteriostatic effects of *Folium Isatidis*. Shandong Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 2014, 33(5):410-411.
20. National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine. Standards of the Chinese medicine industry of the People's Republic of China—diagnosis and treatment effectiveness standards for TCM diseases and syndromes ZY / T001.1-94. 1994.
 21. Chen JM, Hong CQ. Analysis of pharmacological effects of *Lonicera japonica* Thunb. Asia-Pacific Traditional Medicine, 2015, 11(5):43.
 22. Zhao XJ, Li L, et al. A survey of materia medica research, chemical composition and pharmacological action of *Folium Isatidis*. Journal of Gansu College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 2011, 28(5):61.
 23. Higgins J, Green S E. Cochrane handbook for systematic reviews of interventions version 5.1.0. the cochrane collaboration(Eds). N-S Arch Pharmacol, 2011, 5(2):S38.
 24. David M, Alessandro L, Jennifer T, et al. System review and Meta-analysis priority report entry: PRISMA statement. Journal of Integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine, 2009, 7(9):889.
 25. Zhang FY, Shen AM, et al. Interpretation of AMSTAR 2, a systematic evaluation methodological quality evaluation tool. Chinese Journal of Evidence-based Cardiovascular Medicine, 2018, 10(1):14-18.
 26. Chen HZ. Practical Internal Medicine. 12th edition. Beijing: People's Medical Publishing House, 2005: 291-590.
 27. Yang DS, Qi R, Fang L. Experimental study on anti-inflammatory effects of Jinye baidu Granules. China Science and Technology of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 2006, 13(2):86-88.
 28. Moher D, Hopewell S, Schulz K F, et al. CONSORT 2010 explanation and elaboration: updated guidelines for reporting parallel group randomised trials. International Journal Surgery, 2012, 10(1):28.
 29. MacPherson H, White A, Cummings M, et al. Standards for reporting interventions in controlled trials of acupuncture: the STRICTA recommendations. Complement Ther Med, 2001, 9(4):246-249 .
 30. Qiu RJ, Zhang XY, Li M, et al. Significance and methods of research on the naming of TCM syndromes standardization in the construction of core index set. Chinese Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine, 2018, 33(6):2240.
 31. Qiu RJ, Chen J, Lei X, etc. Introduction of the concept of core index set to construct fuzzy comprehensive evaluation method of clinical efficacy of traditional Chinese medicine. New Journal of Traditional Chinese Medicine and Clinical Pharmacology, 2018, 29(4):528.

(Received November 28, 2019)