

Chinese medicine treatment of intestinal cancer diarrhea

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Abstract: Cancer diarrhea is mostly caused by tumors itself, or by tumor treatment means such as radiotherapy. Its pathogenesis is complex, and it has different performance. Clinical often has stubbornly difficult, and must be carefully syndrome, and the drug is used. Take the 1 case of intractable diarrhea in our department as an example. After repeated identification of the selection, it is finally considering the "liver and spleen and non-conditioning". It has improved the symptoms of patients with diarrhea in patients, extending the survival period. It has now reached 2 years.

Keywords: Cancer diarrhea, Chinese medicine, Condition analysis

1. Introduction

Carcinomatous diarrhea refers to diarrhea caused by malignant tumors, and the main clinical manifestations are abnormally increased defecation water and defecation frequency, which may be accompanied by abdominal pain. Severe or uncontrollable diarrhea is one of the main causes of cachexia in cancer patients due to its main hazards such as dehydration, electrolyte imbalance and renal insufficiency (1). Diarrhea is the first symptom in some patients with colorectal cancer, and the closer the lesion is to the distal end of the intestine, the more obvious the diarrhea symptoms are. The mechanism of diarrhea in colorectal cancer is irritation of the intestinal wall by tumors of the intestinal wall, tumor ulceration and intestinal infection (2). Diarrhea caused by colorectal cancer is lingering and difficult to heal, resulting in decreased nutritional status of patients, even dehydration symptoms of electrolyte imbalance, and long-term diarrhea leads to anal and skin ulceration, and even diarrhea is difficult to self-control, which seriously affects the quality of life of patients and the smooth progress of other anti-tumor methods. Therefore, for such patients, aggressive therapeutic measures should be taken. At present, western medicine in the treatment of colorectal cancer diarrhea mostly use intestinal bacteria modulators, intestinal mucosal protective agents treatment, there are a single way, limited efficacy and difficult to maintain for a long time and other drawbacks. More partial antidiarrheal drugs inhibit intestinal peristalsis and prolong the residence time of toxins in the intestinal lumen. Through accurate syndrome differentiation, TCM can not only significantly relieve the symptoms of diarrhea and improve the quality of life of patients according to different etiologies and their clinical manifestations, but also assist anti-tumor therapy, with more gains at once.

Cancer diarrhea still belongs to the category of "diarrhea" in the internal medicine of traditional Chinese medicine, with spleen deficiency and dampness as the basic, in addition to "spleen and stomach weakness", "evil toxin internal accumulation", "spleen and kidney yang deficiency", "liver depression by the spleen" and other types of treatment, the choice of medication is Shenling Baizhu Powder, Gegen Qinlian Decoction, Zhenren Yangzang Decoction, Tongxieyaofang and so on. So complex, TCM through syndrome differentiation and treatment, and the development process of the disease for dynamic observation, according to the primary and secondary contradictions and changes, with the disease addition and subtraction. At present, TCM syndrome differentiation treatment is gradually applied in the clinical treatment of patients with carcinomatous diarrhea, and most studies have confirmed the efficacy of this method. Now our hospital admitted to the cancer intractable diarrhea again, the use of traditional Chinese medicine treatment, targeted improvement of cancer diarrhea patients with clinical symptoms.

2. Case example

This is an 83-year-old male patient (Wu). In January 2019, the patient presented with intermittent hematochezia with loose stools, and an enteroscopy revealed rectal cancer? Multiple pathological examinations were taken, which were not taken. Eleven cycles of chemotherapy (7 cycles of XELOX regimen, 2 cycles of capecitabine, and 2 cycles of IROX regimen) and 32 fractions of radiotherapy (cumulative dose 56 Gy) were performed. On April 22, 2020, the patient developed abdominal pain and bloody stools, and hemostasis was performed. At the same time, biopsy was performed to confirm the diagnosis of moderately differentiated adenoma (rectal). The patient had repeated diarrhea symptoms and weight loss, and routine stool tests showed no abnormal bacterial infection. Western medicine has been given montmorillonite powder, *Portunella butyricum* double viable bacteria powder and other treatments, the initial therapeutic effect is fair, but easy to relapse after drug withdrawal.

On Apr 29, 2020, the patient had unformed stools, watery purging, no abnormal odour, and no purulent bloody stool. The tongue was light red, the fur was thick, petechiae were seen under the tongue, and the pulse was stringy and slippery. Observe its tongue, pulse, disease, syndrome differentiation for toxic heat accumulation, intestinal carbuncle into pus. Therefore, Ji Yi Fu Zi Bai Ji San was given. After taking the drug, the patient still had unformed stool, and the frequency of diarrhea increased, accompanied by abdominal pain. Considering that this prescription injures Yang Qi more when clearing away heat, so the patient's symptoms such as loose stools and abdominal pain are not significantly improved and should be treated more.

On May 15, 2020, the patient had loose stools, diarrhea immediately after eating, no purulent bloody stools, a fat tongue, pale red tongue with thick white fur, petechiae under the tongue, and sinking and stringy pulse. *Pulsatilla chinensis* plus *Gancao Ejiao* Decoction was given. After taking 3 doses, the patient had poor control of diarrhea, fecal incontinence, watery stools and fear of cold. Poor effectiveness, cure it.

On May 18, 2020, the patient had fecal incontinence, watery, long urine, and fear of cold, waist pain, fatigue, pale tongue, thin white fur, and heavy pulse. After ward round, *Sishen Wan* combined with *Loess Decoction* (*Fang Zhongxiao Xin Tu* was replaced with red stone fat) was given. After medication, the patient's symptoms of fear of cold and backache were improved than before, but the stool was still unformed and clear and turbid. It was considered that *Sishen Pills* were indicated for five changes of diarrhea, focusing on kidney yang deficiency. On the contrary, the patient's borborygmus vector frequency, abdominal pain that is diarrhea, purgation pain reduction, for the spleen and stomach weakness, liver qi transverses the spleen caused by, so the method of inhibiting the liver and nourishing the spleen.

On May 21, 2020, the patient had lower abdominal pain, diarrhea, thunder in the abdomen, breakthrough pain, immediate diarrhea of abdominal pain, pain after diarrhea, more than 10 lines a day, yellow watery stools with borborygmus, no mucus or pus in the stools, no anal burning after defecation, chest distension and stuffiness, fatigue, weight loss, pale complexion, unwarm hands and feet, impatience, loss of appetite, safe sleep, pale red tongue with thick yellow fur, and slow pulse string. Abdominal palpation revealed a flat abdomen, soft whole abdomen, and tenderness in the lower abdomen. TCM diagnosis: diarrhea, syndrome differentiation for liver and spleen syndrome, appropriate to reconcile the liver and spleen, invigorate the spleen and remove dampness to stop diarrhea, the choice of *Tongxieyaofang* combined with *Sijunzi* decoction, *Sini* powder cut. Drug composition: bran fried *Atractylodes macrocephala* 50g, fried *Radix Paeoniae Alba* 45g, *Citrus sinensis* 30g, *Radix Fangfeng* 15g, *Radix Codonopsis* 30g, *Poria cocos* 45g, *Radix Glycyrrhizae* 9g, *Fructus Plantaginis* 30g (decoction), *Rhizoma Alismatis* 30g, *Radix Achyranthis Bidentatae* 15g, *Radix Astragali* 50g, *Fructus Mume* 6g, *Galla Chinensis* 6g, *Punica granatum* 15g, *Radix Bupleuri* 15g, 4 doses, 1 dose per day, decoction 400ml, divided into two warm doses in the morning and evening.

On May 26, 2020, the patient had increased appetite after taking the above medicine, abdominal pain was relieved than before, fatigue was relieved than before, loose stool frequency was reduced than before, about 5-6 times/day, still no formed stool, complained of significant anal pendant sensation, appetite was improved than before, and the remaining symptoms were the same as before. No effect, add *Cimicifuga* 10g on the basis of the original. 6 doses, decoction as before.

June 1, 2020: The patient had basically formed stools after taking the above 6 doses, and was able to self-control, with frequency of about 2-3 times/day. The symptoms of chest distension and stuffiness were improved than before. The patient had good appetite and good sleep, and had basically recovered. The patient continued to take 7 doses of *Erji Fang* to consolidate the efficacy. Considering the patient's physical deficiency, the patient was specially asked to strengthen nutrition, make regular routines, avoid

spicy stimulation and cold food; at the same time, pay attention to keep the skin clean and dry, wash with warm water every night before going to bed to reduce the stimulation to the skin; smooth the emotions and avoid depression and irritation.

According to the statement: In this case, the patient's primary disease was rectal cancer, and the mass was located about 12-3 cm from the rectum to the anus. Since the patient was more than eighty years old, no surgery was performed, and 11 times of chemotherapy and 32 times of radiotherapy had been performed. The main need for this visit is to address carcinogenic diarrhea caused by intestinal tumors. According to the symptoms, tongue, pulse, combined with abdominal palpation, examination of causes, multiple dialectical selection, and the final consideration is mainly hepatosplenic irregularities. Liver and spleen irregularities, manifested as abdominal distension, followed by pain, diarrhea is not much, diarrhea after comfortable. Tongue light red moss yellow thick, pulse string and slow, treatment Yitong Xieyao Fang combined with Sijunzi Decoction, Sini Powder and other cut. Fangzhong *Atractylodes macrocephala* Koidz dry dampness and invigorate the spleen, "Medical Enlightenment" (3) contains Dongyuan with *Atractylodes macrocephala* Koidz "to the various meridians in the dampness and spleen and stomach"; *Radix Paeoniae Alba* cold diarrhea liver fire, acid convergence against the gas, and soften the liver to relieve pain. *Shaoxiang Wu Pei Zhongtu* to purge liver wood, two drugs for the basic combination of tonifying the spleen and softening the liver. *Chen Pi* regulates qi and dampness, awakens the spleen and stomach, and achieves the function of elevating the spleen yang to help transport the spleen medicine; *Fangfeng* enters the liver and spleen two viscera, *Xinneng* disperses the liver, fragrance soothes the spleen, wind energy prevails dampness, its nature rises and floats, elevates the yang to stop diarrhea, with *Atractylodes macrocephala* to encourage the spleen of *Qingyang*, with *Paeonia lactiflora* to help disperse liver depression, for the spleen meridian medicine. The four drugs play the functions of tonifying the spleen and softening the liver, eliminating dampness and stopping diarrhea. Modern pharmacological studies have confirmed that *Atractylodes macrocephala* Koidz, *Paeonia lactiflora*, *Citrus sinensis*, *Fangfeng* and other traditional Chinese medicines have the ability to treat gastrointestinal mucosal injury diseases, but also have the effect of improving the body's immunity, inhibiting tumor growth, and improving the quality of life of cancer patients, which is of great significance for the prevention, treatment and recovery of diseases (4-7). Also fear of liver wood kovak spleen soil, with *Sijunzi* decoction to protect *Zhongzhou*, metaplasia of vital qi; supplemented by *Sini* powder *Shugan* spleen, through the evil to relieve depression. Combined use of various drugs, tonifying and reducing, astringent and using, *Shun Tuwang*, *Qi* bar up, spleen and liver regulation, then diarrhea self-stop.

3. Discussion

The spleen (stomach) belongs to the middle coke, endowed with the duty of decomposed transmission and transport, more *Shengqing Jiangzhuo*, good offices up and down the ability; the liver is ethylene-wood, specific hair to achieve, liver catharsis can not only help the transport of the spleen and stomach, but also regulate the conduction of the intestines. Diarrhea for a long time, consumption of temper, spleen and soil will be virtual, spleen deficiency is the loss of liver-qi in the bar to transgress the spleen and soil, spleen and soil by its criticism, its deficiency is more serious, so that the two viscera of soil and wood interact with each other, mutual cause and effect, diarrhea aggravated. The clinical symptoms of carcinomatous diarrhea of colorectal cancer are complex, and in terms of viscera, it is not only responsible for the liver and spleen, but also often involves the kidney, as "the injury of the five viscera, must reach the kidney". This patient had diarrhea for a long time, and used bitter cold drugs, which damaged the spleen and kidney yang qi, and only threw *Sishen* pills, with poor effect. In clinical application, *Tongxieyaofang* is mostly used to treat irritable bowel syndrome, and treatment of colorectal cancer diarrhea is rare. The condition of cancer diarrhea is complex and varied. Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) has its advantages in anti-tumor and improving the clinical symptoms of cancer patients, which can make up for the lack of western medicine treatment. At the same time, it also gives us inspiration: in the treatment of cancer diarrhea, the application of traditional Chinese medicine can be considered, syndrome differentiation and treatment, in fact, the traditional Chinese medicine attack evil method to attack evil, deficiency and deficiency inclusion is righting and eliminating evil, physical weakness is righting; for the treatment of cancer intractable diarrhea, while healthy transport of the spleen and stomach, it should also be based on clinical symptoms, the method of softening the liver and wood, to achieve a state of balance between the liver and spleen, and add or subtract flexible medication with the disease.

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