Genotoxicity and Antigenotoxicity of Two An-Tai Decoctions in Pregnant Mice and Fetuses

Chien-liang Fang¹, Jun-ming Chen², Chien-lin Chen³, Su-yin Chiang⁴

¹Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Ditmanson Medical Foundation Chiayi Christian Hospital, Taiwan, ² Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Chen Jun-Ming TCM Clinics, Taiwan, ³ Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, Buddhist Taipei Tzuchi General Hospital, , Taiwan, ³ School of Chinese Medicine, China Medical University, Taiwan

Background & Aim:

"Shih-San-Wei An-Tai-Yin" (ATY) and "Bow-Tai-Tang" (BTT) are commonly used Chinese Medicine during pregnancy to stabilize the fetus. We examined their genotoxic and chemopreventive effects in pregnant ICR mice and fetuses.

Materials & Methods:

Mice were administered ATY or BTT via gavage from Gestation day (GD) 12 to 17. Two hours after the last treatment, some mice were administered N-ethyl-N-nitrosourea (ENU, 90 mg/kg, i.p). Blood samples were collected on GD 19 to examine the frequencies of micronuclei, a marker of chromosome damage, in maternal and fetal reticulocytes (RET).

Results:

There were no significant differences in maternal body weight gain or RET/normochromatic erythrocytes (NCE) ratio among groups. Treatment of ATY at the dose up to 17.6 g/kg and BTT at the dose up to 9.8 g/kg did not induce a significant increase in frequencies of micronuclei in maternal or fetal reticulocytes. Moreover, pretreatment with BTT but not with ATY resulted in a significant decrease in the frequencies of ENU-induced micronucleated reticulocytes, with an inhibition ratio of about 30% in the maternal blood and 20% in the fetal blood.

Conclusion:

These data suggest that BTT but not ATY exerts the chemopreventive effects with no evidence of genotoxicity in pregnant mice or fetuses.

Keywords:

Shih-San-Wei An-Tai-Yin; Bow-Tai-Tang; micronuclei, pregnancy; fetuses