

**Traditional Chinese Medicine for Persistent Childhood Immune
Thrombocytopenic Purpura Unresponsive to Intravenous
Immunoglobulin**

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Abstract

Immune thrombocytopenic purpura (ITP) is an acquired immune-mediated disorder characterized by isolated thrombocytopenia. Some patients with ITP have persistent bleeding symptoms and require pharmacologic intervention. We report a 4-year-old girl with persistent ITP, which had been refractory to the first-line conventional treatment of steroids and intravenous immunoglobulin for seven months. She was brought to the Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) clinic at the Chang Gung Memorial Hospital in 2011. She received modified Chinese herbal formula, Zi-Ying-Jiang-Huo-Tang (Phellodendri Combination), for six months, and followed up by both pediatrician and TCM doctor. She had dramatic improvement in platelet count and complete remission after treatment with TCM. There was no recurrence and side effects during the 12-month follow-up period. *Conclusions:* Our case report suggested that TCM might benefit on the treatment of childhood persistent ITP. A larger clinical study is warranted for further evaluation of Zi-Ying-Jiang-Huo-Tang in treating ITP.

Keywords: Immune Thrombocytopenic Purpura; Intravenous Immunoglobulin; Traditional Chinese Medicine