

症 例 報 告

脊椎手術後の神経根症に対する 当帰四逆加呉茱萸生姜湯の効果

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要旨：脊椎手術後も残存する、あるいは再発した神経根症に対して当帰四逆加呉茱萸生姜湯を投与しその効果を調べた。椎間板ヘルニアのため観血的手術を受けた2例と、当科で施行した経皮的椎間板摘出術後の2例の計4例に対し、当帰四逆加呉茱萸生姜湯(7.5g/day)を4週間投与した。観血的手術を受けた2例は軽度の改善が認められたが、4カ月後も同量の投与を必要とし、それ以上の改善は認められなかった。経皮的椎間板摘出術を受けた2例は著明な改善が認められ、4カ月後には投与中止できた。神経根症は神経根レベルでの物理的圧迫・循環障害により発症するため、当帰四逆加呉茱萸生姜湯の末梢循環改善作用が効果的だったと考えられる。経皮的椎間板摘出術では脊椎管内に侵襲がないのに比べ、観血的手術では脊椎管内への侵襲が加わり神経根の癒着・繊維化が起こる。このため末梢循環改善だけでは、十分な効果が得られなかったのだろう。

(痛みと漢方 5: 30-34, 1995)

索引用語：当帰四逆加呉茱萸生姜湯、神経根症、術後神経根症、椎間板ヘルニア、脊椎手術、経皮的椎間板摘出術

Effects of Touki-shigyaku-ka-goshyuyu-shyoukyou-tou for remaining or recurrent radiculopathy after spinal surgeries

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Abstract : The efficacy of the Chinese medicine Touki-shigyaku-ka-goshyuyu-shyoukyou-tou was examined in patients with remaining or recurrent radiculopathy after spinal surgery. Touki-shigyaku-ka-goshyuyu-shyoukyou-tou(7.5 g/day) was administered to four patients for four weeks; two had undergone open reduction for disk herniation and two had undergone a percutaneous lumbar discectomy.

Although slight improvement was recognized in the first group after the 4-week treatment, same dose of Touki-shigyaku-ka-goshyuyu-shyoukyou-tou was still required after four months without showing further improvement. On the otherhand, the two patients who underwent a percutaneous lumbar discectomy showed remarkable improvement, thus the administration of the Chinese medication was terminated at the end of four months.

Since radiculopathy is caused by physical compression and circulatory disturbance at the nerve root, the administration of Touki-shigyaku-ka-goshyuyu-shyoukyou-tou seems to have been effective in improving peripheral circulation. However, although invasions into the spinal canal do not occur after percutaneous lumbar discectomies, open reduction triggers invasions and cosequently causes adhesion and fibrosis of nerve roots. Because of this, improving peripheral circulation alone is not considered effective in the radiculopathy after open reduction.

(Pain and Kampo Medicine 5: 30-34, 1995)

Key words : Touki-shigyaku-ka-goshyuyu-shyoukyou-tou, radiculopathy, lumbar disc hernia, spinal surgery, percutaneous lumbar discectomy