

Anaphylactoid Reaction Due to *Andrographis Paniculata* Capsule

Beuy Joob¹, Viroj Wiwanitkit²

¹Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Bangkok Thailand

²Adjunct professor, Joseph Ayobabalola University, Ikeji-Arakeji, Nigeria; visiting professor, Hainan Medical University, China; visiting professor, Faculty of Medicine, University of Nis, Serbia

*Corresponding Author: Beuy Joob, Sanitation 1 Medical Academic Center, Bangkok Thailand.

ABSTRACT

The use of herb derived drug in the present clinical practice is interesting. In Thailand, the local Ayurvedic system has been modernized and there are some new herb based drugs for use in modern clinical practice. *Andrographis paniculata* capsule is the first herb based drug produced by Thai Government Pharmaceutical Organization (FPO) that has been included in national drug list for a few years. In this report, the authors report a case of anaphylactoid reaction due to *Andrographis paniculata* capsule.

Keywords: *Andrographis paniculata*, anaphylaxis

INTRODUCTION

The use of herb derived drug in the present clinical practice is interesting. The concept of integration of local traditional medicine wisdom to the modern medicine has been widely practiced around the world. The good case studies are from China and India [1 - 2]. In Thailand, the local Ayurvedic system has been modernized and there are some new herb based drugs for use in modern clinical practice.

Andrographis paniculata capsule is the first herb based drug produced by Thai Government Pharmaceutical Organization (FPO) that has been included in national drug list for a few years [3]. The Thai GPO *Andrographis paniculata* capsule has already been widely used. In this report, the authors report a case of anaphylactoid reaction due to *Andrographis paniculata* capsule.

CASE REPORT

The patient is a 58 years old patient presenting with generalized urticarial and respiratory difficulty. The decreased blood pressure (90/50 mmHg) and palpitation (110/min) were observed. According to the history taking, this patient developed all symptoms within a few minutes of intake of oral GPO *Andrographis paniculata* capsule. This case was managed as an anaphylactoid case. The intravenous steroid therapy is given. The patient returned to normal within 1 day.

DISCUSSION

Andrographis paniculata capsule is a local made pharmaceutical product with use of local herb *Andrographis paniculata* capsule. This herb is well-known for its efficacy in management of respiratory tract infection [4 - 5]. It is accepted as a traditional medicine wisdom that is applicable for modern clinical practice. Richard et al. noted that there was no anaphylactic reaction to *Andrographis paniculata* [6]. However, in the present case report, the patients present with the clinical anaphylactoid and the clinical history show the strong association with the use of *Andrographis paniculata* capsule. There is a chance that the problem is induced by *Andrographis paniculata*.

Indeed, the clinical problem due to the uncontrolled herbal pharmaceutical product is sporadically reported in the literature. Sometimes, it might induce serious life threatening problem such as severe hypoglycemia [7]. The present case study is a little mentioned problem, anaphylactoid reaction due to *Andrographis paniculata* capsule. For modified traditional medicine product, it is necessary to study on the safety regarding allergies or anaphylactoid reactions and the post marketing surveillance system on adverse reaction is needed [8]. For a safe herbal product such as ginseng, the anaphylaxis might occur at any administration [9] and the practitioner has to recognize for the possibility.

CONCLUSION

In this report, the authors report a case of anaphylactoid reaction due to *Andrographis paniculata* capsule. Although *Andrographis paniculata* capsule is a pharmaceutical natural derived product and claimed for safety, the possibility of adverse effect should not be forgotten.

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