

INPLASY PROTOCOL

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Review Stage at time of this submission: Risk of bias assessment.

Conflicts of interest:
None declared.

The effectiveness and safety of Chinese herbal formula for idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis: an overview of systematic reviews

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Review question / Objective: Chinese herbal formula(CHF) is beneficial to the improvement of symptoms and quality of life of patients with idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis(IPF), and has good safety.

Condition being studied: The therapeutic strategies of IPF tend to be comprehensive. Improving the major symptoms and quality of life (QoL) is as important as postponing the process of fibrosis. At present, CHF alone or in combination with western medicine managements are widely applied in IPF treatment, which seemingly have a promising clinical effect, especially in ameliorating the main symptoms and improving QoL. Subsequently, the number of relevant studies in systematic reviews (SRs) and meta-analyses of randomized controlled trials(RCTs) increased significantly.

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 03 February 2021 and was last updated on 03 February 2021 (registration number INPLASY202120012).

INTRODUCTION

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applied in IPF treatment, which seemingly have a promising clinical effect, especially in ameliorating the main symptoms and improving QoL. Subsequently, the number of relevant studies in systematic reviews (SRs) and meta-analyses of randomized controlled trials(RCTs) increased significantly.

METHODS

Participant or population: We will restrict our overview to studies of human patients with IPF in stable stage. We will exclude meta-analyses of trials exclusively populations in IPF with acute exacerbation or IPF in stable period with other respiratory diseases.

Intervention: CHF alone or combined with western medicine interventions.

Comparator: Placebo, no treatment, western medicine interventions.

Study designs to be included: Systematic review and meta-analysis.

Eligibility criteria: Systematic review and meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.

Information sources: PubMed, EMBASE, The Cochrane Library, Web of Science, China National Knowledge Infrastructure, WangFang , VIP Database, SinoMed, PROSPERO, INPLASY.

Main outcome(s): Traditional Chinese Medicine symptom score, 6MWT, improvement of quality of life and adverse reactions.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: We will use AMSTAR 2, ROBIS and PRISMA to evaluate the quality of included systematic reviews. Two researchers will independently evaluate each SR. Differences will be reached an agreement through discussion or decided by a third senior researcher.

Strategy of data synthesis: we will implement a narrative synthesis of the evidence-based of our interest from the selected SRs.

Subgroup analysis: None.

Sensitivity analysis: None.

Country(ies) involved: China.

Keywords: Chinese herbal formula; idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis; Traditional Chinese Medicine, systematic review; overview.

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