

INPLASY PROTOCOL

To cite: Yin et al. Chinese herbal formula for chronic heart failure: A protocol for systematic review and meta-analysis of overview. Inplasy protocol 202360014. doi: 10.37766/inplasy2023.6.0014

Received: 04 June 2023

Published: 04 June 2023

Corresponding author:
Wenhao Yin

yinwenhaotougao@163.com

Author Affiliation:
Liaoning University of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

Support: Natural Science Foundation of China (NO:82174241); National Famous Traditional Chinese Medicine Expert Inheritance Studio Construction Project (No.2022-304).

Review Stage at time of this submission: Preliminary searches.

Conflicts of interest:
None declared.

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective: Our review aims to summarize and assess the Chinese herbal formula alone or combined with conventional western medicine for the treatment of chronic heart failure(CHF) and

Chinese herbal formula for chronic heart failure: A protocol for systematic review and meta-analysis of overview

Yin,WH¹; Zou, JY²; Zhang,Y³.

Review question / Objective: Our review aims to summarize and assess the Chinese herbal formula alone or combined with conventional western medicine for the treatment of chronic heart failure(CHF) and the literature quality of systematic reviews(SRs).

Condition being studied: Heart failure is a complex clinical syndrome caused by abnormal changes in heart structure and (or) function caused by various reasons, resulting in dysfunction of ventricular systolic and (or) diastolic function. Chronic heart failure patients are often hospitalized due to acute exacerbation of various triggers. The combination of Traditional Chinese Medicine(TCM) and Western medicine has become the basic mode of treatment for CHF in China. Chinese herbal formulas, as the main intervention measures of TCM, are widely used in clinical practice. At present, many systematic reviews of Chinese herbal formulas for CHF has been published.

INPLASY registration number: This protocol was registered with the International Platform of Registered Systematic Review and Meta-Analysis Protocols (INPLASY) on 04 June 2023 and was last updated on 04 June 2023 (registration number INPLASY202360014).

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systolic and (or) diastolic function. Chronic heart failure patients are often hospitalized due to acute exacerbation of various triggers. The combination of Traditional Chinese Medicine(TCM) and Western medicine has become the basic mode of treatment for CHF in China. Chinese herbal formulas, as the main intervention measures of TCM, are widely used in clinical practice. At present, many systematic reviews of Chinese herbal formulas for CHF has been published.

METHODS

Participant or population: Patients should be diagnosed as chronic heart failure by clearly defined or recognized diagnostic criteria, aged over 18 years old, with unrestricted NYHA cardiac functional grading.

Intervention: Chinese herbal formula vs. conventional western medicine treatment (CWMT), Chinese herbal formula+CWMT vs. placebo+CWMT, Chinese herbal formula+CWMT vs. CWMT.

Comparator: Chinese herbal formula vs. conventional western medicine treatment (CWMT), Chinese herbal formula+CWMT vs. placebo+CWMT, Chinese herbal formula+CWMT vs. CWMT.

Study designs to be included: Systematic review and(or) meta-analysis of randomized controlled trials.

Eligibility criteria: Systematic review and(or) meta-analysis based on randomized controlled trial is limited to Chinese and English.

Information sources: PubMed, Cochrane Library, Web of Science, China National Knowledge Infrastructure, Chinese Biomedical Literature Database, WangFang Database and Chinese Scientific Journal Database.

Main outcome(s): Clinical efficacy, TCM symptom score, improvement of clinical symptoms, LVEF, NYHA cardiac functional grading, 6-MWT, BNP/NT-proBNP, quality of

life, readmission rate for heart failure, all-cause mortality rate, adverse reactions, etc.

Quality assessment / Risk of bias analysis: Two reviewers will independently assess the quality of included systematic reviews using AMSTAR- 2 tool, the PRISMA tool and ROBIS tool. In case of any divergence will be reached an agreement by discussion or adjudicated by a third senior reviewer.

Strategy of data synthesis: Narrative (descriptive) synthesis is planned. We will produce and present a summary of all the results reported in the included SRs. We will provide the results of methodological quality assessed by AMSTAR-2, ROBIS and PRISMA in tabular form.

Subgroup analysis: None planned for the overview of systematic reviews.

Sensitivity analysis: None planned for the overview of systematic reviews.

Country(ies) involved: China.

Keywords: Chronic heart failure, Traditional Chinese Medicine, evidence-based medicine, overview of systematic review, integrated Traditional Chinese and Western Medicine.

Contributions of each author:

Author 1 - Wenhao Yin.

Email: yinwenhaotougao@163.com

Author 2 - Jiyu Zou.

Author 3 - Yan Zhang.