INPLASY

Traditional Chinese Medicine for Alzheimer's disease: A Scoping Review

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ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

INTRODUCTION

Review question / Objective This study aims to explore the distribution and trends of clinical studies on Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) for Alzheimer's related diseases.

Background Alzheimer's disease (AD) is a progressively debilitating neurodegenerative disorder and represents the most common form of dementia worldwide. It is clinically characterized by progressive memory decline and cognitive dysfunction, and has become one of the major global causes of mortality.
Known risk factors for Alzheimer's disease include educational attainment, cognitive activities, and higher body mass index in later life. Advancing age remains the strongest independent risk factor. Nevertheless, the precise pathogenesis of AD has not been fully elucidated.

Current mainstream pharmacotherapeutic options include acetylcholinesterase inhibitors (e.g., donepezil, rivastigmine, galantamine), N-methyl-D-aspartate (NMDA) receptor antagonists (e.g., memantine), and monoclonal antibodies (e.g., Aducanumab, Lecanemab). However, these treatments are often associated with adverse effects.
In contrast, interventions derived from traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) are increasingly being recognized for their potential r.

Rationale We have found that the clinical characteristics and details of Alzheimer's - related diseases are not well - defined and need to be re - examined.
When comparing similar papers, we have found that most literature fails to comprehensively elucidate the current status of TCM treatment for

Alzheimer's disease. Some even overlook the authenticity of clinical applications.

Therefore, we have designed this scoping review to incorporate a broader range of TCM intervention methods and patients in the course of Alzheimer's disease starting from mild cognitive impairment prevention. The aim is to conduct a more comprehensive review of the current status of TCM clinical interventions for Alzheimer's disease. Simultaneously, by increasing the sample size and conducting a risk - of - bias (ROB) assessment of randomized/non - randomized trials, we hope to improve the quality of this study and guide the future research and development of TCM treatment for Alzheimer's disease.

METHODS

Strategy of data synthesis Seven databases (CNKI, VIP, Wan Fang data, Sino Med, Cochrane library, PubMed, and Embase) were searched from the inception to October 13, 2024. Terms (taking Cochrane library database as an example): Alzheimer Disease, Medicine, Chinese Traditional, Plants, Medicinal ,Acupuncture Therapy, Acupuncture, Ear, Acupuncture Points, Medicine, East Asian Traditional, herbal medicine, Complementary Therapies.

Eligibility criteria The types of research include clinical studies (clinical observations), randomized controlled trials (randomized, blinded, double-blinded, single-blind methods, single-blind, placebo, prospective), non-randomized controlled trials, cohort studies, case-control studies, case series, observational studies, epidemiological surveys, cross-sectional studies, and registration. At least one of these groups involves the treatment of Alzheimer's/Dementia/Acute Cognitive Impairment patients with traditional Chinese medicine. Traditional Chinese medicine intervention refers to various intervention methods guided by traditional Chinese medicine theory, which can be divided into medicinal intervention (such as classic prescriptions, self-designed prescriptions, etc.), non-medicinal intervention methods (including body acupuncture, head acupuncture, etc., 32 types), and unclassifiable combinations of drugs and non-drugs intervention.

Source of evidence screening and selection
Researchers will screen the titles and abstracts that match the criteria and download the electronic versions. They will then be divided into pairs to independently extract the data. Each pair will complete the literature screening according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria and determine the screening and extraction results independently.

Any disagreements will be resolved through discussion until consensus is reached, with the involvement of a third researcher ifnecessary.

Data management Use Note Express for management and complete the duplicate checking. Finally, export the results in Excel format for analysis.

Language restriction No.

Country(ies) involved China.

Keywords Traditional Chinese Medicine, Alzheimer's disease, clinical study, scoping review.

Contributions of each author
Author 1 - RuoYing Cai - drafted the manuscript+ contributed to the development of the selection criteria, and the risk of bias assessment strategy + Was responsible for organizing the Project, involving 10 students. Led the establishment of a database. Was in charge of 8% of the database construction and 20% of the chart drawing work.
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