Effect of "Yojyo Henshiko, a new Chinese Herb Prescription", on Serum ALT and AST Levels in Patients with Hepatic Diseases

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[AIM]
Aim of the present study is to examine the effect of "Yojyo Henshiko", a new Chinese herb prescription, on patients with liver diseases including HCV.

[BACKGROUND]
"Yojyo Henshiko", a new Chinese herb prescription, is composed of panax pseudo-ginseng, eucomiac ulmoides, garlic acid-containing herbal extracts and licorice root. This prescription has been found to be effective in lowering serum levels of ALT and AST in rats with hepatic disease induced by D-glucosamine. In the present study, we examined the effect of the prescription on patients with liver diseases including hepatitis C virus (HCV) infection.

[COMPOSITION]
"Yojyo Henshiko" is composed of extracts of Panax-Pseudo Ginseng, Denshichi-Tochusei, Polygonati rhizoma, Licorices root.

[METHODS]
The prescription (1g) was given after each meal three times per day to patients with hepatic diseases under the control of physicians in a hospital.

[RESULTS AND DISCUSSION]
Serum levels of ALT and AST in the seven patients treated, including four patients suffered from HCV, were markedly lowered after treatment with the prescription for 10 days. In the four patients with HCV, the mean reductions in ALT and AST were 21% and 72%, respectively. These results substantiate clearly the effect of Yojyo Henshiko in lowering enhanced serum ALT and AST in patients with hepatic disease.

[CONCLUSION]
1) These results substantiate clearly the effect of "Yojyo Henshiko" in lowering the enhanced serum levels of ALT and AST in the patients with hepatic diseases.
2) Any side effects were not observed during the treatment.