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Can hospital osteomyelitis be treated without the use of antibiotics?

Huang Wei Ling

Medical Acupuncture and Pain Management Clinic, Brazil

Statement of the Problem: As we know osteomyelitis is a bone infection which can reach a bone by traveling through the bloodstream or spreading from nearby tissue. It can also begin in the bone itself if an injury exposes it to germs. Once considered an incurable condition, osteomyelitis can sometimes be successfully treated today by surgery to remove parts of the bone that have died and then with strong antibiotics. (Mayo) The purpose of this study was to show why the treatment of osteomyelitis is so difficult and in most cases incurable. However to improve chances of cure, we need to look at the patient in his entirety, and associate other theories that can be found within other traditions, and not only focus on the infected area. The methodology used was the presentation of two case reports, of which the first showed an infection resulting from knee fracture surgery done after a motorcycle accident that had been treated by the use of a large spectrum of antibiotics without any improvement. The second case was another hospital osteomyelitis after an exposed tibia fracture also after a motorcycle accident which had been treated profusely with antibiotics with any improvement.

Findings: Both cases were treated successfully taking out all the anti-inflammatory and antibiotic drugs, and then treated by changing diet, balancing the Yin, Yang, Qi, Blood energy and removing heat retention following the theories of Oriental Medicine. In these two cases, the condition that was maintaining the symptoms of infection was exactly the aggressive use of antibiotics.

Conclusion: The treatment of osteomyelitis showed in this study, demonstrated to us that we need to see the patient and not only the disease, to treat adequately the symptoms presented by the patient, and both cases were successfully treated without the use of antibiotics

Biography

Huang Wei Ling is graduated in medicine in Brazil, specializing in infectious and parasitic diseases, a General Practitioner and Parenteral and Enteral Medical Nutrition Therapist. She has been In Charge of the Hospital Infection Control Service of the City of Franca's General Hospital, she was responsible for the control of all prescribed antimicrobial medication, and received an award for the best paper presented at the Brazilian Hospital infection Control Congress in 1998. She was coordinator of both the Infection Control and the Nutritional Support Committee in Sao Joaquim Hospital in Franca, and also worked at the infectious Sexually Transmitted Disease Reference Center. She is the owner of the Medical Acupuncture and Pain Management Clinic, and since 1997 she has been presenting her work worldwide concerning the treatment of various diseases using techniques based on several medical traditions around the world.

weilingmg@gmail.com

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