

Randomized Controlled Double Blind Study of Bee-venom Therapy on Rheumatoid Arthritis

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Objective: This study was performed in order to evaluate the effect of bee venom therapy on rheumatoid arthritis by randomized controlled double blind method.

Methods: RA patients were recruited and divided into an experiment group and a control group by random selection. As a double blind test, the experimental group was treated with bee venom injection on acupoints, and the control group was treated with normal saline injection on acupoints twice a week for 8 weeks. Tender joint count, swollen joint count, morning stiffness, pain, health assessment questionnaire, ESR, and CRP were estimated and analyzed at baseline, and at 1 month and 2 months after bee venom therapy.

Results: Compared to the control group, the experiment group showed significant decrease in tender joint count, swollen joint count, morning stiffness, and health assessment questionnaire after 2 months. Pain, ESR and CRP showed significant decrease in the experiment group after 1 & 2 months.

Conclusion: These results suggest that bee venom therapy could be an effective method in the treatment of patients with rheumatoid arthritis.

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