



Correspondence

Author's reply to correspondence 'influenza like illness related clinical trial on AYUSH-64 requires cautious interpretation'



1. Reply to comments on the correspondence [1]

1. In the current scenario, trials based on AYUSH-64 are only as stand-alone or add-on intervention in asymptomatic, mild or moderate COVID-19 cases and not for prophylaxis.
2. The study on which this research article is based was a prospective, open-label, non-randomized, single group, single-center pilot clinical study with pre- and post-test design which is clearly defined in the article. It may be noted that there was no comparator arm and hence, no details for the same were given in CTRL. The medicines namely, acetaminophen, anti-histaminic, etc were used as rescue medications only. The frequency of usage of these medicines was therefore noted as this was one of the secondary outcomes as has been mentioned in the article. In Table 2 of the article, it has been given that at different assessment points how many patients needed these medications. These medicines were not prescribed on regular basis to all the participants.
3. Further, this trial was undertaken as a pilot study to evaluate the efficacy of AYUSH-64 in the management of ILI-like symptoms. It may be noted that the authors have not claimed for its anti-viral action in this study. Limitations of this study have clearly been stated in the article.
4. By mentioning that the study was focused on clinically diagnosed ILI condition with only clinical safety related biochemical parameters, the authors clarify that this pilot study was taken up only to evaluate the efficacy of AYUSH-64 in ILI like symptoms and its clinical safety was assessed through certain biochemical parameters.

2. Author's note

In the present article authors have not claimed AYUSH-64 as an anti-viral medication. The authors have stated that AYUSH-64 is safe and effective in the management of ILI like symptoms and it may not be seen as any miracle drug against COVID-19 just on the basis of the results of this pilot study which has its own limitations.

Source(s) of funding

None.

Conflict of interest

None.

References

- [1] Pandey DN, Rastogi S, Agarwal GG, Lakhotia SC. Influenza like illness related clinical trial on AYUSH-64 requires cautious interpretation. *J Ayurveda Integr Med* 2020. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jaim.2020.07.005>.

Manohar S. Gundeti*, Laxman W. Bhurke, Pallavi S. Mundada
Research Officer (Ayu), RRAP Central Ayurveda Research Institute for Cancer (CCRAS), Mumbai, India

Sanjay Murudkar
Consultant (Internal Medicine), RRAP Central Ayurveda Research Institute for Cancer (CCRAS), Mumbai, India

Ashita Surve
Senior Research Fellow (Ayu), RRAP Central Ayurveda Research Institute for Cancer (CCRAS), Mumbai, India

Ramavatar Sharma, Sunita Mata
Research Officer (Ayu), Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

Rakesh Rana
Statistical Officer, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

Richa Singhal
Statistical Assistant, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

Neera Vyas
Assistant Director (Medicine), Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

Shruti Khanduri, B.S. Sharma
Research Officer (Ayu), Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

N. Srikanth
Deputy Director General, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

K.S. Dhiman
Director General, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, Ministry of AYUSH, GoI, New Delhi, India

* Corresponding author.
E-mail: gundetipanchakarma@gmail.com.

8 August 2020

Available online 27 December 2021