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The effects of treatment of pulmonary damage in acute paraquat poisoning with high dose ambroxol hydrochloride

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Objective: To observe the effects of treatment of pulmonary damage in acute paraquat poisoning with high dose ambroxol hydrochloride.

Methods: Forty patients of acute paraquat poisoning with pulmonary damage were randomly divided into 2 groups: control group (n=20) and treatment group (n=20). The control group received conventional therapy, and the treatment group underwent intravenous infusion of ambroxol hydrochloride 20 mg/kg/d q12 h for 5 days in addition to routine treatment. The arterial blood gas, HRCT film changes, number of cases with multiple organ dysfunction syndrome (MODS), mortality, and survival time of the patients who died were observed.

Results: After treatment, oxygen partial pressure, oxygenation index, and HRCT film changes were all improved in the control and treatment groups ($P<0.01$ and $P<0.05$, respectively), but more so in the treatment group compared with the control group ($P<0.05$). The number of MODS cases and mortality of the treatment group wasn't significantly different from those of the control group. After treatment, the plasma level of MDA decreased in both 2 groups, but more so in the treatment group compared with the control group ($P<0.05$). Plasma SOD (Ku/L) rose in both groups, but more so in the treatment group compared with the control group ($P<0.01$).

Conclusion: High dose ambroxol can be adopted to improve the anti-oxidant capacity of the organism, inhibit lipid peroxidation and lessen pulmonary damage, thus it may be therapeutically beneficial for the treatment of acute paraquat poisoning.