## The experience of the clinical use of AHCC<sup>®</sup> in the treatment of severe forms of herpes virus infections

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[Aim] To study the therapeutic and prophylactic efficacy of AHCC in patients with complicated forms of recurrent herpetic infection.

[Methods] Fourteen patients (eight women and six men) were examined with recurrent genital herpes and the presence of complications such as infertility, spontaneous abortion, and inflammatory processes in the pelvic organs. A prerequisite for inclusion in the test group was the presence of resistance to all antiviral chemotherapy drugs. The diagnosis of recurrent herpes was established on the basis of clinical symptoms, the results of enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay (ELISA), polymerase chain reaction (PCR), and the reaction of passive hemagglutination with erythrocyte diagnosticum. Before and during the treatment, all patients underwent general clinical examination and research of cellular immunity parameters. The formulation of all immunological tests was carried out using blood lymphocytes isolated according to the method of A. K. Lebedeva and I. D. Ponyakinoy. Statistical processing of the obtained data was carried out according to the method of I. A. Oyvin. The dose of AHCC was 6 capsules per day (2 g/day), and the course of treatment was three months.

**[Results]** The results of the research show that in the development of the chronic process an important role is played by a decrease in cellular and humoral immunity. The use of the AHCC drug in patients with recurrent herpes has shown a high antiviral and immunomodulating effects due to an increase in neutralizing antibodies and a significant increase in T and B lymphocytes. Clinically, these changes have led to a reduction in the recurrence of the disease and an increase in the remission period by more than 2.7 times, as well as the restoration of reproductive functions in women. Thus, AHCC has a high therapeutic and anti-relapse effect, is well tolerated by patients, does not cause adverse reactions, and can be recommended for the prevention and treatment of herpes virus infections and the complications caused by them.