

## Phase I/II Clinical Study of AHCC as Adverse Effect Reducer in Cancer Patients with Chemotherapy (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Report)

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Active Hexose Correlated Compound (AHCC), a culture extract from *Basidiomycetes*, was administered to cancer patients during chemotherapy for evaluating not only the safety but also the effectiveness on chemo-induced adverse effects. Twenty-two patients, such as pancreatic (8), ovarian (6), lung (5), and colorectal cancers (3), were enrolled in this study.

All patients received the first cycle of chemotherapy without AHCC and then did the second cycle with AHCC (3 g, p.o, t.i.d.). We evaluated chemo-induced adverse effects and QOL of the patients by blood tests, EORTC QLQ-C30 questionnaire, autonomic nerve function by accelero-pedometer, and DNA level of HHV-6 in saliva weekly. Reactivation of HHV-6 in saliva was examined for viral DNA by semi-quantitative PCR method.

Administration of AHCC improved hematologic toxicity (neutropenia) and hepatotoxicity, and had a decreased tendency of QLQ-C30 fatigue scale, and interestingly the levels of HHV-6 in saliva during chemotherapy.

Taken together, our data suggested that AHCC could be safely administered with reduced adverse effects during chemotherapy and further the level of HHV-6 could be a good marker of QOL in such cancer patients.