

Research Article

Therapeutic Efficacy of an Herbal Remedy in the Treatment of Some Chronic Viral Infectious Diseases

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Abstract

Background: Currently, there are still no satisfactory treatment options available for viral infectious diseases. Recent reports suggest that Marecipe AV, a herbal remedy, has shown significant therapeutic benefits in managing viral infections, especially those that are life-threatening, in both humans and animals. **Methods:** This review was compiled by analyzing published studies and integrating unpublished clinical and experimental data on Marecipe AV therapies from the original authors. **Results:** In managing postherpetic neuralgia, most patients experienced complete pain relief within 5 days of treatment. About 20% required 20 days or more of oral Marecipe AV therapy for full pain resolution. Once relieved, the pain did not return in any treated cases. All 28 patients achieved clinical cure, with no treatment failures. In managing feline chronic gingivostomatitis, all cats (62/62) treated with Marecipe AV monotherapy achieved clinical cure, resulting in a 100% treatment response and clinical cure rate. High recurrence rates were observed, with an 83.33% recurrence rate at 3 months in treated cases. In the group receiving three retreatments with Marecipe AV, the recurrence rate at 3 months was 28.57%. In managing feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), all treated cats showed a rapid response and reversal of disease signs within 2 to 5 days. The treatment response rate was 100%, with a mortality rate of 0% in the treatment group and 100% in the control group. For treating iridovirus infection in largemouth bass, final mortality dropped from 34% in untreated controls to under 1% in the treated group. By Day 7 post-treatment, virological clearance was observed in all 30 randomly sampled specimens, along with restored feeding behavior. The results of Marecipe AV herbal medicine in preventing the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus in domestic pigs showed that the treated group had a morbidity rate of 0%, while the untreated group had a morbidity rate of 41%. Additionally, the untreated pigs had a mortality rate of 21%. **Conclusion:** Marecipe AV herbal therapeutics has demonstrated a rapid ability to alleviate clinical symptoms and achieve complete clinical recovery for many chronic viral infections in humans, animals, and aquaculture species.

Keywords

Herbal Medicine, Viral Infectious Diseases, Postherpetic Neuralgia, Feline Infectious Peritonitis, Feline Chronic Gingivitis-stomatitis, Iridovirus Infection, Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome

1. Introduction

There is still an absence of effective treatments for viral infectious diseases, including chronic viral infectious diseases.

The virus pathogens have and will continue to pose a significant global threat with the potential to cause substantial

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morbidity and mortality. [1] Urgently needed are effective antivirals to combat the increasing number of emerging and reemerging viruses in the future. [2, 3]

Postherpetic neuralgia (PHN), a chronic complication of herpes zoster, represents the most prevalent form of neuropathic pain following herpes zoster reactivation. The management of PHN poses a formidable clinical challenge, requiring long-term analgesic strategies. Current therapeutic approaches, including corticosteroids, systemic analgesics, and physical therapy, demonstrate limited efficacy in alleviating PHN-associated pain. [4, 5]

Feline chronic gingival stomatitis (FCGS) is a severe inflammatory syndrome associated with feline calicivirus (FCV) that affects 26% of cats. FCGS is a frustrating condition for clinicians due to its frequently suboptimal treatment outcomes. While complete tooth extraction, considered the gold standard for the treatment of FCGS, is one of the leading treatment modalities, its response rate is observed to be 41% to 58%. Notably, none of the treatments has proven to be definitive. [6, 7]

Feline infectious peritonitis (FIP) is a common and highly lethal coronavirus disease in domestic cats. In recent years, a breakthrough has been made in the treatment of FIP, which has been transformed from a "fatal disease" in the past to one that is expected to be clinically curable. The emergence of antiviral drugs such as GS-441524 and Molnupiravir nucleoside analogues has completely changed the treatment paradigm for FIP. Treatment with these drugs has reduced the mortality rate of FIP from 95% to approximately 40%. Although the cure rate of FIP has greatly improved, challenges remain in the treatment prospects for feline infectious peritonitis. [8, 9]

Iridovirus infection in largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) is a viral infectious disease caused by Largemouth bass ranavirus (LMBV), with high mortality (60% to 100%) and a serious threat to aquaculture. Currently, there is no specific treatment or effective vaccine to prevent or treat this viral disease. [10, 11]

Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS) is a severe infectious disease caused by the PRRS virus (PRRSV), which is widespread in all countries with pig populations. Similar to other viral diseases, PRRS currently lacks a completely effective treatment. Despite ongoing research aimed at understanding the pathogenesis and vaccinology of PRRSV, a successful vaccine for preventing PRRSV remains elusive. [12, 13]

Feng and his team recently reported a revolutionary antiviral therapy involving an herbal remedy for acute viral infectious diseases. This remedy, known as Marecipe AV, is derived from an ancient herbal formula called Ma Recipe, which was originally utilized for treating venomous snake bites. [14-16] Previous reports have demonstrated that Marecipe AV can reduce mortality rates from nearly 100% to 0% for several acute viral infectious diseases with high mortality, including critically ill patients with COVID-19, African

swine fever in domestic pigs, avian influenza in chickens, canine distemper, and canine parvovirus in dogs. [17-22] It achieves cure and complete control of these viral infectious diseases. Marecipe AV herbal therapeutics for the treatment of viral infections represent the most significant breakthrough in modern medicine. In this review, we present the clinical outcomes of Marecipe AV in the treatment of various chronic viral infectious diseases, including postherpetic neuralgia, feline chronic gingival stomatitis, feline infectious peritonitis, porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome, and iridovirus infection in largemouth bass.

2. Materials and Methods

This review was synthesized through a systematic analysis of both peer-reviewed publications and gray literature (including unpublished studies), integrating primary clinical data on Marecipe AV therapies obtained through direct correspondence with the original investigators.

3. Results

3.1. Outcomes of Marecipe AV Herbal Therapy in Acute Herpes Zoster Infection and Postherpetic Neuralgia

In the management of acute herpes zoster infection, severe pain was completely alleviated within 1 to 3 days following Marecipe AV administration across all treated cases, with no recurrence after resolution. A 7-day regimen of Marecipe AV facilitated rapid symptom resolution and comprehensive healing of herpes zoster lesions. Critically, none of the 60 cases treated with Marecipe AV developed postherpetic neuralgia (PHN), as confirmed by follow-up assessments.

In the management of postherpetic neuralgia (PHN), all 28 patients treated with Marecipe AV achieved pain resolution within 5 to 9 days. However, approximately 20% of cases required an extended 20-day oral Marecipe AV regimen for sustained symptom control. Durable remission was observed in all treated patients, with no pain recurrence during follow-up periods.

3.2. Outcomes of Marecipe AV Herbal Therapy in the Treatments of Feline Chronic Gingival Stomatitis (FCGS)

All cats (62/62) treated with Marecipe AV monotherapy achieved clinical cure, resulting in a treatment response rate and clinical cure rate of 100%. Drooling and tearing resolved within 2 to 5 days in all cases treated with Marecipe AV monotherapy. Mild to moderate cases achieved clinical cure within 7 to 15 days of treatment. Cats with severe ACGS attained clinical cure after an average of 63.5 days (range: 45

to 85 days) of treatment. A significant reduction in viral load was observed by day 7 after treatment (mean Ct 30.49 vs. baseline 23.90) in all treated cases. By day 15, the mean Ct was 33.87 (near the detection limit). Complete viral clearance (Ct=0) occurred in 3 cats after more than 45 days. High recurrence rates were noted, with a recurrence rate of 83.33% at 3 months in mild to moderate cases and 63.63% in severe cases. The recurrence rate at 3 months was 28.57% in the group that received three times retreatments with Marecipe AV.

3.3. Outcomes of Marecipe AV Herbal Therapy in Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP)

As of this reporting period, 18 cats diagnosed with FIP (11 with the non-effusive [dry] form and 7 with the effusive [wet] form) received Marecipe AV monotherapy. All cases exhibited a rapid clinical response within 2–5 days, characterized by the reversal of key disease signs (e.g., resolution of ascites, improved activity). The albumin-to-globulin (A/G) ratio normalized to >0.8 within 2–5 days post-treatment. After 14 days of therapy, all 18 cats achieved clinical recovery, and treatment was discontinued; however, two cats with effusive FIP retained mild residual ascites, and some A/G ratios remained <1.5. The final response rate was 100%, with no mortality recorded. In contrast, all concurrently hospitalized cats whose owners declined both GS-441524 and Marecipe AV therapies succumbed to the disease.

3.4. Outcomes of Marecipe AV Herbal Therapy in the Treatment of Iridovirus Infection in Largemouth Bass

Experiments were conducted in nine adjacent ponds containing 4000 Largemouth bass. Cumulative mortality at 30 days was 1.2% in the Marecipe AV treatment group, 1% in the Marecipe AV prevention group, and 34% in the untreated control group. The amount of fish intake in the treated group began to recover after 2 to 5 days of treatment and reached full normalcy by 7 to 9 days. Surface ulcers healed approximately 12 days after treatment. The specific growth rate (SGR) was not significantly different between the treated group and the healthy controls. Virological examination revealed that no iridovirus was detected in any specimens from the Marecipe AV group after 7 days of treatment or in the Marecipe AV prophylaxis group.

3.5. Outcomes of Marecipe AV Herbal Medicine in the Prophylactic Treatment of PRRSV-infected Domestic Pigs

A total of 400 domestic pigs aged 1.5 months on a farm were enrolled in the study. Among them, 15 pigs developed typical PRRS symptoms, and 6 pigs died prior to the initiation of treatment. All 10 randomly selected samples from the pigs

tested positive for HP-PRRSV infection when analyzed by Reverse Transcription-Polymerase Chain Reaction (RT-PCR). Based on these findings, the farm was identified as a high-risk site for PRRSV infection. None of the pigs exhibited symptoms of PRRSV before the start of the oral Marecipe AV herb. Three hundred domestic pigs in the treatment group received a 7-day prophylactic treatment with oral Marecipe AV, while 100 pigs served as the control group without such treatment. Three months after the initial treatment, the morbidity rate in the treated group was 0% compared to 41% in the untreated pigs. In addition, the mortality rate was 21% in the untreated pigs.

4. Discussion

Currently, there is still no satisfactory treatment for viral infectious diseases. Previous studies have demonstrated that Marecipe AV herbal therapy exerts significant therapeutic effects on acute viral infections across multiple species, with no documented treatment failures. For some deadly viral infections, Marecipe AV herbal therapy has achieved clinical cure and complete control of these diseases. [21] The present review highlights the remarkable efficacy of Marecipe AV against chronic viral pathologies in humans, companion animals, and aquaculture species.

Marecipe AV herbal remedy demonstrates potent therapeutic efficacy for chronic viral infectious diseases. All the presented findings indicated a clinical cure. The mortality associated with the Marecipe AV therapy was significantly reduced in the studies with death as the endpoint, including those involving feline chronic gingivostomatitis syndrome (FCGS), feline infectious anemia (FIA), porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS), and largemouth bass infected with largemouth bass virus (LMBV).

Marecipe AV therapeutic exhibits potent pharmacotherapeutic effects on virus-related inflammation and viral replication in chronic viral infectious diseases. In feline chronic gingivostomatitis (FCGS), drooling and epiphora resolved within 2–5 days under Marecipe AV monotherapy, accompanied by a significant reduction in viral load (quantified by Ct values) by day 7 post-treatment. For postherpetic neuralgia (PHN), complete pain resolution was achieved within 5 to 9 days in most cases. In feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), rapid reversal of clinical signs (e.g., ascites reduction, improved activity) occurred within 2–5 days, with normalization of the albumin-to-globulin (A/G) ratio to >0.8 within the same timeframe. In largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*) infected with largemouth bass virus (LMBV), feed intake recovered to baseline within 2–5 days and fully normalized by 7–9 days, with no mortality observed beyond this period. Complete viral clearance (undetectable via PCR) was confirmed in all treated subjects by day 7. All results suggest that Marecipe AV herbal therapeutics can relieve clinical symptoms and clear the virus in a short treatment period.

Marecipe AV herbal therapy demonstrates potent antiviral

efficacy across multiple species. It has shown consistent therapeutic outcomes in over 25 distinct viral infections affecting humans, swine, canines, felines, fish, rabbits, poultry, and ostriches. All treated cases achieved clinical resolution with no documented therapeutic failures.

Marecipe AV herbal therapy exhibits broad-spectrum antiviral and anti-inflammatory activity. The results indicate that the Marecipe AV herbal remedy has therapeutic effects for diseases associated with various types of viruses, including postherpetic neuralgia related to the varicella-zoster virus (Herpesviridae, double-stranded DNA genome), FCGS associated with the feline calicivirus (Caliciviridae, single-stranded RNA virus), PRRS linked to the porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome virus (Arteriviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), FIP related to the feline infectious peritonitis virus (Coronaviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), and largemouth bass infected with largemouth bass ranavirus (genus *Ranavirus*, family Iridoviridae, double-stranded DNA genome). Additionally, previous reports indicate that Marecipe AV has demonstrated therapeutic effects for acute viral infections caused by various viruses, including COVID-19 (Coronaviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), influenza (Orthomyxoviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), viral hepatitis B (Hepadnaviridae, double-stranded DNA genome), AIDS (Retroviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), feline acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (FAIDS) (feline immunodeficiency virus, Retroviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), canine distemper (Paramyxoviridae, single-stranded RNA genome), African swine fever (Asfarviridae, double-stranded DNA genome), and avian influenza (Orthomyxoviridae, negative-sense RNA virus), among others. It is noteworthy that the Marecipe AV treatment approach is effective against all types of viruses, with no reported cases of treatment failure.

The long-term efficacy of Marecipe AV herbal therapy for certain chronic infectious diseases remains unclear. Clinical observations indicate that the Marecipe AV herbal remedy achieves viral suppression rather than viral clearance in the treatment of several chronic viral infections. Results demonstrated a high short-term relapse rate within 3 months post-treatment for FCGS, including in cats maintained in FCV-free environments after clinical cure. Quantitative PCR (qPCR) analysis revealed that only 3% of treated cases attained the lower limit of virus detection, indicating that Marecipe AV primarily induces viral suppression rather than eradication. It is hypothesized that Marecipe AV therapy may exhibit long-term efficacy in chronic infections where host immunity can independently clear the virus (e.g., HPV). However, for conditions reliant on sustained antiviral pressure (e.g., chronic hepatitis B, FCGS), long-term treatment may not achieve complete viral clearance and may lead to disease recurrence. [21]

The pharmacological mechanisms of action underlying Marecipe AV therapeutics have yet to be fully elucidated. As a multi-component herbal formulation, its primary molecular

targets remain undefined. In a study involving FCGS treatment, severe symptoms such as oral ulceration and hypersalivation resolved rapidly within 2 to 5 days of therapy. Notably, high levels of FCV viral loads persisted during this time, suggesting that the therapeutic effects of Marecipe AV may not primarily depend on direct viral clearance. However, rapid clearance of the virus after Marecipe AV treatment in several viral infections has been observed. This leads to speculation that the formulation may target the interface of virus-host inflammatory interactions rather than the virions themselves, potentially blocking the immune system's response to viral particles and thereby alleviating immune-mediated pathological damage.

5. Conclusions

Marecipe AV, an herbal remedy, demonstrates significant therapeutic efficacy in treating chronic viral infectious diseases caused by various viruses across different species. Its efficacy has resulted in clinical cures in all treated cases, representing a major breakthrough in the management of chronic viral infections. Marecipe AV herbal therapy holds the potential to evolve into a genuinely effective therapeutic approach for chronic viral infections. However, the long-term efficacy of Marecipe AV herbal therapy for certain chronic viral infections requires further investigation.

Abbreviations

PHN	Postherpetic Neuralgia
FCGS	Feline Chronic Gingival Stomatitis
FCV	Feline Calicivirus
FIP	Feline Infectious Peritonitis
LMBV	Largemouth Bass Ranavirus
PRRS	Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome
HP-PRRSV	Highly pathogenic Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus
SGR	Specific Growth Rate
RT-PCR	Reverse Transcription Polymerase Chain Reaction
qPCR	Quantitative PCR

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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