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Effectiveness of a multi-ingredient coriolus versicolor-based vaginal gel in hpv+ and hiv+ patients: A pilot observational study

Patricia Sanmartin

Procare Health Iberia, Spain

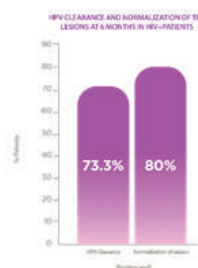
Background/Objectives: Immunosuppressed human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) -positive patients are at greater risk of incident, persistent, or recurrent human papillomavirus (HPV) infection. They also have lower clearance rate, higher viral load, and a marked predisposition for being colonized by several serotypes: all leading to more frequent and severe HPV-dependent lesions¹. A *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel have shown to repair HPV-dependent low-grade cervical lesions and to increase high-risk HPV clearance in immunocompetent HPV-positive patients².

The aim is to provide evidence about the effectiveness of a multi-ingredient *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel on HPV-dependent cervical alterations and HPV clearance in HIV+ patients.

Methods: Pilot, prospective, one-cohort, observational study. 15 HIV-positive patients colonized by HPV in the endocervix region with an anomalous cervicovaginal cytology were included to receive a *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel 1 cannula/day for 21 days during first month + 1 cannula/alternate days for 5 months. Analysis of HPV patients with normal cytology and colposcopy image (improved alterations) and patients with HPV cleared (measured using hybrid capture test) is presented. The study was approved by an IRB and informed consent was signed by patients.

Results: The overall HPV clearance and cytological normalization rates were 73.33% and 80%, respectively. Endocervical colonization by HPV also partially cleared in 13.33% of the cases. At the end of the study, the normalization of the colposcopy anomalies associated to HPV was achieved in 55.56%.

Conclusions: Our results suggest that the proposed *Coriolus versicolor*-based vaginal gel treatment scheme could be an effective therapy in the management of endocervical HPV infection in HIV + patients. Its effects are similar to those obtained in patients without immunosuppression.



Biography

Patricia is a passionate pharmacist with a PhD in Cell Signaling and over 8 years of research expertise in basic and translational research. Throughout my experience, I have nurtured my passion to improve patient's lives, working for them as a researcher and directly with them at local and hospital pharmacies. Currently I continue to do so in Procare Health as International Medical Advisor.

sanmartin.p@procarehealth.com