LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Efficacy of Thymoquinone in the Treatment of COPD

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Dear Editor;

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a common disease that causes deterioration of the airways and alveoli as a result of exposure to harmful gases and genetic interaction. COPD is a disease with high morbidity and mortality rates despite current treatments. Therefore, early diagnosis is very important and improvements in treatment are needed[1,2)]. Proinflammatory cytokines are released by activating cyclooxygenase-2 (COX 2) in COPD.In addition, in recent studies, it has been determined that defects in genes associated with tumor development develop during the disease process[3)].

Thymoquinone is a bioactive component obtained from the seed of nigella sativa. Experimental studies have shown that it can be effective in the treatment of acute and chronic inflammatory diseases, including cancer. It has an anti-inflammatory effect, especially by inhibiting COX-2[4)]. The efficacy of thymoquinone in the treatment of COPD is unknown. However, in recent studies, its protective effect has been shown in mice with airway damage due to long-term exposure to cigarettes[5)]. We think that thymoquinone may be effective in the prevention and treatment of COPD. Therefore, further clinical and experimental studies on this subject are required.

DISCLOSURE

The authors report no conflict of interest.

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