TITLE: Oral Ginger for the Management of Chemotherapy-Induced Nausea and Vomiting in Pediatric Patients: Clinical Effectiveness and Safety

DATE: 15 August 2014

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What is the clinical effectiveness of oral ginger for the management of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting (CINV) in pediatric patients?

2. What is the clinical evidence on the safety and harms of oral ginger for the management of CINV in pediatric patients?

KEY FINDINGS

One randomized controlled trial was identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of oral ginger for the management of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in pediatric patients.

METHODS

A limited literature search was conducted on key resources including PubMed, The Cochrane Library (2014, Issue 8), University of York Centre for Reviews and Dissemination (CRD) databases, Canadian and major international health technology agencies, as well as a focused Internet search. No filters were applied to limit the retrieval by study type. Where possible, retrieval was limited to the human population. The search was also limited to English language documents published between January 1, 2009 and August 4, 2014. Internet links were provided, where available.

The summary of findings was prepared from the abstracts of the relevant information. Please note that data contained in abstracts may not always be an accurate reflection of the data contained within the full article.

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**SELECTION CRITERIA**

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<tr>
<th>Table 1: Selection Criteria</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Population</strong></td>
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<td>Pediatric oncology patients (≤18 years old) receiving highly emetogenic chemotherapy</td>
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<td><strong>Intervention</strong></td>
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<td>Oral ginger (e.g., Gravol Natural Source) as add-on therapy or for patients refractory to other anti-emetic therapies</td>
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<td><strong>Comparator</strong></td>
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<td>Placebo, 5HT₃ antagonists (with or without a corticosteroid)</td>
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<td><strong>Outcomes</strong></td>
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<td>Decrease in nausea and vomiting, adverse events</td>
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<td><strong>Study Designs</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized controlled trials, and non-randomized studies</td>
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**RESULTS**

Rapid Response reports are organized so that the higher quality evidence is presented first. Therefore, health technology assessment reports, systematic reviews, and meta-analyses are presented first. These are followed by randomized controlled trials, and non-randomized studies.

One randomized controlled trial was identified regarding the clinical effectiveness of oral ginger for the management of chemotherapy-induced nausea and vomiting in pediatric patients. No relevant health technology assessments, systematic reviews, meta-analyses, or non-randomized studies were identified.

Additional references of potential interest are provided in the appendix.

**OVERALL SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

One randomized controlled trial examined the efficacy of ginger powder as add-on therapy for children and young adults receiving high emetogenic chemotherapy. Patients were randomized to receive ginger root powder capsules or placebo capsules as an add-on to ondansetron and dexamethasone. The authors concluded that ginger root powder capsules were effective at significantly reducing the severity of nausea and vomiting associated with chemotherapy.
REFERENCES SUMMARIZED

Health Technology Assessments
No literature identified.

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses
No literature identified.

Randomized Controlled Trials


Non-Randomized Studies
No literature identified.

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APPENDIX – FURTHER INFORMATION:

Systematic Reviews and Meta-analyses – Age of Population Not Specified


Review Articles – Age of Population Not Specified


Additional References