

6th Annual Congress on Gynecology and Women's Health

November 21, 2022 | Webinar

Received date : 07-09-2022 | Accepted date : 09-09-2022 | Published date : 05-12-2022

Effectiveness of a Multi-ingredient Coriolus Versicolor-Based Vaginal Gel in HPV+ and HIV+ Patients: A Pilot Observational Study

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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 Colorius 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 HPVdependent 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.

Recent Publications

- 1. Liu G, Sharma M, Tan N, Barnabas RV. HIV-positive women have higher risk of human papilloma virus infection, precancerous lesions and cervical cancer. AIDS. 2018 Mar 27;32(6):795-808
- Serrano, Luis et al. "Efficacy of a Coriolus versicolor-Based Vaginal Gel in Women With Human Papillomavirus-Dependent Cervical Lesions: The PALOMA Study." Journal of lower genital tract disease vol. 25,2 (2021): 130-136.
- Stelzle, Dominik et al. "Estimates of the global burden of cervical cancer associated with HIV." The Lancet. Global health vol. 9,2 (2021): e161-e169.