

Four cases of Hymenoptera stings successfully treated with traditional Japanese medicine

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Abstract

Four cases of painful swelling caused by Hymenoptera stings were treated with Kampo medicines. A 60-year-old man was stung by a hornet and suffered from anaphylactic shock. Local reactions such as redness and swelling were aggravated the next day. Saireito was administered to treat swelling of the forearms. An 83-year-old man was stung 3 times by a hornet and suffered a severe painful swelling in both upper limbs. Eppikajutsuto was administered immediately. A 69-year-old woman was stung by a paper wasp on her face. Swelling and discomfort of the face lasted 7 days. Jidabokuippo was administered. A 19-year-old man was stung by a paper wasp on the side of his chest. Three days later, the site of the sting developed pustular eruption. Hainosankyuto was administered. All symptoms in all 4 patients were improved without any side effects. Kampo medicines are potentially useful in local reactions caused by Hymenoptera stings.

Key words : Hymenoptera sting, Kampo medicine, swelling, diuretic formulation, antioxidant capacity