

Treatment of bedsores by Asvad salve in Traditional Iranian Medicine

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Background and Aims: Bed sore is a kind of sore that is created in areas of body that they are in constant contact with bed more than 24 hours. The disease mostly occurs in aging due to inactivity. In traditional Iranian medicine (TIM) bed sore kind of ulcers that is very corrupt and is caused due to lack of blood and the improvement is long. Ethnomedicine is cheaper and more successful in healing than modern medicine.

Methods: Treatment of bedsores in TIM is based on improving nutrition, eating blood-producing foods, massage around the wound and usage of Asvad salve. This salve has been experienced for a long time in folk medicine and traditional medicine of Iran. Its components are litharge, olive oil, mastic gum, turpentine gum, honey, pine resin and bees wax.

Results and Conclusions: litharge is the main part and it has these effects: detergent, resolvent, desiccant, absorbent, corrosive decayed flesh, effective in creating of outgrowing flesh and the healing of deep wounds. On the other hand, each component of this formula is also effective in wound healing, lonely. Since one of the components of litharge is lead oxide, it can increase blood flow to the area around the wound and it is healing faster. Honey, mastic and turpentine gum have anti-bacterial effect. Litharge preparation in TIM has very long process with use of modified drugs for prevention of lead poisoning. Clinical research has been done on this salve very little but its indigenous and traditional usage for a long time has shown that is very effective and without side effects. So we suggest further research on this formula.

Keywords: Bedsores; Traditional Iranian Medicine; Asvad salve