The Kampo Medicine in the Obstetrics and Gynecology

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It is well known that more of the kampo medicine in the obstetrics and gynecology (ob/gy) have been applied in the treatment than any other clinical areas. Since indeterminate symptoms such as menopausal disorders and premenstrual syndrome are limited to be treated by the western medicine, various symptoms from these diseases would not be effective in the treatment without the kampo medicine. Moreover, it can be used in almost safety for the treatment during pregnancy and nursing. And this reliability brings the patient a sense of security.

The kampo medicine’s views of human body and disease are based on the concept of Hakkoubenshou consisting of inyou, kyojitsu, hyouri and kannetsu which divided into two parts in the form of biological reaction came from Chinese philosophy. In addition, there are three factors of KI, Blood and Body fluid maintaining a living body. It is thought in the theory of the kampo medicine that the disorders of the three factors would cause diseases, so the treatments are performed by restoring the imbalance of those factors.

KI is supposed to be a kind of energy circulating vital body. There are three abnormal states, KI-deficiency that is shortage of KI’s amount, KI-depression that refers to a condition of insufficient circulation of KI, and KI-imbalance that means disharmony of KI-circulation.

Blood means not only its traditional meaning but also the statement of nourishment. There are two kinds of abnormal conditions of Blood, one is deficiency of blood and the other blood stasis (OKETSU). The former means a reduction of blood volume (blood and/or erythrocytes) and the latter refers to a state of insufficient blood-circulation. Women especially tend to suffer from OKETSU in the cavity of the pelvis, which one of the causes of gynecologic disorders in many cases.

Body fluids are lymph fluids in simple meaning and water being contained the body including tissue water in a broad sense. Stasis of body fluid refers to uneven distribution.

Since women have basically OKETSU accompanied by disturbances of KI and fluid, KAMISHOYOSAN for menopausal disorders does not always work effectively just in a way of answering the name of the disease. Consequently it is important to understand the conception of KI, blood, fluid and the condition of the disease and to prescribe the suitable kampo medicine.

It is supposed to make explanations about the kampo medicine in ob/gy and to present some clinical cases in the very symposium.