

Clinical Trial Protocol

Iranian Registry of Clinical Trials

16 Sep 2026

Comparison of the effectiveness of cranberry fruit and placebo in the treatment of symptoms of Covid-19 patients

Protocol summary

Study aim

Comparison of the effectiveness of cranberry fruit and placebo in the treatment of symptoms of Covid-19 patients

Design

Clinical trial with control group, with parallel groups, double-blind, randomized, phase 2 on 120 patients. Random Allocation software was used for randomization.

Settings and conduct

In this study, 120 patients with positive covid-19 PCR referred to Imam Reza Hospital in Tabriz were randomly admitted to one of the two groups which studied (two group of drug and placebo). 60 patients entered the intervention group and 60 patients entered the placebo group. Patients' information including age, gender, vital signs upon arrival, extent of pulmonary involvement were recorded by CT-Scan, underlying disease, and medications used. Patients in the intervention group received 500 g of Cranberry capsule daily. The control group received starch-containing capsules as a placebo. Patients were asked to take one capsule daily, then the patients were followed up by telephone for 14 days. Participants and researchers compared the type of blinded capsule and the capsule information in a sealed envelope until the end of the study. The effectiveness of the capsule in reducing clinical symptoms (cough, fatigue and other symptoms) and paraclinical findings as well as the possible side effects of the drug were measured.

Participants/Inclusion and exclusion criteria

Inclusion criteria: Confirmation of Covid-19 by PCR; consent to participate in the study Exclusion criteria: underlying disease; pregnancy; discontinuation of the drug

Intervention groups

60 patients received Cranberry capsule daily as an intervention group and 60 patients received a starch-containing capsule as a control group.

Main outcome variables

Clinical symptoms (cough, fever, etc.) Paraclinical variables (wbc, IL-6, TNF) of the group receiving cranberry and placebo in patients with Covid-19 before and after the intervention

General information

Reason for update

Acronym

IRCT registration information

IRCT registration number: **IRCT20101201005287N3**

Registration date: **2022-02-22, 1400/12/03**

Registration timing: **retrospective**

Last update: **2022-02-22, 1400/12/03**

Update count: **0**

Registration date

2022-02-22, 1400/12/03

Registrant information

Name

Akbar Sharifi

Name of organization / entity

Tabriz Medical University

Country

Iran (Islamic Republic of)

Phone

+98 41 1337 5449

Email address

asharifi@tbzmed.ac.ir

Recruitment status

Recruitment complete

Funding source

Expected recruitment start date

2021-12-09, 1400/09/18

Expected recruitment end date

2021-12-13, 1400/09/22

Actual recruitment start date

2021-12-09, 1400/09/18
Actual recruitment end date
 2021-12-19, 1400/09/28
Trial completion date
 empty

Scientific title
 Comparison of the effectiveness of cranberry fruit and placebo in the treatment of symptoms of Covid-19 patients

Public title
 Cranberry fruit in COVID-19

Purpose
 Treatment

Inclusion/Exclusion criteria
Inclusion criteria:
 Confirmation of Covid-19 by PCR test Satisfaction to participate in the study
Exclusion criteria:
 Having an underlying disease Pregnant patients Stop taking the drug

Age
 No age limit

Gender
 Both

Phase
 3

Groups that have been masked

- Participant
- Outcome assessor
- Data analyser
- Data and Safety Monitoring Board

Sample size
 Target sample size: **120**
 Actual sample size reached: **120**

Randomization (investigator's opinion)
 Randomized

Randomization description
 From the patients who volunteered to participate in the study, 120 people will be selected by simple random sampling. Randomization method: block Randomization unit: individual Random layers: In each block, people will be matched based on age and gender. Random Allocation tool: Random Allocation software How to build a random sequence: Using Random Allocation software Concealment: A random sequence created in a safe place and performed by an independent, non-independent person during the study.

Blinding (investigator's opinion)
 Double blinded

Blinding description
 This study is a double-blind study that evaluates the consequences in this study and patients participating in the study will be unaware of the type of supplement received. Supplements will be provided to patients by another person who has no role in completing the questionnaire. Patients will also be informed of the existence of two types of supplements (cranberry fruit capsules and placebo) when obtaining consent, but will be unaware of which study groups they will be placed in.

The capsules are exactly the same in shape, color and size and will smell the same due to their proximity for several days.

Placebo
 Used

Assignment
 Parallel

Other design features

Secondary Ids
 empty

Ethics committees

1

Ethics committee
Name of ethics committee
 Ethics committee of Tabriz University of Medical Sciences
Street address
 Emam Reza hospital, Golgasht Ave
City
 Tabriz
Province
 East Azarbaijan
Postal code
 5166614766

Approval date
 2021-12-09, 1400/09/18

Ethics committee reference number
 IR.TBZMED.REC.1400.918

Health conditions studied

1

Description of health condition studied
 COVID-19, virus identified

ICD-10 code
 U07.1

ICD-10 code description
 COVID-19, virus identified

Primary outcomes

1

Description
 Interleukin-6 blood levels of patients before and after taking the drug

Timepoint
 Before starting the drug and 14 days after taking the drug

Method of measurement
 Blood sample analysis for IL-6 by ELISA in the laboratory

Secondary outcomes

1

Description

Serum TNF- α levels in patients' plasma

Timepoint

At the beginning of the study (before the intervention) and 14 days after starting the drug

Method of measurement

Blood sample analysis for TNF- α by ELISA in the laboratory

Intervention groups

1

Description

Intervention group: For 14 days, patients received the cranberry capsule (500 g) prepared in Tabriz School of Pharmacy, while receiving it from the researcher while visiting Imam Reza Hospital, and consumed one glass daily with a glass of water.

Category

Treatment - Drugs

2

Description

Control group: For 14 days, patients received a starch capsule (500 g) prepared in Tabriz School of Pharmacy, while visiting the Imam Reza Hospital from a researcher, consuming one daily with a glass of water.

Category

Placebo

Recruitment centers

1

Recruitment center

Name of recruitment center

Emam Reza hospital

Full name of responsible person

Akbar Sharifi

Street address

Emam Reza hospital, Golgast street

City

Tabriz

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Postal code

5166614766

Phone

+98 41 3334 7059

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asharifi@tbzmed.ac.ir

Sponsors / Funding sources

1

Sponsor

Name of organization / entity

Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

Akbar Sharifi

Street address

Vice chancellor for research, Tabriz Medical University, Daneshgah square

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Tabriz

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Grant name

Grant code / Reference number

Is the source of funding the same sponsor organization/entity?

Yes

Title of funding source

Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

Proportion provided by this source

100

Public or private sector

Public

Domestic or foreign origin

Domestic

Category of foreign source of funding

empty

Country of origin

Type of organization providing the funding

Academic

Person responsible for general inquiries

Contact

Name of organization / entity

Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

Akbar Sharifi

Position

Professor

Latest degree

Subspecialist

Other areas of specialty/work

Internal Medicine

Street address

Bronchoscopy ward, Emam Reza hospital, Golgasht street

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Phone

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Email

Person responsible for scientific inquiries

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Tabriz University of Medical Sciences

Full name of responsible person

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Position

Professor

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Sharing plan

Deidentified Individual Participant Data Set (IPD)

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Study Protocol

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Statistical Analysis Plan

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Informed Consent Form

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Clinical Study Report

Undecided - It is not yet known if there will be a plan to make this available

Analytic Code

No - There is not a plan to make this available

Data Dictionary

Not applicable