

## 가 (Tsutusgamushi) Clarithromycin

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= Abstract =

### Clarithromycin Therapy for Scrub Typhus

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**Purpose :** Scrub typhus (tsutsugamushi disease) is a febrile disease characterized by fever, rash, eschar, lymphadenopathy. Therapy with tetracycline (doxycycline) or chloramphenicol is currently recommended for the treatment for scrub typhus. But there are limitations in usage a tetracycline (doxycycline) for scrub typhus in the children. Recently, there was a report that azithromycin, a macrolide antibiotic was used for scrub typhus in pregnant woman successfully. So we evaluated the effectiveness of the Clarithromycin, other a macrolide antibiotic, for scrub typhus.

**Methods :** Seven patients with scrub typhus at department of internal medicine and three patients with scrub typhus at department of pediatrics Masan Fatima Hospital were involved for this study. A serologic diagnosis for scrub typhus were performed by use of passive hemagglutination test. Clarithromycin (Abbott Laboratories, North Chicago, IL, USA) was administrated orally in a daily dose of 500 mg for adult patients and 15 mg/kg/bid/day for pediatric patients.

**Results :** There were 7 cases of adult patients, varying from 28 to 76 years of age and 3 cases of pediatric patients, varying from 4 to 7 years of age with scrub typhus. All of cases had fever, myalgia, headache, rash, eschar. Seven cases had positive passive hemagglutination test and eight cases had abnormal liver function. Mean duration for the removal of fever after medication was 1.3 day (1~2 days) and all cases were recovered without complications.

**Conclusion :** Our results suggest that Clarithromycin therapy may be effective for scrub

typhus.

**Key Words :** Clarithromycin, Scrub typhus

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 1~3  
 O. tsutsugamishi  
 (sheep red blood cell)  
 (passive hamagglutination assay : PHA)  
 GENEDIA Tsutsugamushi PHA IIkit(Green Cross,  
 Korea) O. tsutsugamishi 가가  
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 R. tsutsugamishi Clarithromycin 500 mg  
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 Tetracycline, Doxycycline, mg/kg 2  
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Table 1. Demographic Features and Laboratory Findings of Patients

Case	Age (year)	Sex	PHA* titer	Location of escher	WBC (/mm <sup>3</sup> )	Hb* (g/dL)	Platelet (μL)	GOT/GPT (IU/L)
1	4	M <sup>‡</sup>	160	Genitalia	4,500	10.6	130,000	42/21
2	7	F <sup>‡</sup>	40,960	Rt. Inguinal	40,800	11.4	207,000	99/22
3	8	F	neg <sup>  </sup>	Rt. Heal	3,700	13.0	125,000	42/34
4	28	F	neg	Lt. Inguinal	3,200	12.8	118,000	140/92
5	45	M	1,280	Rt. Tibia	6,100	13.3	365,000	145/248
6	60	M	1,280	Abdomen	1,800	11.5	125,000	98/108
7	61	F	640	Rt. Inguinal	5,400	12.0	110,000	187/201
8	70	F	neg	Rt. Nipple	5,700	11.4	95,000	90/61
9	75	M	1,280	Rt. Axillary	7,800	11.0	400,000	108/91
10	76	F	40,960	Lt. Popliteal	13,330	11.4	184,000	72/49

\*PHA : passive hemagglutination assay, † Hb : Hemoglobin, ‡M : male, ‡F : female, || neg : negative

Table 2. Duration of Fever before Treatment and after Treatment

Case	Before treatment (day)	After treatment (day)
1	3	2
2	10	1
3	3	1
4	5	2
5	10	1
6	7	2
7	7	2
8	5	1
9	5	1
10	7	1

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macrolide

Clarithromycin

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23)

Azithromycin, Cla-

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rithromycin, Roxithromycin

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AFSC-4

Azithromycin

Doxycycline

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Ives 25)

(Rickettia)

R. tsutus-

Clarithromycin

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Azithromycin

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Clarithromycin

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Doxycycline, Tetracycline

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Chloramphenicol

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Clarithromycin(Ab-

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O. tsu-

tsugamishi (sheep red blood cell) (passive hamagglutination assay : PHA) GENEDIA Tsutsugamushi PHA IIkit(Green Cross, Korea) O. tsutsugamishi 가가 1 : 80

Clarithromycin 500 mg 2 15 mg/kg

2 : 1) 7 , 3

28 76 3 , 4 1 , 2 4 7

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8 가 6 가 5 가

2) Clarithromycin 1.3 (1 ~ 2 ) 6 11 7.2

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