

Multiple Burns Associated with the Alternative Treatment: Cupping Therapy

Abdullah ALGIN¹ Irfan AYDIN¹ Hilmi SEN² Mehmet Kaan POYRAZ¹

¹ Department of Emergency Medicine, Adiyaman University, Research and Educational Hospital, Adiyaman, Turkey

² Department of Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery, University Research and Educational Hospital, Adiyaman, Turkey

Background: The cupping process fundamentally includes producing a compact section of low air pressure beside the epidermis. This therapy gained credibility within some biomedical health care centers in Turkey.

Case Presentation: The 57-year-old woman applied to our emergency polyclinic with complaints of painful back and second degree multiple burns. The case had six different burned areas with similar sizes. In her history, she had taken medication and that symptoms did not improve. On the proposition of its neighbors, she attempted a single method called "Cupping" among the public, by placing a piece of paper burned with fire into a wide tea cup and placing it on his back, for a few times.

Conclusion: Burns as a result of cupping are avoidable, and thereby the initial stage is improving the consciousness of the community and medical treatment specialists of the liability of those wounds. We expect the case presentation will contribute in improving consciousness of the risks included in the treatment of cupping.

Keywords: Complementary medicine, cupping treatment, back pain

Introduction

Supplementary and optional treatments are becoming remarkably common and it has acquired credibility within various biomedical health-care facilities in Turkey (1). The cupping technique, one of the widest alternative therapy, is utilized in numerous traditions for several issues like hypertension, microbial infection, aches and pains, psychological ailments, cardiovascular diseases and various disease problems, and dermis problems (2).

The cupping process fundamentally includes

producing a compact section of low air pressure beside epidermis. The procedure may be via utilizing a cup as equipment over the skin. Used cup may differ in patterns and can vary in dimensions from 1-3 inches (equal to 2-8 cm) across the beginning (3).

Plastic material and glass are the most frequent resources nowadays, exchanging the horn, pottery, bronze and bamboo cups utilized formerly. The minimal air pressure needed can be produced by warming the cup or a shower with warm perfumed essential oil,

Corresponding Author: Abdullah ALGIN, MD; Department of Emergency Medicine, Adiyaman University, Research and Educational Hospital, Adiyaman, Turkey.

Email: dralgin@hotmail.com

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after that positioning that against epidermis (4). Since inside air of cup gets cooler, shrinks in proportions and pulls epidermis moderately inside of it. In the procedure, cups are typically utilized solely on softer tissue that may shape a great deal with border of glass. A sizeable cup can be beneficial to ensure a wider region (5). The epidermis may be lubricated, letting it to shift across epidermis gradually (6).

The back, abdominal area, and buttock; regions of sufficient muscle tissue, are typical areas on which cup was utilized. Cups are usually remained in position for 5 to 10 mins. The following consequences of cupping regularly contain complaints of ecchymosis, edema and erythema in a conventional circular combination. All these bruises might obtain days to a few weeks to diminish (7).

Case Presentation

The 57-year-old woman applied to our emergency polyclinic with complaints of painful back and second degree multiple burns (Figure-1).



Figure-1. Burned areas with similar sizes

During examination, the patient had six different burned areas with similar sizes. In her history, she had taken medication and that symptoms did not improve. On the proposi-

tion of its neighbors, she attempted a single method called "Cupping" among the public, by placing a piece of paper burned with fire into a wide tea cup and placing it on his back, for a few times.



Figure-2. Healing burned areas

After the initial assessment, the burns were washed with serum without opening current value (Figure-2). Those are all dressed with silver sulfadiazine cream. She took her treatment in Plastic Surgery service for 3 days. Decephin antibiotic and tiocillin pomad were used for enfection suspect with high fever. After a total of 8 days of treatment, all burns healed with minimal scarring area (Figure-3).



Figure-3: Healed burned areas with minimal scar

Conclusion

The cupping is a popular medicine for the various health problems. It really is a reliable and non-invasive, as well as economical (6). Dermatology specialists need to acknowledge the specific morphology produced from this technique. The cupping is not related to severe unwanted situations in the event that performed in completely sterile circumstance. The majority of the local skin alters subside within a couple of days (3). Histological alterations in the skin layers originate from vasodilatation and edema without cellular infiltrate.

Farhadi et al. situated that cupping treatment was related to the medically considerable alleviation of ache at three months (8). Treatment by cupping enhanced lower-back aches severity, handicap of pain severity, and tablets use compare to healthy. Cupping is regarded as to stimulate pain receptors which bring about raise occurrence of stimulation, thus eventually causing closure of the ache gates and accordingly ache decrease (3).

Burn injuries is not a frequent complication of cupping at present since plastic type cups and physical section are utilized as an alternative for the older training of utilizing cotton at foundation of brassmaking, metal, or glass. Severe as negative consequences were not presented (1).

Burns as a result of cupping are avoidable, and thereby the initial stage is improving the consciousness of the community and medical treatment specialists of the liability of those wounds. We expect the case presentation will contribute in improving consciousness of the risks included in the treatment of cupping.

Conflict of Interest

All authors declare that there was no conflict of interest in the presented case report.

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