

**Clinical trial for examination of the effects of Hab-o shefa in opioid addiction maintenance therapy – a preliminary study**

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Background: Addiction to opioids is one of the main health issues in most societies. In spite of current treatment methods and their positive effects there is still a treatment gap in curing addiction. In the US only 1 in 3 addicts gets cured.

Recently traditional medicine of addiction has been given much attention. According to WHO suggestion about using traditional medicine in health system, Iranian traditional medicine experts consider it as a solution to the global issue of addiction.

In Iranian traditional medicine different methods of addiction treatment has been introduced. One method is replacement therapy. Hab-o shefa is an herbal mixture which has been used for a long time as a replacement for drugs. The effects of Hab-o shefa in controlling drug withdrawal and the resulting pain has been examined in several studies and the results suggest that it is effective. However no study has examined the effects of this mixture on maintenance therapy and its related parameters especially mental factors such as craving, anxiety and depression. Therefore in this study the effects of this mixture on maintenance therapy are examined.

Method: This study follows a semi-experimental single group clinical trial with a pre-test and three post-test (one of the pre-experimental designs). Patients with a history of opioid addiction who has done detoxification during the last month and have been tested negative by urine test of morphine