

A study on the anatomical connection between the liver and stomach based Traditional Persian Medicine and Modern Medicine

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Abstract:

Background and Purpose: According to Traditional Persian Medicine (TPM), the human body is an integrated system in which health, or disease of organs affects each other since they are interconnected. Therefore, the cause of a disease in an organ may be in another organ, which is called participant organ, and the disease is called participatory. Hence, treatment of the participant organ will result in healing of the diseased organ. In this research, the anatomical connection between liver and stomach is studied.

Materials and Methods: In this literature review, the chapters of liver and stomach anatomy in TPM textbooks such as “*Tashrih al-Abdan-e Mansouri*” and “*Al-Qanun fi al-Tibb*” were studied and compared with modern medicine anatomy atlases and textbooks like Gray’s Anatomy. Moreover, articles in electronic databases were searched. Similarities and differences of perspectives between these two types of medicine, namely TPM vs. modern medicine, were identified through analyzing outcome of the literature review.

Results: The anatomical connection between the liver and stomach in the two medical systems was observed and compared in four categories of the neural connection (membrane, a sensory nerve, and tendon), vascular (hepatic artery, mesenteric and portal veins), adjacency (proximity of liver and stomach), and connection by a third organ (gallbladder).

Conclusion: The significant anatomical connection between the liver and stomach in the two medical systems indicates knowledge of TPM scholars about the science of anatomy. Correspondingly, study of the enormous scientific resources of the TPM reveals that modern anatomy textbooks have been founded on ancient knowledge.

Keywords: Liver, Stomach, Traditional Medicine, Persian Medicine

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