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ANNA SAMRAKSHANA AND AHARA VIDHI VIDHANA AT PRESENT PANDEMIC COVID -19

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ABSTRACT

Ayurveda aims to promote and preserve the health, strength and the longevity of the healthy person and to cure the disease by properly channelling with and without Ahara. In present era, diet and lifestyle are major factors thought to influence susceptibility to many diseases. Ayurveda places special emphasis on Ahara and believes that healthy nutrition nourishes the mind, body, and soul. According to Ayurveda the living human body and diseases that afflict it is both the product of Ahara. Ahara is considered as one of the key pillars (Upsthambhas) of life in Ayurveda. The concept of Ahara from the collection of food to preservation of food is delt under the dietetic principles of Ayurveda. The standards for safe food practises developed as part of food safety

measures appear to be focused on food ingredient manufacturing, processing, packaging, and environmental tuning. When it comes to food, safety is a concept that is influenced primarily by the person who consumes it. The Nitya sevaneeya aharas explained in classics provides all macro and micro nutrients which will enhance the immunity. In today's world, altered habits of food consumption may lead to various diseases. So many guidelines are explained in Ayurveda, which are titled as Ahara vidhi, where the laws of do's and don'ts about diet and drinks are given. This article will review the Ahara samrakshana and Ahara vidhi vidhana in COVID-19 pandemic.

KEYWORDS: Covid 19, Ahara vidhi vidhana, Foood satety, Anna samrakshana.

INTRODUCTION

COVID-19, which has grown into a global human hazard, is one of the key infections that primarily target the human respiratory system. It's a difficult scenario because of the

coronavirus's ubiquity and the need to focus on the individual's immunity to combat it. Ayurveda is a system of medicine that preserves a healthy person's health while also preventing sickness in those who are sick. Ahara (Diet) is the total amount of food consumed by a person, and it frequently refers to the utilisation of a specific nutritional intake for health.

A balanced diet is one of the most important factors in maintaining good health. Unhealthy eating habits, on the other hand, are linked to a variety of ailments. So, while eating plays an important role in Ayurveda, a nutritious diet encompasses a wide range of aspects, including what is known as "Ahara vidhi," which outlines the dos and don'ts of diet and beverage use. A healthy diet necessitates much more than just having enough nutrients, and Ayurveda places a premium on all aspects of Ahara and Ahara vidhi. The relationship between people and the food system is evolving at an unimaginable rate as the pandemic spreads, and it is becoming increasingly important in daily life, with strict restrictions imposed on people's movement to limit the spread of COVID-19. At the individual level, the correlation between diet and immunity is the common denominator that drives most of the nutrition and dietary guidelines to fight viral infections, like COVID-19. Specific nutrients or nutrient combinations have been shown to affect the immune system by activating cells, altering the production of signalling molecules, and altering gene expression. [2]

Ayurveda is not only a medical discipline, but also a holistic science of life that focuses on disease prevention, treatment, and management. The ingestion of Hita, Avirudha, Satmya, and Nitya sevaniya ahara on a daily basis keeps a person disease-free; hence diet should be planned according to the Ashta ahara vidhi viseshayatana. [3] The Nitya sevaniya dravyas, which is a kin to the balanced diet, was explained by Acharya Charaka and Vagbhata. To draw international attention to the Ayurvedic system of medicine's nutritional programmes, a significant deal of attention must be paid to the function of dietary components in health promotion. Preventive strategies are the foundation of Ayurveda, and food plays an important role because both the body and disease are products of food.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Information were collected and documented from relevant Ayurvedic and Modern literatures, various websites &online published research articles.

DISCUSSION

Ashta ahara vidhi viseshayatana (Special rule for diet intake)

A healthy diet necessitates much more than just providing enough nutrients, and Ayurveda places a premium on all aspects of Ahara and Ahara Vidhi. The reasons responsible for the wholesome and unwholesome effects of the Ahara, as well as the methods of Ahara sevana, are referred to as Ahara vidhi viseshayatana (Special rule for diet intake).

Prakriti

The Prakriti of the food can aid in making decisions based on digestive ability or a person's Prakriti. As a result, there will be no problems and the food will be well digested. Adequacy and balance of diet-these two principles of modern dietetics are covered under Prakriti. The food which we are consuming should contain proper amount of six nutrient classes i.e. water, carbohydrates, fats, proteins, vitamins and minerals for performance of essential functions. Each nutrient class should be in a balanced proportion in that complete diet.

Karana (Samskara)

This refers to the Samskara or the preparation of food for consumption. Cleaning, soaking, cooking, grinding, impregnation flavouring, maturing, preservation, and food storage are all steps in the Samskara process. It is basically modification in properties of food stuff by various samskaras i.e. Jala samyoga, Agni samyoga, Shaucha, Manthana, Desha, Kaala, Bhayana, Kaala prakarsha and Bhajana.

Samyoga

When two or more foods are combined, it can be beneficial or harmful. If these combinations are mixed, it is important to know which characteristics are inherited. For example, an equal amount of honey and ghee, or a fish and milk mixture, can be harmful to one's health. Combinations of nutrients create magic in diet. If we see it in broader aspect, it's simply principle of density which means packing of most nutrients in a diet.

Rashi

This refers to the amount of food available. The amount of food consumed varies by person. However, the amount of food consumed should not be excessive or less than the desired amount, as both are unhealthy. As a result, food should be consumed in the appropriate quantity based on the individual's digestive capacity. After selecting what to eat "how much

factor" should be analyzed. Charaka mentioned Sarvagraha and Parigrahra is which in broader aspect is adequacy of diet and calorie control of diet respectively.

Desha

It refers to the geographical area in which food is grown. Food is grown in the parts of the World that are most appropriate for the people who live in those areas. As a result, selecting food from the appropriate area would be beneficial. Few areas are quite famous for top production of certain grains and pulses etc.

Kaala

The two forms of Kaala for the use of Ahara are Nityaga and Avasthika. Seasonal variations affect Nityaga Kala, in which Ahara is consumed according to a regular routine. The Avasthika kaala, which means diseased conditions, comes into play when food is consumed in accordance with the disease's state.

Upayoga samstha

Specific Rules have been stated in relation to food intake. This is known as the Upayoga samshta, which simply means "dietetic law." It covers everything you need to know about diet, including how to eat, when to eat, and what to eat. Upyoga samstha depends on Jeerna lakshana which is understood by symptoms like Udgaara shuddhi, Utsaah, Yathochit vegautsarga, Laghuta, Kshudha (hunger), Pipasa (thirst). Wide range of symptoms is described in Ayurveda stating when to eat food.

Upayokta

Upayokta is a person who consumes food (Ahara dravya) and is accustomed to it (Oka satmya or Sharira satmya). He is the one Ahara, and he eats as he pleases and gains health as a result of this.^[4]

Based on the above, it can be inferred that food should be consumed in accordance with Ayurvedic (Aharavidhi viseshayatana) dietary recommendations, which are genuinely scientific. Diseases can be avoided simply by changing one's eating habits. Healthy eating habits can help to reduce the risk of a variety of other health issues.

Nityasevaneeya ahara (The concept of balanced diet)

Nutrition is the most important because from a proper wholesome and balanced diet, all the body constituents — Dosha, Dhatu and Mala—are formed. That is why it is said that 'we are what we eat'. Food is not only essential for our physical well-being but it provides nutrition for our mind as well.

According to modern science balance diet measured in calories, which is easily digestible for every person. Balanced Diet in Ayurveda for Ideal Health is elaborated in detailed mannered as Agni, Vaya, Avastha, Kala, Desha, Prakriti and Koshtha. Ex:Mandagni person should have to consume Mridu and Laghu Bhojana while Tikshangni person Guru and Snigdha food. Nitya Sheelaniya Ahara Dravyas are completely full of Shadrasa, which is very essential for our perfect health. These Dravyas fit for day to day food habit in proper quantity.

Nitya sevaniya ahara	Nutrition
Shashtika shali	
Yava	
Madhu	Carbohydrate
Mudga	
Jangala mamsa	Protein
Amalaka	Vitamins
Saindava	Minerals
Antariksha jala	Fluid
Ksheera	Proximate principles
Sarpi	Fat

- **a) Shashtika shali (Rice)** is a strong source of energy, as well as a large supply of protein, minerals, and B vitamins. It accounts for 70 to 80 % of total energy use. Rice proteins have a higher concentration of lysine, an important amino acid, than other cereal proteins.^[5]
- **b) Mudga** (**Green gram**) Among Shimbhi dhanya, Mudga is the best. It is the most important source of protein. It's also rich in minerals and B vitamins.^[6]
- c) Saindhava lavana (Rock salt It stimulates the appetite and enhances the flavour of the food. It is preferred over regular cooking salt because it has a lower water retention capacity, making it beneficial to people with heart disease, hypertension, and kidney illness.
- d) Amalaki (Emblica officinalis) is the most concentrated source of vitamin C. Phyllemblin, Gallic acid, tannins, pectin, and ascorbic acid are the active components in Amalaki (Vitamin C). Vitamin C comes in a unique form that is very easy for the human body to absorb. It's well-known for increasing calcium bioavailability and absorption, resulting in stronger bones, teeth, hair, and nails. It also aids iron absorption for a healthy blood supply. It is extremely beneficial to the eyes, heart, and digestive system. Amalaki is also great for keeping stomach acidity in check. When combined with a high-protein, high-nutrient diet, Amalaki has a unique activity that promotes strength and lean muscle growth.

- e) Yava (Barley) Ancient writings and recent research trials both support the use of Yava as Pathya and Aushadha.^[7]
- **f) Antariksha jala (Rain water)** is the purest and most abundant source of water in the world. Antariksha jala (sky water) is tasteless and has attributes such as nectar, important for life, satiating, maintaining the body, stimulating, and allaying exhaustion, lethargy, thirst, drunkenness, fainting, drowsiness, sleep, and scorching sensations.
- **g) Go–Ghrita** (**Cow's Ghee**) It can form bonds with lipid-soluble nutrients and herbs, allowing them to pass through the body's lipid-based cell walls. In nature, it is Pitta-Vatahara, beneficial to Shukra, Oja, Swara, Varna, Nirvapanam, and Samskara anuvartanam. Ghrita acts as a Vrana shodhaka and Vrana ropaka, removing toxins from the body. [8]
- **h) Jangala Mamsa** (**Animal Flesh**) Animal meat has 20% protein and 3-5% fat; 100g of meat will provide 194 calories of energy if consumed. Jangala mamsa is a high-protein, high-biological-value meat that contains all of the essential amino acids and vitamins, as well as iron and phosphorus in suitable amounts.
- i) Madhu (Honey) is made up of 38 % fructose, 31 % glucose, 1 % sucrose, and 9% other sugars, as well as water and trace amounts of vitamins, minerals, and acids. Honey has also been used topically to treat ulcers, burns, and wounds as an antiseptic therapeutic agent. It is an excellent diet for lowering cholesterol and thereby preventing ailments such as coronary heart disease and obesity.^[9]
- **j)** Dugdha (Cow's Milk) is one of the greatest rejuvenating foods. It has a well-balanced mix of all nutrients. Protein, fat, sugar, vitamins, and minerals are all abundant in it. All of the necessary amino acids are found in milk protein. The milk of cows roaming in Jangala, Anupa, and hilly areas is heavy for digestion in successive orders, and its unctuousness is determined by the type of food consumed by the animal.

DIET in COVID-19

Adopting the Ashta ahara vidhi and Nitya sevaneeya ahara concept Shad-rasayukta ahara, one should consume foods which are Madhura, Amla, Lavana, Katu, Tikta, and Kashaya rasa to enhance the strength. One should not practice eka rasa ie, only the particular food which is having single taste and Apatarpana ahara i.e, non-nourishing food), Laghu, Snigdha, Ushna, Drava, Sthira, Sara and Teekshna guna. Laghu ahara (light food), Ushna ahara (food served should be hot) & Maatrayukta ahara (quantity sufficient) is to be provided based on his/her Agni bala (digestive power). The Ahara which are Picchila, Khara, Ruksha and Abhishyandhi guna which causes aggravation of Kapha are to be avoided.

- > Shooka dhanya: Puraana dhanya (More than one year old stored cereals will not increase the kapha and it is light for the digestion) such as Shaali (Rice), Yava (Barley), Godhuma (Wheat).
- > Shami dhanva: Kulattha (Horse gram), Mudga (Green gram), Chanaka (chick pea), Makushtaka (Moth bean).
- **Ksheera and Gorasayukta:** Milk should be boiled before its consumption; Ghee, Butter, Samskaarita takra.
- Aharopayogi varga (Spices/Condiments): Rasona (Garlic), Aardraka (Ginger), Haridra (Turmeric), Jeeraka(Cumin seeds), Ajamoda, Twak (Cinnamomum), Lavanga (Clove), Palandu (Onion), Hingu (Asfoetida).
- **Phala varga (Fruits):** Amra (Mango fruit), Draksha (Dry Grapes), Pakwa madhu-karkati (Papaya), Daadima (Pomegranate), Amalaki, Naaranga (Orange), Mosambi, Nimbu (lemon), Gajalimbe or Citrus lemon, Maatulunga (Citrus medica).
- > Krutanna varga: Ashta guna manda, Panchakola peya, Kruta yoosha, Krushara.
- **Ksheera paka:** Lashuna ksheerapaka, Haridra ksheera paka.
- > Jala: Ushna jala (Boiled water) Sukhoshna jala (Luke warm water), Shunthi jala (Ginger water), Jeeraka jala (Jeera water), Madhudaka (Water mixed with honey), Triphala rasa (Decoction of Triphala).
- **Satvika Ahara- Food for Mind:** Satvika means pure essence. This is the purest diet for a consciously spiritual and healthy life. It nourishes the body and maintains it in a peaceful state. According to Ayurveda, this is the best diet for physical strength, a good mind, good health, and longevity. And it calms and purifies the mind, enabling it to function at its maximum potential. A satvika diet thus leads to true health: a peaceful mind in control of a fit body, with a balanced flow of energy between them. A Satvika diet is excellent for those individuals who desire to live a quiet, peaceful and meditative life. Satvika foods include sprouted whole grains, fresh fruit, land and sea vegetables, pure fruit juices, nut and seed milk and cheese, legumes, nuts, seeds, sprouted seeds, honey and herbal teas. Satvika foods are those foods which do not agitate your stomach at all.

These Ayurvedic concepts can be applied to improve the immune system for the prevention and promotion of health, depending on the situation. Covid 19 Patients will have poor appetite, thus food must be tasty and tailored to the patients' likes and dislikes. By following Ashta ahara vidhi and including Nitya sevaneeya ahara in diet gives proper nutrition and immunity. In modern view also the diet consists primarily of fluids and tiny feeds given at frequent intervals for the first two or three days. Supplementing with citrus fruits such as oranges, delicious limes, lemons, gooseberries, or ascorbic acid is essential. High-calorie, high-protein foods, as well as plenty of water, vitamins and minerals should be provided. To compensate for sweat losses and to provide appropriate volume of urine for waste excretion, a large amount of fluid must be consumed. The diet explained here under the headings of Vargas also fulfilling these requirements. The proper administration of these Ayurvedic principles will prevent the diseases and can adopt in Covid and post Covid condition also.

Anna Samrakshana - Food safety

The current methods are based on principles to prevent contamination, such as separating raw and cooked food, cooking food for an adequate amount of time at an appropriate temperature, storing food at an appropriate temperature, and using safe water and raw materials. Farm to fork, as defined by Rutgers, is "a food system in which food production, processing, distribution, and consumption are integrated to improve a given place's environmental, economic, social, and nutritional health." The ethics of food production are the fundamental driving reasons behind the farm to table or farm to fork movement, whichever you like to call it. The movement is built on four pillars: (1) food security, (2) proximity, (3) self-reliance, and (4) sustainability. [10] Table is the chain's endpoint in the aforementioned idea. Typically, safety considerations focus on some requirements to ensure safety, security, and long-term viability, with a focus on food ingredients. Food safety is usually mentioned in Ayurvedic texts in the context of Annaraksha. This background describes how food is protected from various pollutants and hazardous substances. Especially in the meal supplied to the King, such pollutants should be avoided. In this situation, the concept of Gara visha comes into play. Contaminants and pesticide residues are now strong predisposing factors for such foods to become Gara visha. Annaraksha practises provide many ways for testing food (cooked or raw) for the presence of harmful compounds, with unique measurements for various food sources. These techniques resemble various testing (in vitro or in vivo) to assure safety, and when such tests show that the materials are free of toxins, they are pronounced safe (tested OK). The contaminants/toxins in substances that pass the OK test are not completely free of them; rather, they are tested to be within allowed levels.^[11]

CONCLUSION

COVID 19, a new strain of virus causing mortality all over the world, can be avoided with proper nutrition, hygiene, and social isolation. The stage of the sickness in the community

must be determined, and the Roga bala and Rogi bala must be determined before medicine can be administered. "The doctor of the future will provide no medicine, but will interest his patient in the care of the human structure, in diet, and in the cause and prevention of disease," remarked Thomas Edison in 1903. Nutrition and food could provide a strategy for improved health conditions in the existing pandemic condition.

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A BOON TO HEALTHY LIVING THROUGH "SHIRA SRAVANA PADESHU ABYANGA"

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: Dinacharya is a unique concept of *Ayurveda* where a single procedure like *Abhyanga, a kind of Bhahyasneha* helps to prevent multiple ailments. In the present scenario of busy lifestyle and hectic workload people find it difficult to practice their daily regimens. The regular application of oil on head, ears & foot are especially emphasized in *Ayurvedic* treatises. *Shira* is known as *uttamanga* which is the seat of *indriya*. *Sravana* is the *vata* stana& *pada*, the *karmendriya* used for *gamana* and is the body part which is continuously exposed with wind, dust etc hence *rookshata* of this body part is always higher than the others. Considering all these aspects oiling is needed to achieve *snigdhata* for the maintainanance of healthy life. **Methods:** Literature Review **Discussion:** The study tries to validate the statement "*Shira Sravana Padeshu Tham Viseshena Seelayet*" with modern interpretation.

KEYWORDS: *Dinacharya *Viseshena Abhyanga *Health Promotion*

1. INTRODUCTION

The maintenance of halth in Ayurveda is by following the Dinacharya, Ritucharya, Nisacharya etc. [1] One among the major component of Dinacharya as well as Ritucharya is the concept of Abhyanga. Abhyanga as a daily regimen results in very important benefits like Jaraapaha(delays ageing), Shramahara(relives fatigue), Drishti prasadakara(imparts good vison), pushtikara (prolonging strength and age), Swapnakara(imparts good sleep), Sutwak(good skin),Druda twak(strong skin) and Vata shamaka(mitigates vata). [2] Abhyanga has been highlighted with its wide spectrum of usage for both preventive and curative purpose. The importance of Abhyanga has been shown by the way of different metaphoric illustration as a pitcher or dry leather or an axis of a wheel become strong and resistant to a wear and tear by application of oil. [3] Similarly the human body become strong, becomes unsusceptible to the disease of vata, resistant to exhaustion and exertion. The body is compared to the tree. If the roots of trees are given water regularly, then it lives for a long, in the same way by abhyanga the person's dhatu becomes healthy. [4] In the present scenario of busy lifestyle and hectic workload people find it difficult to practice their daily regimens. Acharyas have specifically mentioned that Abhyanga should be done at least to the head, ears and foot regularly to maintain health.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Information were collected and documented from relevant *Ayurvedic* and Modern literatures, various websites & online published research articles.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

3.1. Viseshena Abhyanga

"Shira Sravana Padeshu Tham Viseshena Seelayet" || A.H.Su 2/8

Abhyanga, a kind of *Bahyasneha* is one among major component of *Dinacharya* procedure. *Acharyas* has specifically mentioned that it should be applied at least on Head, feet and ear daily for the maintenance of health. ^[5]

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Table 1: Benefits of Shiroabhyanga. [6,7,8]

Promotive benefits	Preventive benefits
Shira-kapala bala (Enhances strength of scalp)	Shirashula (Headache)
Drudamoola - Dirgha krishna kesha (Deep-rooted long black hair)	Khalitya (Hair fall)
Sutwak aanana (Enhances colour & complexion of skin)	Palitya (Baldness)
Drudamoola (Increases strength of hair roots)	Na kesah prapatanti (No hair falll)
Nidralabha (proper sleep)	
Indriyaprasada (clarity of sense organs)	
Sukha (happiness)	

Table 2: Benefits of Karnabhyanga^[10,11,12,13]

Promotive benefits	Preventive benefits
	Na karnaroga(No ear disease due to vata)
	Na Manya-Hanu sangraha (No rigidity in the
	baack of neck and jaw)
Na ucha shruti (Increases ability to withstand loud voice)	Na Shirashula(No headache)
	Na Karnashula(No earache)
withstalid foud voice)	Na Badhirya(No deafness)

Table 3: Benefits of *Padabhyanga*^[14,15,16,17]

Promotive benefits	Preventive benefits
Increases the <i>sukumarata</i> , <i>bala</i> and <i>sthairya</i> of <i>pada</i> (strength and stability of foot)	Prevents pada kharatwa(roughness of feet)
Drushti prasada(clarity of vision)	Prevents pada stabdhata(stiffness of feet)
Nidrakara(imparts sound sleep)	Prevents pada roukshya(dryness of feet)
Vata samana(subsides vata)	Prevents pada shrama(tiredness of feet)
	Prevents pada supti(numbness of feet)
	Prevents pain in <i>pada</i> due to
	grudrasi(sciatica)
	Prevents pada sphutana(cracking of feet)
	Prevents sira & snayu sankocha

4. DISCUSSION

4.1. Mode of action of Abhyanga

Dalhana has described Oil used in Abhyanga reaches different dhatus if applied for the stipulated time. This clearly indicates absorption of drugs through skin. The potency of oil applied to the skin, enters the various dhatus through Siramukha (opening of the veins), Romakupa (root of the hairs), Dhamani (arteries) and nourishes the body, also provides strength. Dalhana also mentions that when Snehana of drugs reaches to the particular Dhatu then it subsides or cures the diseases of that particular *Dhatu*. [9] *Charaka* has mentioned that Vayu dominates in the Sparshanendirya and its Adhishtana is Twacha i.e. skin, so one should follow it regularly 10. Indrivas are in close contact of mind so when Indrivas remain healthy then mind automatically remains healthy. In this way Abhyanga keeps body and mind healthy.

4.2. Daily Abhyanga to Shira, Sravana & Pada

Shira is known as *Uttamanga* which is the seat of *Indriya*. Srotra is the Vata stana¹¹& Pada is one among the Panchakarmendriya and plays a vital role in loco motor system. Considering all these aspects regular oiling is needed to achieve *Snigdhata* for the

maintenance of health.

4.3. Importance of Shiroabhyanga

Shira or head is known as *Uttamanga* which is the seat of *Indriyas*^[12] and one among *Trimarma*. Therefore all the functions of *Jnanendriya* and *Karmendriya* are controlled by the *Shira*. As *prana* resides in *shira* it is important to protect. The proper oliation of *shira* daily prevents the conditions like *Shirashula*, *Khalitya*, *Palitya* etc. If a *Vata prakruti* person use *Vatahara* oil daily can prevent *Vataja Shirashula*. Similiarly in *Khalitya*, *Palitya* and premature greying etc one can use appropriate oil daily to prevent these conditions. It will also gives premotive benefits like enhances the strength of scalp, hair growth, colour and complexion of skin, increases strength of hair roots and imparts sound sleep.

${\bf 4.4.\ Importance\ of}\ karnabhyanga/karnapooorana$

Shrotra/Karna is the sthana of vata. When ear skin get massaged with oil its active ingredients gets absorbed by Romakupa and through Swedawahi Strotas it enters in circulation. The daily oliation to karna will prevents Hanushula, Manyashula, Shirashula, When we analyze these sites, these sites are mainly associated with trigeminal nerve.

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Trigeminal nerve has three different divisions such as 1)Ophthalmic division which conveys sensory information from the scalp, forehead, upper parts of sinuses, cornea of eye, bridge of nose etc. 2)Maxillary division which transmits lower eyelid and associated mucous membrane,middle part of sinuses, cheeks, upper lip,root of mouth etc. 3)Mandibular division which communicates sensory information from outer part of the ear, lower part of mouth, front and middle part of tongue, teeth of lower jaw,lower lip, chin etc,^[13] The daily application of oil to this area will strengthens the trigeminal nerve by which can prevent the pain on these sites & also prevents *Karnashula, Badhirya* etc.

4.5. Importance of Padabhyanga

Pada is one among the Panchakarmendriya and plays a vital role in loco motor system which is continuously exposed with wind, dust etc, hence Rookshata of this part is always higher than the other body parts. It always have fear of aggravation of Vatadosha and susceptible for injuries. Padabhyanga stimulates the Marma (vital points) of the sole region and restores Prana. The Padabhyanga increases the local blood circulation which prevents Supti (numbness), Sankocha. Stambha (Stiffness). Kharatwa/ Rukshata (dryness/ cracks) are also tackled by the Snigdha guna of sneha. Along with these local action it has systemic action in Anidra(insomnia), also acts as Chakshushya and has effect in Gridhrasi.

In *Nadi vigyana*, *Nadi darpana* it has been quoted that there are 105 nadi in head among which 2 are related to eyes.

- 1. *Gandhari* Surrounds *Ida nadi*, which extends from *pada* and ends in left eye.
- 2. *Hastijihwa* Surrounds *Pingala nadi*, which extends from *pada* and ends in right eye. [14]

According to Vagbhata, there are two siras in each padamadhya pradesha (which is in middle part of sole), which are connected to the head. Because of continuous standing, walking or excessive pressure on the soles of feet, these siras gets affected, as a result of which eyesight of a person gets reduced. If at the roots of siras (i.e. in the sole of the feet) Padabhyanga is done regularly can prevent eye diseases. It promotes strength for walking and running and gives sturdiness to the limbs. [15]

Gridhrasi is a condition where pain starts from low back which radiates to buttocks, thigh, and leg up to foot, which simulates with the sciatica- pain along with sciatic nerve course. Sciatic nerve originates in the lowback from lumbar spine, passes underneath the gluteal muscles, runs down the leg and ends in the heel of the foot. There is a sciatic reflex area on the feet which is a band that runs horizontally across the middle of the heel where the sciatic nerve ends. Padabhyanga done at the sciatic reflex area may help in preventing sciatica and also pain management in sciatica. [16]

4.8. Modern view

4.8.1. Physiological effects of oil massage

The physiological effect of massage in general can be divided in to two.

- 1. Relaxation effect
- 2. Stimulation effect.

Relaxation effect involves hypothalamic reactions associated with the decline of sympathetic system activity and an increase in parasympathetic system activity. There are two types of stimulation effects; one is reflexive and the other is mechanical. The reflex effect is refreshing and relaxing due to delivering stimulation at the cutaneous peripheral nerve to the cerebrum. Peripheral cutaneous stimulation promotes circulation through stimulation of the parasympathetic nerve, relaxation of muscles and extension of capillary vessels. Ultimately, massage reduces sympathetic nerve activity while increasing parasympathetic nerve activity. [17]

4.8.2. Oil massage to head

During massage, different type of mechanical sensation is given to the skin like pressure, rubbing, touches etc. So these sensory impulses are received by respective receptors present on the surface of skin and carried to the in the brain.^[18] hypothalamus After hypothalamus it provides soothing effect and stimulates para sympathetic nervous system. Parasympathetic nervous system decreases the activity of sympathetic nervous system. So decreases releases of stress hormones like cortisol and adrenalin. Due to this, heart rate decreases, blood pressure decreases, blood glucose level returns to normal and blood vessels get dilate. All these factors provide relaxation to the mind. When mind gets relax, the ascending reticular activating system which is responsible for wakefulness stops functioning and the sleep centers in the brain get activated. One of the sleep centers, Raphe nucleus starts releasing serotonin from nerve fibers arising from its nucleus, which is responsible for Non REM (Non Rapid Eye Movement) sleep. This is a deep and rest full form of sleep. Another centre Locus Ceruleus of Pons also get activated and releases Nor-adrenalin from nerve fibers arising from its nucleus. [19] Nor-adrenalin is responsible for REM (rapid eye movement) sleep.

4.8.3. Oil massage to ear

When external ear gets massaged, the vagus nerve get stimulated, the upper two third and lower one-third of lateral surface of external ear is supplied by auricular nerve which is a branch of vagus nerve and these afferent sensory impulses are carried by afferent sensory nerve pathway to hypothalamus via peripheral nerve and spinal cord where it activates parasympathetic nervous system. Parasympathetic nervous system is responsible for relieving stress by lowering blood pressure, lowering blood glucose level and decreasing heart rate. After brain gets relaxed ascending reticular activating system get suppressed and sleep centers get stimulated. Sleep centers releases serotonin and noradrenalin which are

responsible for inducing non-REM and REM sleep respectively. [20]

4.8.4. Oil massage to foot

When foot get massaged locally, lymphatic drainage get increases and the lymph contains amino acid like tryptophan which increases. As level of tryptophan increases in plasma, it accumulates and stimulates pineal gland. Secretion of melatonin and serotonin increases. Melatonin induces the sedation and pleasant feeling and Serotonin induces sleep and also helps to control mood of person.^[21]

The science of reflexology states that the sole of feet has connections with various organs of the body. Hence proper foot massage at respective site on the foot with specific oils prevents and cures diseases. According to the science, various organs like heart, lungs, kidney, brain, intestines all can be stimulated by feet massage. Above all a massage helps a person to have a sound sleep at night. It is based on the principle that the body can be divided into 10 vertical zones, each corresponding to an area of the foot so that the feet are in effect a map of the body. A sensitive area of the foot indicates a problem in the corresponding organ of the body and by working on the appropriate painful spot, the problem can be solved. [22]

5. CONCLUSION

In Ayurveda much importance is given to personal hygiene which, when followed will definitely prevent many of today's lifestyle problems. Everyone who wants to live a long and healthy life is expected to follow the rules of conduct which are given in Dinacharya and Ritucharya upakrama in Ayurveda. Acharyas have specifically mentioned Shira, Shravana & Pada as sites which need to be oleated on a daily basis. By understanding the physiological & anatomical specialties of this site on the basis of Panchabhuta & Doshic basis, we should consider it as a protocol to be followed on every part of the body depending up on the Prakruti, Desa, kala etc.

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ACTION OF AVAPEEDAKA SNEHA ON MUTRA VEGADHARANA JANYA LAKSHANAS- A REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: The homeostasis of the human body is maintained by all the metabolic activities happening inside & all the toxic products of these are mainly excreted through Mutra(Urine), Purisha(Feaces) & Sweda(Sweat). Among which Mutra is very much important because it has got additional functions like regulation of blood pressure etc. The effect of suppression of urine is found to be mainly painful conditions & this pain is caused mainly because of nervous irritation & stretching of muscles. Avapeedaka Sneha (A Special type of oral administration of lipid) which is given as Pragbhakta(Before food) & Jeernantika (After digestion of food) is found effective in such condition. This sneha given less importance in regular practice & different methods of practice are adopted .So there is a need of literature review in depth. Aims & objectives: Reviewing the scattered information regarding Avapeedaka Sneha and its applicability in symptoms of suppression of urine. Methods: literature review Discussion: The study tries to reveal the effect of Avapeedaka Sneha in Mutra Vegadharana (Suppression of Suppression) symptoms. Suppression Suppression Suppression as both preventive and curative aspect.

Key words: Avapeedaka, Abhyantara Sneha, Mutra vegadharana vikara

INTRODUCTION: Avapeedaka sneha is a special pattern of oral administration of mainly indicated vikara¹. Mutravegadharanajanya Nabhigata vata ²& Raktaja arsa³.The Sneha(Lipid)is administered in 2 Kala ie, Pragbhakta(Before food)& Jeernantika (After digestion of food) in Hrasva matra(Small dose) & Uttamamatra(High dose) respectively. The word Avapeedaka implies either Peedana(Squeeze)of dosha or Peedana of ahara by Sneha. 4 Ayurveda has given more importance to the maintenance of healthy status as well as giving the treatment protocol in a disease conditions. The maintenance of health of a person depends on control over his mental & physical activities. Vegas are the urges generated naturally by the body and it is important to respond to these in time & not to suppress

them.⁵ One has to be in a mediocre level in his mental functions like Shoka(Grief), Krodha(Anger), Raga(Desire), Moha (Delusion)etc as well as his physical activities to maintain the normal physiology of body. Vegodheerana (Forceful expulsion of natural urges) & Vegadharana(Suppression of natural urges) are the 2 main causative factors for the occurrence of diseases.⁶ Suppression of *Vegas* causes the vitiation of Vata dosha, which further interacts with other Doshas to develop diseases, if suppressed very often it will cause long standing consequences. Adharaneeya vegas(Non suppressible urges) are mainly fourteen in number, among which Mutra Vega (Suppression of urine) is considered as important Vegas as Mutra is considered as Aharamala (Waste from food) and having greater role in elimination of toxic/waste

byproducts from the body and it needs a place and circumstance to void as feces .The effect of suppression of urine is found to be mainly painful conditions & this pain is caused mainly because of nervous irritation & stretching of muscles.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Review the information regarding Avapeedaka snehapana and its applicability in Mutra vegadharanjanya vikaras.

MATERIALS & METHODS

Various Ayurvedic classics like Charaka Samhita, Ashtanga Hridaya, Ashtanga Samgraha, Susruta Samhita , Modern Texts Articles regarding the different methods of administration of Avapeedaka Snehapana, action of lipids on neurons were referred and analyzed.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Human body is the most evolved and sophisticated system which has its own purificatory mechanism to eliminate the toxic waste substances produced inside it, thus maintaining homeostasis. The Vegas (natural urges) described in Ayurveda is an excellent example of this. Now-a-days due to busy life and heavy work load, people often suppress the nature's call. If it is suppressed regularly it will produce long standing consequences. Mutra vegadharana is most important among Adharaneeya Vegas because it has got additional functions like regulation of blood pressure, bio purification etc. The homeostasis of the human body is maintained by all the metabolic activities happening inside & all the toxic products of these are mainly excreted through Mutra, Purisha & Sweda.

Anatomy & physiology of control of urination

The urethral sphincters are the two muscles used to control the exit of urine in the urinary bladder through urethra. The two muscles are external urethral sphincter & internal urethral sphincter. Voiding urine begins with voluntary relaxation of the external sphincter muscles of bladder. Parasympathetic impulses induce contraction of bladder and relaxation of internal s phincter⁸. As the bladder fills, the Micturition contraction begins to appear. These are as a result of Stretch reflex initiated by sensory stretch receptors in the bladder wall especially by the receptors in the posterior urethra when this area begins to fill with urine at the higher bladder pressures. Sensory signals from the bladder stretch receptors are conducted to the sacral segment of the cord through the pelvic nerves and then reflexively back again to the bladder through the parasympathetic nerve fibers by way of this same nerves.⁹

4.2. Table 1- Role of Apana & Vyana Vata in Mutra Vegadharana

Apana Vayu	Charaka	Sushruta	Ashtanga	Ashtanga Samgraha
	Samhita ¹⁰	Samhita ¹¹	Hrudaya ¹²	13
	Ejaculation,	Elimination of	Expulsion of	Elimination of faeces,
	Micturition,	Samirana	Sukra (semen),	Urine, Semen, Men-
	Defecation,	(flatus), Sakrit	Artava (men-	strual fluid and foetus
Karma (Func-	Expulsion of	(faeces),	strual blood),	
tion)	menstrual blood	Mutra (urine),	Sakrit (faeces),	
	and fetus.	Sukra (semen),	Mutra (urine),	
		Garbha (fe-	and Garbha (the	
		tus), Artava	product of con-	

		(menstrual	ception that is	
		fluid)	fetus and pla-	
			centa)	
Vyana Vayu	Charaka	Sushruta	Ashtanga	Ashtanga
	Samhita ¹⁴	Samhita ¹⁵	Hrudaya ¹⁶	Samgraha ¹⁷
	Responsible for	Responsible for	All motor func-	Responsible for
	gait, flexion,	sweating, blood	tions of the	movement, expansion,
	extension, twin-	circulation, and	body such as	contraction, upward
	kling etc	five type of	Mahajava	movement, downward
		movement like	(rapid move-	movement, opening
		expansion, con-	ment), Gati	and closing of eyelids,
		traction upward,	(movement),	yawning, feeling the
		downward and	Avakshepa	tastes of food, clearing
Karma (Func-		oblique move-	(flexion),	of the channels, caus-
tion)		ments along	<i>Utkshepa</i> (ex-	ing the flow of sweat
		with blinking	tension),	and blood, bringing
		and opening of	Nimesha (clo-	the male reproductive
		eyelids	sure of eyelid/	tissue into the uterus,
			being not re-	separating the nutrient
			sponsive to	portion and waste
			movement),	portion of the food
			Unmesha	(after its digestion)
			(opening eye-	and supplying nour-
			lids/ staying	ishment to all the
			responsive).	Dhatus

The importance of normal functioning of *Apana & Vyana vata* can be understood by analyzing this table. Mutra vegarodha causes Vata prakopa and lead to group of diseases named as Mutra vegarodha janya vikaras, the Vata kopa here is understood to be due to dysfunction of Apana Vayu and Vyana Vayu¹⁸. Due to Vega dharana there is strong possibility of dysfunction of both Apana and Vyana vayu together. It will lead to various symptoms in our body & may lead to major diseases by long term suppression.

Avapeedaka snehapana different methods of administration

As the exact reference of administration of Avapeedaka sneha is not mentioned in classics. It can be given in these 4 methods in day to day practice;

Method 1: he Hraswa matra sneha to be administered by early evening and food is administered after a while. The next morning after attaining the Jeernahara lakshanas, Uttama matra is calculated. During Sooryodayakala (sunrise) and before the feeling of hunger Uttama matra, sneha is administered. The diets and regimens to be followed during and after the Snehana are advised during the period of Snehapana. Rice gruel can be consumed whenever the patient feels hunger till the procedure ends.

Method 2: The *Hraswa matra sneha* to be administered during sunrise and Satmya ahara (compatible food, preferably rice gruel) is given after 30 to 45 minutes. The time of administration is significant as it is the ideal time for *Uthkleshana* (secretory). Uttama matra to be calculate and administered after attaining the proper digestion of food. The diets and regimens to be follow during this period. Rice gruel can be consumed when the patient feels hunger.

Method 3: In Avarasatwa (minimal mental capacity) or Alpabala (minimal physical strength) persons, if the condition is not severe we can administer Hruswa matra in Pragbhakta, that is, Sooryodaya kala, Snehapana is administered. Rice gruel is advised as food when the patient feels hunger. This Prayoga (method) can be continued every day till Vyadhi samana.

Method 4: Uttama matra can be administered during sunrise if you know the Agnibala (digestive strength) of the patient and is advised to sip hot water frequently. When the person is hungry, rice gruel is given as food. This is repeated till he or she attains Samyak snigdha lakshana.¹⁹

Oushadhas Sevana kala of Avapeedaka Sneha

The Oushadha sevanakala for vitiated Apana vayu, vayu get lodged in anal region, diseases of lower part of the body and for the strengthening the lower part is ²⁰he Pragbhakta. oushadhakala Avapeedaka sneha is Pragbhakta and Jeernantika. In Mutravegadharana janyavikaras vata dosha especially Apana vata get vitiated. Here we can see that Pragbhakta oushadhasevana of Hraswa matra sneha will act up on vitiated Apana vayu condition and Uttama matra sneha to be given after digestion of previous food.

Why Ghruta in Avapeedaka?

In the context of Avapeedaka snehapana, Acharyas have not mentioned which Sneha is to be given. But commentators have

opined Ghrita as the better choice to reduce *Vatakopa* (aggravation of vata) rather than *Taila*, even though *Taila* (sesame oil) is the best *Vata shamaka* (pacifies vata) Sneha dravya. Taila is not advisable in this condition because of its Baddhavitt and Alpamutra Swabava (property to obstruct feces and scanty urination) ²¹.Hence, Ghrita is the best Sneha of choice used in this pattern of internal administration of Sneha.

Lipid action on Neuronal Injuries

Lipids play a pivotal role in normal physiological function of the neurons and structural development of the brain. The lipid composition of the brain highly governs mood, perception and emotional behavior of the subject. The lipids have variety of functions like formation of lipid bilayers that form the structure and provide necessary channel for protein function, as an energy reservoir (for example tri- glycerides) and serve as precursors for various secondary messengers such as arachidonic acid (ArAc), docosahexaenoic acid (DHA), ceramide, 1,2-diacylglycerol (DAG), phosphatidic acid and lyso- phosphatidic acid. The normal functions of these lipids govern the overall normal physiology of the brain.²² .Any abnormal deviation from the normal function of brain, either due to any mechanical injury or due to pathological changes in neurons, leads to different types of neurodegenerative diseases, mental disorders, stroke and CNS traumas. The crucial role of lipids in tissue physiology and cell signaling is demonstrated by the many neurological disorders. Both, neurological disorders and neurodegenerative diseases involve unregulated lipid metabolism²³.

DISCUSSION

As we go through in to the symptoms of Mutra vegadharana mentioned in classics we can classify it under 3 major headings.

Painful conditions 1.

- a) Neurological origin
- b) Muscular origin
- 2. Distended Heavy Bladder
- Urinary Calculus 3.

5.1. Table.2- Mutra vegadharana janya lakshana 24.25,26

1.Painful Conditions			
Neurological Origin	Muscular Origin		
Shirashula (Headache)	Basti Shula (Pain in Ingui-		
	nal Region)		
Vinama (Forward	Mehana Shula		
Bending)	(Pain in Pelvis)	2.Aanadha	3.Asmari
Angabhanga (Bodyache		basti(Distended	(Urinary Cal-
)		Heavy Bladder)	culus)
Mushka Shula(Scrotal			
Pain)			
Guda Shula (Anorectal			
Pain)			
Nabhi Shula (Pain in			
Umbilical Region)			

Pragbhaktha is 10 one among the Oushadhakala (ideal time for the administration of medicine)²⁷. It is also named as Annadou, which means the medicines administered before food, generally indicated in the *Apana Vata Vaigunya*²⁸. Even though there is an opinion of administering Avapeedaka Snehapana in 2 ways, ie, Uttama matra and Hrusva matra, the Peedana of dosha and ahara takes place in both. In method 3, the quantity of sneha administered is hrusva matra and looks similar to Samana snehapana, and in method 4, Uttama matra is administered it also behaves and as Shamana snehapana. The term Yojanadwayam is mentioned in the context of Avapeedaka Snehapana and commentators gives an explanation to this term as 2 patterns of Snehapana either administering Hrusva matra and Uttama matra together or separately. But Avapeedaka is called so only when both Uttama matra and Hrusva

matra are administered together as in methods 1 and 2.(two)

The vilomagati (movement in wrong directions) of Apana Vata takes place and acts as a causative factor for the Mutravegdharajanya Vikaras. Correcting the path of Apana Vata is done by the administration of sneha, that is, peedana (Squeezing) of dosha bv Sneha. Mutravegarodha janyavikara includes Angabhanga (body pain), Asmari (urinary calculi), Vastivedana (pain in urinary bladder), Medravedana (pain in penis), vankshanavedana (pain in the inguinal region). In all these conditions, diuresis is the line of treatment and frequent micturition is important as it pacifies the condition.²⁹

Pragbhakta oushadha acts up on the Apana Vata which is vitiated due to the suppression of urine & release the symptoms in the lower abdomen or pelvic region .Jeernantika oushadha when given after the digestion of previous food may acts up on the Vyana Vayu which is Sarva dehachari & the medicine pacifies the condition which are present in other parts of body like Angabhanga, Shirasoola etc. This site specificity is provided by the time of administration of medicine. The added effects of Ghrita, whether plain Ghrita or medicated Ghrita can be prescribed as per the Yukti of the physician shall bring positive effects on the condition.

The consideration of Ghrita over Taila in a vata predominant condition is very important topic of discussion even though it is mentioned Taila has got other effect when given internally. But Vasa & Majja can also be considered for the same. The probable reason for considering Ghrita over vasa & majja can be the need of good digestive power to digest Vasa & Majja & the special property of "Samskarasya Anuvartanam "of Ghrita³⁰ Here the medicines to be processed with Ghrita can be decided by the physician according to his Yukti & by the properties of medicine as well as Ghrita it acts on the condition. Recent researches show the effect of Ghrita on neurons in neurological problems & also in case of regeneration of neurons in animals³¹. In Ayurveda, Gritha is one among the three main drugs which can have direct effect on the neurons by maintaining the neuron structures along with Kushmanda & Yashtimadhu & that may be the reason it is mentioned that those who desire

Dhee(Intelligence),Smriti(Memmory)

,Medha (Intellect)etc prefer Ghrita^{32.}For those who are regularly suppressing urination due to their nature of work ,habits or any unavoidable reasons shall try taking Avapeedaka Snehapana in smaller dose on a regular basis as a part of their routine.

The symptoms mentioned in classics are mainly due to the vitiation of Apana & Vyana vata. They are mostly painful conditions occurring as a result of neurological irritation or muscular stretching. The process of urination is controlled by 3 sets of peripheral nerves involving the parasympathetic, sympathetic & somatic nervous system.

- a) Pelvic parasympathetic nerves Arise at the scleral level of the spinal cord, excite the bladder & release the urethra.
- b) Lumbar sympathetic nerves Inhibits & excite the bladder body, bladder base & urethra.
- c) Pudendal nerves Excite the external urethral sphincter.³³

When the person suppresses the urine there is an irritation to the above mentioned nerves axons which results in pain & as the pain at the level of bladder, urethra & scrotal region (which are primary functional areas of apana vata). These constant irritations cause reverse reflex towards the brain so as to increase the water re absorption & which results in decreased production of urine & less stretching of urinary bladder. The water re absorption is controlled by pituitary gland which is not programmed for such an action.³⁴For the pituitary to increase the water re absorption the body has to undergoes condition like dehydration, severe exercise, loss of blood, excessive sweating etc .For these the CNS increase the motor functions of the body by increasing the contractions of the muscles mainly of the abdomen, pelvic region, gluteal region etc. This involuntary muscle contraction may results in Angabhanga or the person feels totally exhausted even though he is not active while suppressing the urine.

Snehana increases the stretchebility elasticity of the body muscles & by which the pain due to stretching of muscles shall be decreased. This effect is once again enhanced by the use of Ghrita due to its Samskarasya Anuvartana property carries the effect of medicine which is added to it & provides the double impact on the person who is suppressing the urge of urine.

CONCLUSION: The suppression of the Mutravega regularly for long duration will lead to many complications. The symptoms of Mutra vegadharana are mainly conditions and painful Avapeedaka Snehapana can adopt in these conditions. The reasons for not being practiced like other Snehana procedures are because of the less understanding of the concept of administration, scattered and minimal textual references. Avapeedaka Sneha losing its significance from the practices and the concept remains unexplored. So there is a need to acquire correct knowledge and the clinical applicability of this unique concept according to the Yukthi of physician in Mutra vegadharana janyavikaras as well as other diseases having similar pathology.

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ROLE OF ASPHOTA (HEMIDESMUS INDICUS R.BR.) KSHARASUTRA IN THE MANAGEMENT OF LOW-ANAL FISTULA

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ABSTRACT

In this modern era, due to a sedentary lifestyle and improper dietary habit digestive disorder shows greater incidence. Among them, fistula-in-ano is troubleshooting one, which is a communicating tract between two epithelial surfaces lined by granulation tissues. Due to the higher recurrence rate and postoperative complication fistula-in-ano is a headache in the present era. In Ayurvedic classics, Ksharasutra prayoga is mentioned for the treatment of Nadi Vrana, which can be adopted in the management of anal fistula. The objective of the present study was to be evaluated the efficacy of Asphota Kshara sutra in the management of low anal fistula. The clinical trial was conducted in OPD and IPD of Shalyatantra department at Pankajakasthuri Ayurveda Medical College. The intervention was ligation of the fistulous tract with Asphota Ksharasutra. 25 subjects were selected satisfying inclusion and exclusion criteria. The clinical assessment was done before treatment, after treatment and follow up on the 30th day after cutting through of the tract. The assessment was done based on parameters prepared for anal fistula by Paul O Madson and Peter. Pain, burning sensation, inflammation, itching, discharge and unit cutting time was statistically analysed in different periods. Outcome variables were analysed statistically by using the Friedman test and Wilcoxson signed-rank rest, and a conclusion was drawn. Pain, burning sensation, inflammation, discharge, itching was effectively managed using Asphota Ksharasutra. The unit cutting time of Aspota ksharasutra was found to be more

than standard Ksharasutra. The result showed that Aspota Ksharasutra is effective in the management of low anal fistula.

Keywords: Fistula-in-ano; Asphota ksharasutra.

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is one of the holistic healing systems, which apart from providing various therapeutic measures for various diseases, emphasizes maintenance and which help in the promotion of health and prevention of diseases through diet and lifestyle regimens. Out of eight branches of Ayurveda Shalyatantra is the pioneer of surgery and Acharya Susrutha is the real torch bearer of surgical practitioners and the people considers him as the 'father of surgery'. He had laid down the unique principles regarding surgical treatment like ksharasutra, agnikarma, rakthamoksha, and shastrakarma. Among them, the ksharakarma is the most important para surgical procedure and ksharasutra is the chief piece of work of ksharakarma.

The anal canal is the site of many diseases. Most conditions arising in this area are incapacitating and interfere with the quality of life. Among them, bhagandara is a troubleshooting one. The tearing of baga, guda and vasthi with acute pain is known as bhagandara. This disease starts as a pidaka or boil which suppurates and burst open to form bhagandara^{1,2,3}. The surgical management of bhagandara (fistula-in-ano) carries several complications and a higher recurrence rate. To overcome this problem ksharasutra therapy has been described^{4,5,6}. It is found to be very successful with a very less recurrence rate of 3.8%. This procedure is economical, safe and cost-effective with fewer adverse effects and a higher success rate.

In the present study, the treatment procedure adapted is ksharasutra prayoga. The drug used for the preparation of ksharasutra is Asphota (Hemidesmus indicus R. Br) which is mentioned in ksharapaka vidhi adhya of Susrutha Samhita. Acharya Dalhana explained Asphota as Sariba in his commentary. This drug has Madhura, Tikta Rasa, Sheetha virya and Madhura Vipaka.

The objective of the study is to evaluate the efficacy of Asphota Ksharasutra in the management of low anal fistula.

The aim of the study is a better understanding of fistula-in-ano, to evaluate the efficacy of Asphota ksharasutra in the management of low anal fistula.

Materials and Method

Trial Design

The study design is an interventional pre-test and post-test study without a control group. The period of intervention depends on the length of the fistulous tract, till complete cutting of the tract is attained. The present study was done fully adhering to GCP-ICH guidelines with IEC approval. The IEC clearance was obtained vid reference no: PKAMC/IEC/37/19

Study Setting

OPD and IPD, of Department of Shalyatantra Pankajakathuri Ayurveda Medical College and PG centre, Kattakada, Trivandrum.

Study Population

Subjects of age group between 18 to 70 years with low anal fistula irrespective of gender. The sample size for the study was 25 considering 10% dropout.

Sampling Technique

The subjects were selected by consecutive sampling methods from the OPD and IPD of the Department of Shalyatantra, Pankajakathuri Ayurveda Medical College and PG Centre, Kattakada, Trivandrum till sample size was obtained.

Diagnostic Criteria

Diagnosed by classical signs and symptoms of Bhagandhara (fistula-in-ano)3

The fistulous tract was confirmed after probing.

Inclusion Criteria

- 1. Subjects of age group between 18 to 70 years
- 2. Subjects were selected irrespective of gender, religion, caste and economic status.
- 3. Subjects diagnosed with low anal fistula.

Exclusion Criteria

- 1. Subjects with high anal fistula
- 2. Pregnant women
- 3. Subjects with uncontrolled Diabetes Mellitus
- 4. Diagnosed cases of HIV, HBsAg positive patients and cardiovascular patients.
- 5. Fistula in ano secondary to
- Ulcerative colitis
- Crohn's disease
- Tuberculosis
- Colloidal Carcinoma of the rectum

Assessing criteria

- 1. Pain
- 2. Burning sensation
- 3. Inflammation
- 4. Discharge
- 5. Itching
- 6. Unit cutting time

Signs and symptoms found were graded based on the scoring system prepared for that by Paul O Madson and Peter.

1. PAIN

Grade 0	No pain
Grade1	Negligible or tolerable pain. No need for any medicine
Grade2	Localized tolerable pain completely relieved by hot sitz bath.
Grade 3	Intolerable pain, not relieved by sitz bath, relieved by oral analgesics. No sleep disturbance.
Grade 4	Continuous and intolerable pain with sleep disturbance. The patient seeks medical help as early as possible.

2. BURNING SENSATION

Grade 0	No burning sensation.
Grade 1	The negligible feeling of burning sensation for a few minutes in a day
Grade 2	Tolerable burning sensation completely relieved by hot sitz bath or local oleation
Grade3	Tolerable but constant burning sensation relieved by hot sitz bath or local oleation
Grade4	The unbearable burning sensation makes the patients seek medical help as soon as possible

3. **INFLAMMATION**

Grade0	No sign of inflammation around the external opening
Grade1	Very little inflammation around the external opening
Grade2	Inflammation in 1 cm diameter of the external opening
Grade3	Inflammation in 2cm diameter of the external opening

4. **DISCHARGE**

Grade 0	No sign of any discharge
Grade 1	The occasional appearance of discharge and patients use a single cotton pad in 24 hrs
Grade 2	The frequent appearance of discharge and patient used 3-4 cotton pads in 24 hrs
Grade 3	Increased frequency of discharge and patient use 5-6 cotton pads in 24 hrs
Grade 4	Continuous discharge.

5. ITCHING

Grade 0	No complaint of itching
Grade 1	Negligible itching for a few minutes a day
Grade 2	The occasional sensation of itching
Grade 3	The frequent sensation of itching with 4-6 hours interval
Grade 4	The continuous sensation of itching with 15-30 minutes intervals.

Unit cutting time

Total number of days for cut-through

The initial length of ksharasutra (in cm)

Withdrawal Criteria

- 1. The unwillingness of the subject to continue
- 2. Adverse drug reaction

Investigation

- Haematological examination: Hb %, TC, DC, ESR, RBS
- o Coagulation profile: BT, CT
- o X-ray Fistulogram was done in necessary subjects.

Data Collection

Assessment parameters were collected by personal interview, clinical examination and case record form. The assessment was done before treatment, after treatment (after cutting through of tract) and in follow up period (30th day after completing cut through of tract).

Duration of Study

Total duration 18 months

Period of intervention- depending on the length of the fistulous tract.

Procedure

All the subjects in the trial group were treated using the Asphota kshara sutra.

Preparation of trial drug-Asphota Kshara sutra Preparation of Asphota Mridhu Kshara

Raw drugs were collected from an authorized dealer and *Ksharasutra* was prepared in the Department of Salyatantra, Pankajakasthuri Ayurveda Medical College and Post Graduate Centre, Trivandrum.

The whole plant of asphota was taken, it was dried well and burned on a clean surface, all the ash was collected and kept in a vessel to cool. The next day the whole ash was dissolved in six times of water. Then it was kept undisturbed for 12 hours duration. The next day the mixture was filtered 21 times and the filtrate was heated on the gas furnace in a stainless-steel pot until all water was evaporated and till white amorphous powder was obtained. The amorphous powder obtained was made fine powdered with pestle and mortar and sieved through double layer muslin cloth and kept in an airtight glass container.

Preparation of Asphota Kshara Sutra

The Asphota kshara sutra was prepared by a repeated coating of snuhi ksheera, asphota kshara and haridra choorna over surgical barbous linen tread no 20. This thread is tied tightly throughout lengthwise in hangers. Each thread on the hanger was smeared with snuhi latex with help of a gauze piece soaked in snuhi latex. This wet hanger is transferred into kshara sutra cabinet. The same process was repeated the next day. Eleven such coatings with snuhi ksheera alone were accomplished. The twelfth coating was done by first smearing the thread with snuhi ksheera and in wet condition, a thread was smeared with asphota kshara. It is again transferred into the cabinet for drying. This process was repeated till seven coatings of snuhi ksheera and asphota kshara is achieved. The final three coatings were completed with snuhi ksheera and fine powder of haridra in the same manner. Thus, twenty-one coatings over the thread were completed.

The order of coating is divided as follows

Table 1: Asphota ksharasutra preparation

Ingredients	No of coating
Snuhi ksheera	11
Snuhi ksheera + ashpota Mridhu Kshara	7
Snuhi ksheera + haridra	3
Total coating	21

Preservation of *Kshara Sutra:* After the 21 coatings and exposure to UV rays, each thread was sealed into a glass tube. The tube was open only at the time of use.

Pre-Operative Procedure: After obtaining informed consent, vitals were measured and recorded. The patient was kept nil per oral for at least 4 to 6 hours. Soap water or phosphate enema was given 2hours before the

procedure. The later perianal and perineal region was prepared.

Materials used: - Mosquito forceps-2, suture cutting scissors, malleable copper probe, sponge holding forceps, instrument tray, cotton swab, sterile cotton pad, Aspota kshara sutra, micropore.

Operative Procedure

The patient was kept in lithotomy position and part was prepared by using betadine solution 10% followed by surgical spirit. Local anaesthesia was given using injection lignocaine hydrochloride 2% in the presence of a trained surgeon. The patient was advised to relax his thigh and anal sphincter. After reassuring the patient, digital and proctoscopy examinations were conducted. Then a malleable copper probe was inserted through the external opening of the fistula. The tip of the probe was forwarded along the path of least resistance and was guided by the gloved finger in the lumen of the anal canal to support the advancement of

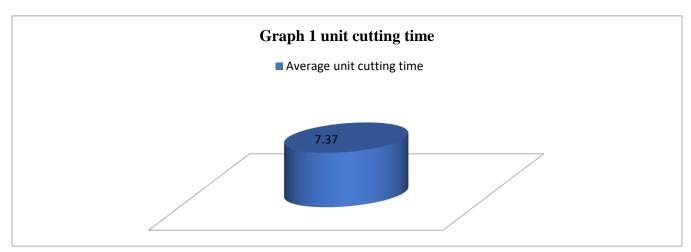
the probe towards the internal opening. The tip of the probe was finally directed to come out through the anal orifice. A then suitable length of *Asphota kshara* was taken and threaded into the eye of the probe. Thereafter the probe was pulled out through the anal orifice to leave the thread behind in the fistulous tract. The two ends of *the Ksharasutra* were tied together with a moderate tightness outside the anal canal.

Post-Operative Procedure: Blood clots in and around the anal canal and perineal region were cleaned. Then a surgical pad was placed in the area. Haemostasis was attained. Vitals were checked and recorded. The anal dressing was done.

Follow Up: The patient was reviewed every week for wound care and thread change.

1. Unit Cutting Time

Unit cutting time of patients lies in the range 4.4 – 11.3. The calculated average unit cutting time is 7.37.



RESULTS – Statistical Analysis and Interpretations

1. Effect Of Intervention on Pain

Table 2: Result of Friedman Test for Pain

Period	Mean rank	SE		
BT	3	0.206		
AT	1.5	0		
Follow up	1.5	0		

Table 3: Effect of intervention on pain

Chi-square	46.00
P-value	< 0.001

The chi-Square value for the Friedman test for comparing the effect of the intervention on pain at different periods [46.00] was found to be significant and P-value was <0.001. Hence rejected the null hypothesis, and accept that there exists a significant difference between at least one pair of the period in

terms of pain. As there exists a significant difference between different periods, pairwise comparison was done by using the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test for finding out which of the periods are different and which are not different.

Table 4: Result of Wilcoxon Signed Rank Tests for Pain

	•		
Pairs	Calculated value (Z)	P-value	Significance difference
BT and AT	-4.238	< 0.001	Present
BT and Follow up	-4.238	< 0.001	Present
AT and Follow up	0	1.00	Absent

The result shows that there exists a significant difference between the before treatment group and after treatment group at the 1% level. Also, there exists a significant difference between the before treatment

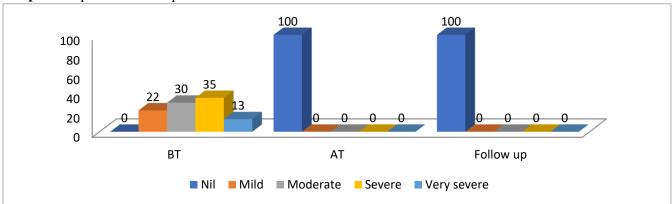
group and follow up group at the 1% level. There is no significant difference between after treatment group and follow up the group. It means that intervention helps to reduce pain.

Table 5: Assessment of pain based on Paul O Madson & Peter scoring system

Period	Respo	Response										
	Nil		Nil Mild		Mode	Moderate		Severe		evere		
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
BT	0	0	5	22	7	30	8	35	3	13		
AT	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Follow up	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0		

All the mild, moderate, severe and very severe cases of pain before treatment had been cured after treatment. There were no nil pain cases before treatment. But after treatment nil cases had increased to 100%.

Graph 3: Representation of pain



2. Effect Of Intervention on Burning Sensation

Table 6: Result of Friedman Test for Burning Sensation

Period	Mean rank	SE
BT	2.74	0.224
AT	1.63	0
Follow up	1.63	0

Table 7: Effect of intervention on the burning sensation

Chi-square	34.00
P-value	< 0.001

Chi-Square value for the Friedman test for comparing the effect of the intervention on burning sensation at different periods [34.00] was found to be significant and P-value was <0.001. Hence rejected the null hypothesis, and accept that there exists a significant difference between at least one pair of the period in

terms of burning sensation. As there exists a significant difference between different periods, pairwise comparison was done by using the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test for finding out which of the periods are different and which are not different.

Table 8: Result of Wilcoxon Signed Rank Tests for burning sensation

Pairs	Calculated value (Z)	P-value	Significance difference
BT and AT	-3.674	< 0.001	Present
BT and Follow up	-3.674	< 0.001	Present
AT and Follow up	0	1.00	Absent

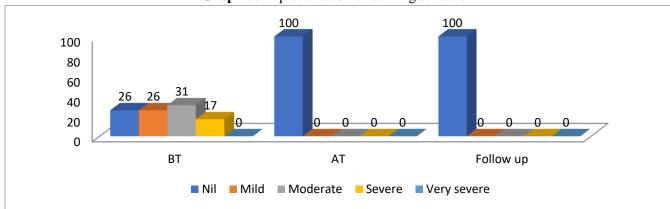
The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment group and after treatment group at 1% level. Also, there exists a significant difference between the before treatment

group and follow up group at the 1% level. There is no significant difference between after treatment group and follow up the group. It means that intervention helps to reduce the burning sensation.

Table 9: Assessment of burning sensation based on Paul O Madson & Peter scoring system

Period	Response									
	Nil		Nil Mild		Moderate		Severe		Very se	evere
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
BT	6	26	6	26	7	31	4	17	0	0
AT	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Follow up	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Before treatment, there were 17% severe cases, 31% moderate cases and 26% mild cases of burning sensation. But after treatment, all those cases had cured and nil cases of burning sensation had increased from 26% to 100% during the study period.



Graph 5: Representation of burning sensation

3. Effect of intervention on inflammation

Table 10: Result of Friedman Test for inflammation

Period	Mean rank	SE
BT	3	0.17
AT	1.5	0
Follow up	1.5	0

Table 11: Effect of intervention on inflammation

Chi-square	46.00
P-value	<0.001

Chi-Square value for the Friedman test for comparing the effect of the intervention on inflammation at different periods [46.00] was found to be significant and P-value was <0.001. Hence rejected the null hypothesis, and accept that there exists a significant difference between at least one pair of the period in terms of inflammation. As there exists a significant difference between different periods, pairwise comparison was done by using the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test for finding out which of the periods are different and which are not different.

Table 12: Result of Wilcoxon Signed Rank Tests for inflammation

Pairs	Calculated value (Z)	P-value	Significance difference
BT and AT	-4.256	< 0.001	Present
BT and Follow up	-4.256	< 0.001	Present
AT and Follow up	0	1.00	Absent

The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment group and after treatment group at 1% level. Also, there exists a significant difference between the before treatment

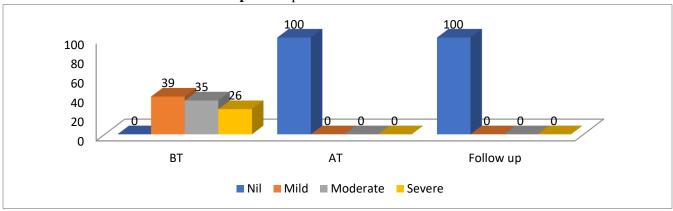
group and follow up group at the 1% level. There is no significant difference between after treatment group and follow up the group. It means that intervention helps to reduce inflammation.

Table 13: Assessment of inflammation based on Paul O Madson & Peter scoring system

Period	Response									
	Nil		Mild		Moderate		Severe			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%		
BT	0	0	9	39	8	35	6	26		
AT	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0		
Follow up	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0		

All the mild, moderate and severe cases of inflammation before treatment had cured after treatment. Nil cases had increased from 0% to 100% during the study period.

Graph 7: Representation of inflammation



4. Effect of intervention on discharge

Table 14: Result of Friedman Test of discharge

Period	Mean rank	SE
BT	2.83	0.197
AT	1.59	0
Follow up	1.59	0

Table 15: Effect of intervention on discharge

Chi-square	38.00
P-value	< 0.001

Chi-Square value for the Friedman test for comparing the effect of the intervention on discharge at different periods [38.00] was found to be significant and Pvalue was <0.001. Hence rejected the null hypothesis, and accept that there exists a significant difference between at least one pair of the period in terms of discharge. As there exists a significant difference between different periods, pairwise comparison was done by using the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test for finding out which of the periods are different and which are not different.

Table 16: Result of Wilcoxon Signed Rank Tests on discharge

Pairs	Calculated value (Z)	P-value	Significance difference
BT and AT	-3.921	< 0.001	Present
BT and Follow up	-3.921	< 0.001	Present
AT and Follow up	0	1.00	Absent

The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment group and after treatment group at 1% level. Also, there exists a significant difference between the before treatment

group and follow up group at the 1% level. There is no significant difference between after treatment group and follow up the group. It means that intervention helps to reduce discharge.

Table 17: Assessment of discharge based on Paul O Madson & Peter scoring system

Period	Response									
	Nil		Mild		Moderate		Severe		Very severe	
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
BT	4	17	5	22	11	48	3	13	0	0
AT	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Follow up	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

All the mild, moderate and severe cases of discharge before treatment had been cured after treatment. Nil cases had increased from 17% to 100% during the study period.

100 100 100 80 60 40 20 ВТ ΑT Follow up ■ Moderate ■ Severe ■ Very severe

Graph 9: Representation of discharge

Distribution according to itching 5.

Table 18: Result of Friedman Test for itching

Period	Mean rank	SE
BT	2.57	0.166
AT	1.72	0
Follow up	1.72	0

Table 19: Effect of intervention on itching

Chi-square	26.00
P-value	<0.001

Chi-Square value for the Friedman test for comparing the effect of the intervention on itching at different periods [26.00] was found to be significant and Pvalue was <0.001. Hence rejected the null hypothesis, and accept that there exists a significant difference between at least one pair of the period in terms of itching. As there exists a significant difference between different periods, pairwise comparison was done by using the Wilcoxon Signed-Rank test for finding out which of the periods are different and which are not different.

Table 20: Result of Wilcoxon Signed Rank Tests for itching

Pairs	Calculated value (Z)	P-value	Significance difference
BT and AT	-3.286	< 0.001	Present
BT and Follow up	-3.286	< 0.001	Present
AT and Follow up	0	1.00	Absent

Table 21: Assessment of itching based on Paul O Madson & Peter scoring system

Period	Respo	Response									
	Nil		Mild		Moderate Severe		e	Very severe			
	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%	
BT	10	43	8	35	5	22	0	0	0	0	
AT	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Follow up	23	100	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

There were no severe and very severe cases of itching before treatment. All the mild and moderate cases of itching before treatment had cured after treatment. Nil cases of itching had increased from 43% to 100% during the study period.

Graph 11: representation of itching 100 100 100 80 60 40 20 0 ВТ ΑТ Follow up ■ Nil ■ Mild ■ Moderate ■ Severe ■ Very severe

PROBABLE MODE OF ACTION OF ASPHOTA KSHARASUTRA

Asphota drug is having tikta, madhura rasa and also belongs to Madhura vipaka, sheethavirya and tridosha shamaka. It is vatahara because of its Madhura vipaka, pitta samaka because of its sheetha virya and Madhura vipaka, tikta and madhura rasa. Kaphasamaka due to tikta rasa. It is also having the property of kusthaghna, kandughna, raktasodhana and raktapitta hara. The fistula is a tract lined by unhealthy granulation tissue. So, we need a treatment modality that can ensure cutting and healing of the track simultaneously. Tridoshahara, raktapittahara, vranaropana action of asphota along with mechanical cutting action of the

thread along with the properties of haridra and snuhi works in the disease.

The caustic property of kshara helps in the destruction of the unhealthy tissue and provide a healthy granulation tissue and promotes healing. ksharasutra helps in cutting and draining the track with simultaneously helping to attain the healing of the track. Raktapitta hara and tridosha hara and vrana ropana property fasten the wound healing. Asphota when made into kshara form which is having more potency, and when applied as ksharasutra has an added effect in managing fistula-in-ano. The post-operative care with sitz bath and daily dressing, pathya karma followed after and during treatment might have helped in preventing the recurrence.

The caustic property of the *asphota kshara* will cause the disintegration of unhealthy granulation by the protein denaturation process. The curcumin content in the *haridra* act as a catalyst to activate the denaturation process. Along with antimicrobial action *haridra* and alkaloids present in the *snuhi* helps in the cutting, draining and healing of the fistulous tract.

DISCUSSION

Pain

The pain was the common complaint in all the subjects before treatment. During the treatment period pain gradually decreased, after treatment and in follow up time pain was completely absent in all subjects. The data was statistically analysed using the Friedman test. The P-value was found to be <0.001 which rejects the null hypothesis. And pairwise comparison was done using Wilcoxon signed-rank test and observed a significant difference between before treatment and after treatment, before treatment and follow up. There was no significant difference between after treatment and follow up. It means that the intervention helped to reduce pain, and there is no recurrence of pain in follow up period. This result may be due to *vatahara* property of the drug, *vata* is the main *dosha* that causes pain. Vatahara action of the drug is because the Madhura vipaka and asphota Kshara will have similar properties and help in reducing pain. When Asphota is converted to kshara from tridoshaghana and ropana property of kshara will combine with the vranaropana and vranasodhana property of haridra and snuhi respectively and help in reducing pain.

Burning Sensation

The burning sensation was a common symptom present in all subjects at different levels. During treatment burning sensation gradually decreased and became absent after treatment and follow up. The data were analysed using the Friedman test. The P-value was found to be <0.001 which rejects the null hypothesis. Pairwise comparison was done using Wilcoxson signed-rank test. The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment, after

treatment and before treatment and follow up. And there is no significant between after treatment and follow up. It means that the study intervention helps reduce burning sensation and there is no recurrence of burning sensation in follow up period. This result may be due to *pitta samaka* action of the drug due to *sheetha virya* of the drug. so while converting it into *kshara Soumya guna* of *kshara* and along with the *sheetha virya* of *Asphota* and *pitta samaka* action of *haridra* might have helped to reduce the burning sensation.

Inflammation

Inflammation was present in all the subjects at different grades. During treatment inflammation gradually decreased and became absent after treatment and follow up. The data were analysed using the Friedman test. The P-value was found to be <0.001 which rejects the null hypothesis. Pairwise comparison was done using Wilcoxson signed-rank test. The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment, after treatment and before treatment and follow up. And there is no significant between after treatment and follow up. It means that the study intervention helps reduce inflammation and there is no recurrence of inflammation in follow up period. This result may be due to pittashamaka action of the Asphota which is due to madhura rasa, madhuravipaka and sheetha virya. These properties might be maintained while converting it into kshara. Along with shodhahara property of haridra helped in the reduction of inflammation in ksharasutra form.

Discharge

Before treatment discharge was present in all subjects in variable grades. During treatment discharge gradually decreased and became absent after treatment and follow up. The data were analysed using the Friedman test. The P-value was found to be <0.001 which rejects the null hypothesis. Pairwise comparison was done using Wilcoxson signed-rank test. The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment, after treatment and before treatment and follow up. And there is no significant between after treatment and follow up. It means that intervention helped reduce discharge and there was no recurrence of

discharge in follow up period. This result is probably due to *kaphahara* property of the drug due to *tikta rasa* while converting it to *kshara* the *stambaka* property of *kshara* along with *kaphahara* property of *Asphota* and *haridra* might be the probable mode of action to reduce the discharge.

Itching

Before treatment itching was absent in 43% of subjects and was present in the rest of the subjects at variable grades. During treatment itching gradually decreased and became absent after treatment and follow up. The data were analysed using the Friedman test. The Pvalue was found to be <0.001 which rejects the null hypothesis. Pairwise comparison was done using Wilcoxson signed-rank test. The result shows that there exists a significant difference between before treatment, after treatment and before treatment and follow up. And there is no significant between after treatment and follow up. It means that the intervention helps reduce itching and there is no recurrence of itching in follow up period. This result may be due to kaphahara property of Asphota due to its tikta rasa and also due kusthaghna and kandughna property along with raktashodhana, vishahara action of haridra vishaghna property of snuhi might have helped in reducing itching.

Unit cutting time

Average unit cutting was evaluated, and the analysis shows that the average unit cutting time was 7.37 days/cm. The unit cutting time of standard *kshara sutra* is 7 days/cm¹⁰⁴.so, while analysing the unit cutting time it is assumed here that *asphota ksharasutra* is not superior to the standard *ksharasutra*.

CONCLUSION

In this study, the trial *ksharasutra* proved its efficacy in the cut-through of the low anal fistulous tract with a unit cutting time (UCT) of 7.37 days/cm. it is also found to have a significant effect in reducing the clinical symptoms of fistula -in-ano like, pain, inflammation, burning sensation and itching as assessed in the study. It was found to be free from any sort of side effects or adverse reactions during the clinical trial. Thus, the present clinical study proves that *Asphota*

ksharasutra can be used as a safe effective alternative *Ksharasutra* in treating low anal fistula.

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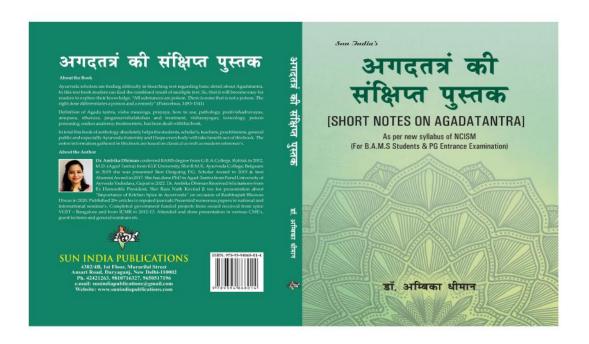
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Ayurveda scholars are finding difficulty in Searching text regarding basic detail about Agadatantra. In this text book readers can find the combined result of multiple text. So, that it will become easy for readers to explore their knowledge.

"All substances are poison. There is none that is not a poison. The right dose differentiates a poison and a remedy" (Paracelsus, 1493-1541)

Definition of Agada tantra, visha measings, prayaya, how to use, pathology, prativishadravayas, anupana, sthavara, jangamavishalakshan and treatment, visharayogas, toxicology, poison poisoning, snakes anatomy, treatmentete, has been dealt with his book. In total this book of anthology absolutely helps the students, scholar's, teachers, practitioners, general public and especially Ayurveda ffeternity and I hope everybody will take benefit out of their book.