

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 P-value was found to be <0.001 which rejects the null hypothesis. Pairwise comparison was done using Wilcoxon 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 to *kusthaghna* and *kandughna* property along with *rakta-shodhana*, *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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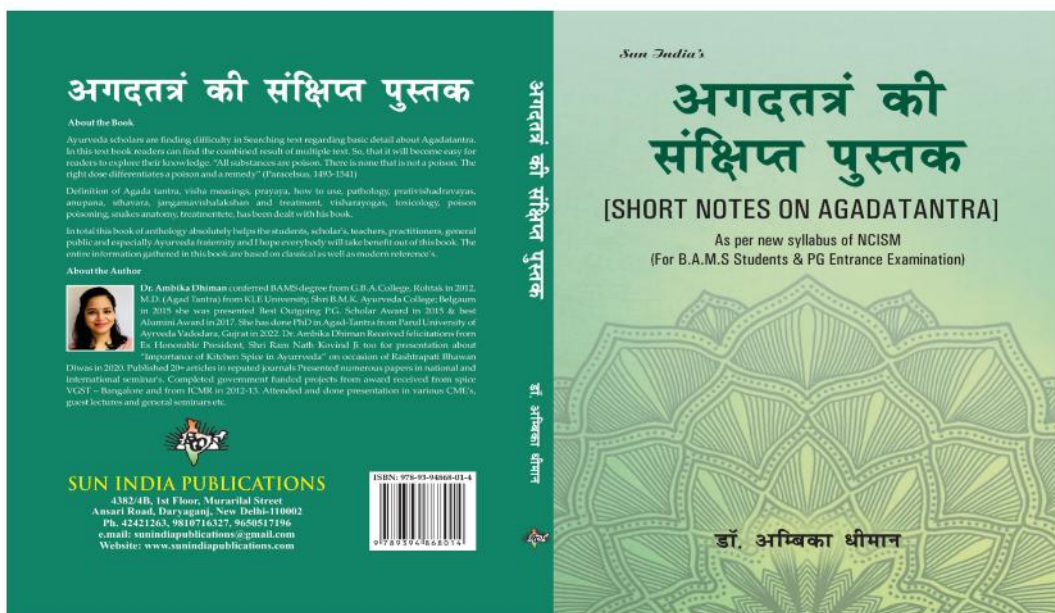
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