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"AYURVEDIC INSIGHTS INTO AMAVATA: A CASE-BASED EXPLORATION"

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ABSTRACT

Amavata is one among the Rasavaha stroto vikara. Amavata is mainly caused due to ama and vata. Vikruta vata along with other doshas, mandagni and accumulation of ama at shlema sthana mainly at sandhis leads to Amavata. It can be correlated with Rheumatoid arthritis. Rheumatoid arthritis is an autoimmune disease causing multiple joint pain. The treatment in modern science for Rheumatoid arthritis includes the use of glucocorticoids, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs and disease modifying anti rheumatic drugs. Ayurvedic management of amavata will be using medicines which cause agnideepana, amapachana, strotoshodha, vatashamaka actions to pacify the symptoms and disease amavata. In the present case, 18-year female patient presented with the complaints of multiple joint pain and swelling, morning stiffness, restricted movement of joints, loss of appetite, tiredness. Patient was administered with Deepana, pachana, sthanika abhyanga, swedana, and upanaha with dashanga lepa, saindhava lavana and mahavishagarbha taila, myostal liniment and internally, kaishora guggulu, Chitrakadi vati, Amrutottara kashaya also given. Thus by following proper pathya and proper medication the management of amavata was relieved successfully. Thus this study aims to study the effect of shamanaushadhi and upanaha karma and following proper pathya in amavata instead of taking allopathy medications.

KEYWORDS: Amavata, Rheumatoid arthritis, shamanaushadhi, upanaha karma.

INTRODUCTION

Amavata is a annapradoshaja vikara, caused by Agnimandya. Amavata was first described in Madhava nidana by Madhavakara.^[1] Whereas treatment of amavata is described by Chakradatta. It is explained in laghutrayee not explained in Brihattrayee. It is a disease of Madhyama roga marga hence it is kricchra Sadhya or yapya.^[2] Viruddhahara vihara and nischeshta and vyayama after a snigdha bhojana or abhishyandhi ahara leads to indigestion (whereas vyayama after vidahi anna leads to Vatarakta) and production of ama rasa and simultaneously *vata* also increases, inturn it will spread to shleshmasthana via raktavahinis to all over the body. Ardhapakwa or adhika vikruta amarasa along with vata enter dhamani's. In dhamani's along with other doshas gets dushitha and produces kledata in strotas due to its picchila guna. Even after undergoing dhatwagni pachana it produces excess ama and mala which causes excess durbalatha guruta in Hridava. This is known as *amavata* and will leads to many severe vikaras in the body. Amavata samanya lakshanas be like aruchi,

Vedana in multiple joints, trushna, alasya ,gauravata, jwara, shotha in joints.

AMAVATA SAMPRAPTI

Thus this *roga* will start from *madhyama anguli* of hand and spread to *manibandha, kurpara, janu, trika, and prishta vamsha sandhi*. In the beginning pain will be minimal but gradually pain increase and it involves *snayu, peshi, and tarunasthi* which gets dried and also there will be sandhi *jadhyata*.

Amavata samanya lakshanas are aruchi, Vedana in multiple joints, trushna, alasya, gauravata, jwara, vruschika damshavat Vedana, agnimandya, lalasrava, excessive formation of mala and heaviness in abdomen and shula, trushna, chardi, bhrama, murcha, hrudayagraha, shotha in joints. If Amavata is due to anubandha of pitta there will be burning sensation and redness in joints, and if due to vata there will be severe vedana. If kapanubandha is there then there will be heaviness and itching.^[3] Considering all these causes and symptoms *amapachana* becomes major steps while treating *amavata* that means we have to correct *annavaha strotas* firstly.

Rheumatoid arthritis is a long-term autoimmune disorder that primarily affects joints. It typically results in warm, swollen, and painful joints. Pain and stiffness often worsen following rest. Most commonly, the wrist and hands are involved. The diagnosis is made mostly on the basis of a person's signs and symptoms. The goals of treatment are to reduce pain, decrease inflammation, and improve a person's overall functioning. This may be helped by balancing rest and exercise, the use of splints and braces, or the use of assistive devices. Pain medications, steroids, and NSAIDs are frequently used to help with symptoms. Disease-modifying antirheumatic drugs (DMARDs), such as hydroxychloroquine and methotrexate, may be used to try to slow the progression of disease.^[4]

Amavata can be managed successfully with holistic approach of Ayuvedic treatment. The main aim of the present study is to evaluate the efficacy of *shamanaushadhi* and *upanaha karma* and *pathya* in the management of *Amavata*.

CASE STUDY

In the present case, a 18 year female patient came to OPD presented with the complaints of

-Multiple joint pain and swelling

- -Morning stiffness
- -Restricted movement of joints
- -Loss of appetite
- -Disturbed sleep due to pain
- -Tiredness
- pain in neck region

HISTORY OF PRESENT ILLNESS

Patient was having neck stiffness and pain and multiple joint pain since 1 year. Symptoms worsened since last 6 months. Patient visited nearby hospital and took analgesic injections and medication for temporary relief. In winter season patient's condition got worsened and visited our hospital for permanent relief.

PAST HISTORY

Not a known case of Hypertension, Diabetes or any chronic illness.

On Examination

Bp-100/60mmhg Pulse -78/min SpO2 -98% RR-22/min Pallor-absent Icterus- absent **Systemic examination** RS-NVBS CVS- S1S2 HEARD CNS – Conscious and oriented GIT- soft and non tender

PERSONAL HISPTROY

Ashtasthana/Ashtavidha pareeksha Nadi: Vata Kapha Mutra : Prakruta Mala: Sama Jiwha: Lipta Shabda : Prakruta Sparsha : Ushna Drik : Prakruta Akriti: Alpa

Dashavidha pareeksha

Prakuti – Vata kaphaja Vikriti- Vata, Kapha Dosha and Rasa Dhatu Sara- Avara Samhanana- Madhyama Pramana- Madhyama Satmya- Madhyama Satva-Madhyama Vaya- Baala (praudha) Vyayama shakti- Avara Ahaara shakti- Abhyaharana Shakti: Alpa Jarana shakti : Alpa

BLOOD INVESTIGATION

Hb -12gm% Total count: 4600/ cu mm DIFFERENTIAL COUNT: Neutrophils -62% (50-70%) Lymphocytes- 32% (20-40%) Eosinophils -6% (1-6%) Monocytes -2% (0-2%) Basophils -1% (0-1%) ESR: 15mm/Hr RBC COUNT: 4.6 million/cu mm Platelet: 2.8 lakh /cu mm Rheumatoid factor: 59.2 IU/ML (UPTO 20 IU/ML)

MATERIALS AND METHODS Table 1: Showing ABHYANTARA CHIKITSA

Tuble 1						
Sl. No	Medicine Name	Sevana kala	Dosage	Anupana	Frequency	
1.	Chitrakadi vati	Just before food or samudga kala	1 tablet	Sukoshna jala	Morning and night	
2.	Kaishora guggulu	After food	1 tablet	Sukoshna jala	Morning and night	
3.	Amrutottara Kashaya	After food	10ml	Sukoshnajala	Morning and night	
4.	Relaxi capsule	After food	1 tablet	Sukoshnajala	Morning and night	

ιIJ	Die 2: Showing DAHTA CHIKITSA.			
Morning Abhyanga –				
	Worming	Mahavishagarbha taila with myostal liniment 2 drops		
		Upanaha :		
	Evening	Dashanga lepa + Saindhava lavana+ Mahavishagarbha taila and covered by Eranda patra for		
		one hour then prakshalana with warm water.		

Table 2: Showing BAHYA CHIKITSA

PATHYA

Patient was advised to take light food which can be easily digested, less spicy and salty food. Follow *pathya* same as in *jwara*; i.e *manda*, *peya* of old *shali- shastika* rice, mugda, masura, kulatta, patola patra, raktapunarnava, kakamachi, patha, vastuka tikta rasa, jangala mamsa rasa, ushna jala etc.

COMPOSITIONS OF PRESCRIBED FORMULATION MEDICINES Table 3: Showing ingredients of *Chitrakadi vati*.

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Chitraka	1 part
Pippali mula	1 part
Yava kshara	1 part
Sarja kshara	1 part
Samudra lavana	1 part
Sauvarchala lavana	1 part
Saindhava lavana	1 part
Bida lavana	1 part
Audbidha lavana	1 part
Trikatu	1 part
Hingu	1 part
Ajamoda	1 part
Chavya	1 part
Matulunga swarasa or dadima swarasa	Quantity sufficient

Table 4: Showing ingredients of Kaishora guggulu.

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Shuddha Guggulu	1 prastha (768 gms)
Triphala	3 prastha (1536gm)
Guduchi	1 prastha (768gm)
Jala	1/2 drona
Triphala	2 pala
Guduchi	1 pala
Trikatu	6 aksha i.e 6 karsha
Vidanga	¹∕₂ pala
Trivrutta	1 karsha
Danti	1 karsha
Ghrita	Quantity sufficient

Table 5: Showing ingredients of Dashanga lepa.

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Shirirsha	1 part
Yastimadhu	1 part
Tagara	1 part
Rakta Chandana	1 part
Ela	1 part
Jatamamsi	1 part
Haridra	1 part
Daruharidra	1 part
Kushta	1 part
Valaka / Udichya	1 part

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Table 6: Showing ingredients of Relaxi capsule.

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Maharasnadi extract	80 mg
Amalaki rasayana powder	80 mg
Ashwagandha churna	50 mg
Nirgundi churna	45 mg
Nimba churna	30mg
Punarnava churna	30mg
Methi churna	45 mg
Gokshura churna	30 mg
Haridra extract	25 mg
Shallaki extract	20 mg
Shankha Bhasma	15 mg
Kapikacchu extract	15 mg
Inactive ingredients:	
Magnesium stearate	3 mg
Talcum powder	7 mg

Table7: Showing ingredients of Amrutottara kashaya.

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Nagara	1 parts
Haritaki	2 parts
Guduchi	3 parts

Table 8: Showing ingredients of Mahavishagarbha taila. Murchana dravyas

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Manjishta	0.62gms
Haridra	156.25mg
Murchita tila taila	10ml

Kalka dravyas

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Ashuddha shrigivisha	All
Ashuddha kuchala	In
Arka	Equal
Erandamoola	Quantity 455mg each
Dhattura	

Table 9: Showing ingredients of myostal liniment.

INGREDIENTS	QUANTITY
Manarayana taila	4 ml
Nirgundi taila	4 ml
Gandhapura taila	1 ml
Tailaparna taila	0.5ml
Devadaru taila	0.3 ml
Sarala	0.2 grams

AFTER TREATMENT Table No. 10: Followup and outcome.

VISIT	MEDICINE	BLOOD INVESTIGATION		CONTINUE OR DISCONTINUATION OF
V 151 1		RA	ASO TITRE	MEDICINE
	1. Chitrakadi vati			
	2. Kaishora Guggulu			
17/12/2023- first visit	3.Capsule Relaxi	59.2	114.2	All the medicines continued for 1 month
	4. Upanaha			
	5. Abhyanga			
17/01/2024	1. Chitrakadi vati	8.5	69.01	Chitrakadi vati continued for 10 more days

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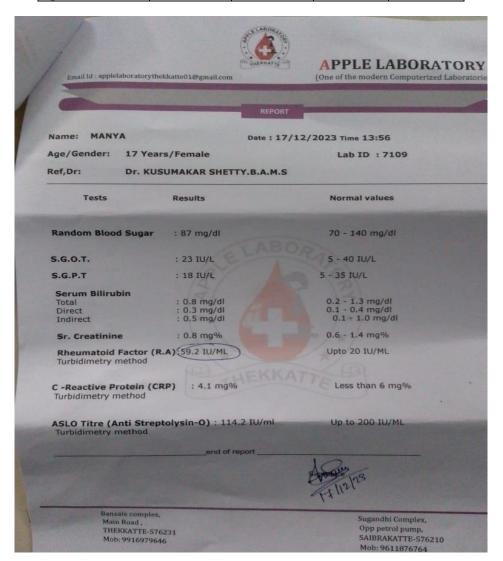
	2. Kaishora Guggulu 3.Capsule Relaxi 4. Upanaha 5. Abhyanga			Rest all the medicines continued for one month.
20-2-2024	1. Kaishora Guggulu 2.Capsule Relaxi 3. Abhyanga			After the swelling and pain had noticeably reduced, the <i>Upanaha Lepa</i> treatment was discontinued, while the remaining medication was continued for another month.
19-3-2024		7	26	All the medicines discontinued

Table No. 11: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA.^[5]

S. No	Subjective parameter	Grade 0	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3
1.	Sandhishoola	No pain	Mild pain	Moderate, but no difficulty	Much difficulty in moving the body parts
2.	Sandhishotha	No swelling	Mild swelling	Moderate swelling	Severe swelling
3.	Sparshasahatwa	No tenderness	Subjective experience of tenderness	Wincing of face on pressure	Wincing of face on and withdrawal of the affected part on pressure

Table No. 12:

Symptoms	17/12/2023	17/01/2024	20/2/2024	19/3/2024
Appetite	3	2	1	0
Sandhishoola	3	2	1	0
Sandhishotha	3	3	2	1
Sparshasahatwa	2	2	2	1



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Divya Comp astan – 576 226, Udupi Dist., Karr ient's Name: Miss.Manya f. By.Dr:Krithi Shetty od Exam od For Haemoglobîn umatoid Factor Test(R.A) Streptolysin-O-Titre(ASLO)	Result 12.0 G% 8.5 IU/ml(Negative 69.0 IU/ml(Negative	Lab. No. Normal R: 12-15 e) Up to 20	Range 15 G% 20 IU/ml
f. By.Dr:Krithi Shetty od Exam od For Haemoglobin imatoid Factor Test(R.A)	Result 12.0 G% 8.5 IU/ml(Negative	e) Up to 20	15 G% 20 IU/ml
od For Haemoglobin amatoid Factor Test(R.A)	12.0 G% 8.5 IU/ml(Negative	e) Up to 20	15 G% 20 IU/ml
imatoid Factor Test(R.A)	8.5 IU/ml(Negative	e) Up to 20	20 IU/ml
Streptolysin-O-Titre(ASLO)	69.0 IU/ml(Nega	utive) Up to 200	00 IU/ml
Lab Technologist			
4			
Reg No : UDF Divya Con Sastan – 576 226, Udupi Dist., Kan Patient's Name : Miss. Manya	DICAL LABORATO MPUTERISED 200367ALCDS - (Govt eF Kan nplex, Next To Canara Ba nataka State, INDIA - 2 Age: 17 Yrs Sex : F	mataka) mk 7829577178 & 9845916771	1
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DISCUSSION

Due to *mithya ahara* and *vihara* in this modern era, *Amavata* is flaring up very fast. Treating *Amavata* which *Shodhana* line of management is also having limitation due to busy schedules of the patients. So it was a need of an hour to have combination of *shamanaushadhi* with *bahyaparimarjana chikitsa* to treat *Amavata* patients.

The main aim of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of *shamanaushadhis* namely *chitrakadi vati, kaishora guggulu, amruttottara kashaya and bhayantara chikitsa like dashanga lepa, sanidhava lavana, mahavishagarbha taila,* myostal liniment in the management of *amavata*.

MODE OF ACTION OF DASHANGA LEPA^[6]

Most of the ingredients of *Dasanga lepa* having vishahara action. Aama is considered as Anna visha by few of the authors. Vedanasthapana and shothahara action of Shirisha acts effectively on Amavata. Plant steroid of yastimadhu reduces swelling(refer article for this action). Ela, Kushtha etc sugandha drugs helps in the penetration of Dravya through Twak/ Rasavaha srotas by its Sukshma and ushna guna. Ela and Jatamamsi acts on pain receptors in brain thus reduces pain.

The Kleda is absorbed by *Ruksha Guna Dravyas* like *Ela, Tagar, Haridra, Daruharidra, Kushta* which works as *Shothahara* thereby reducing *Shotha. Kashaya Rasatmaka drugs like Shirish, Tagar, Daruharidra, Jatamansi* helps to constrict the dilated capillaries there by not allowing plasma to move from the intravascular spaces into the extravascular spaces thereby reducing swelling.

MODE OF ACTION OF KAISHORA GUGGULU^[7]

Haritaki- It has *Kashaya pradhana lavanavarjitha* pancha rasa, laghu, ruksha guna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaka. It has shothahara, strotoshodhana, vedanasthapana properties.

Vibhitaki – Kashaya Madhura rasa, ruksha, laghu guna, ushna virya, madhura vipaka, kapha pittahara, vedanasthapana properties.

Amalaki- amla pradhana pancharasa except lavana, sheeta virya, Madhura vipaka, sulahara, Deepana pachana.

Shunti- katu rasa, guru, ruksha, Tikshna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaka, vata kaphahara, does dipana, pachana, strotoshuddhikara, shothahara.

Maricha- it has *katu rasa, laghu, Tikshna guna, ushna virya, katu vipaka, kapha vatahara,* and it does *dipana*. It has *Shulahara* properties.

Pippali – it is katu rasa, laghu, snigdha, Tikshna guna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaka, vata shleshmahara. It has Deepana pachana properties and indicated in amavata.

Shuddha guggulu- tikta katu rasa, laghu, ruksha, vishada Sukshma, sara, snigdha guna, katu viapaka, ushna guna, tridoshahara, shothahara, amavatahara.

Guduchi- it has tikta, Kashaya, rasa, guru snigdha guna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaak, tridosha shamaka, Deepaniya, shothahara.

Tivritt – Madhura, katu, tikta, Kashaya rasa, ruksha, laghu Tikshna guna, ushna virya, katu vipaka, kaphavata hara.

Danti- katu rasa, Tikshna, sara, laghu guna, ushna virya, katu vipaka, kaphahara, Deepana.

Goghrita- Madhura rasa, guru guna, sheeta virya, Madhura vipaka, vata pittahara.

Guggulu is having *laghu Sukshma guna* is necessary to break the *avarana* caused by *aama* to *vata*. *Ushna veerya* and *katu vipaka* does *aamapachana, snigdha guna* does *vatahara* action

Kshareeya action of pippali helps in aamapachana

All the ingredients of *kaishora guggulu* is having *tikta* rasa which does Deepana pachana so thus corrects mandagni, inturn does amapachana. Tikta Kashaya rasa reduces kleda guna of kapha and ama and has shoshana and laghu rukshna guna does strotoshodhana and ushna virya of Dravya does Deepana pachana and by all these properties does Vedana sthapana, shothahara, vatanulomana.

MODE OF ACTION OF CHITRAKADI VATI^[8]

Chitraka is having visha hara action and antiarhritic action and antiinflamatory action. Drugs present in the Chitrakadi vati mainly of katu, lavana, amla rasa pradhana, laghu, ruksha sookshma guna, ushna virya, katu vipaka, Deepana pachana, anulomana, rochana properties and have kapha vata shamaka action which improves jataragni by relieving ama. Due to sookshma guna it penetrates easily and relieves strotovarodha. Deepana pachana guna and grahi properties relieves strotogata ama and picchilata. According to Charaka, laghu, Tikshna, ruksha guna and katu tikta rasa subsides the aggravated kapha. While ushna virya and Tikshna, snidgha guna counteracts vata. Thus all these gunas stimulates jataragni which inturn stimulates all other agni.

MODE OF ACTION OF AMRUTOTTARA KASHAYA^[9]

- 1. Nagara: katu rasa, guru, ruksha, Tikshna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaka, vata kaphahara,does dipana, pachana, strotoshuddhikara, shothahara.
- 2. Amrita : It has tikta, Kashaya, rasa, guru snigdha guna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaak, tridosha shamaka, Deepaniya, shothahara

3. Haritaki: It has lavanavarjjitha pancha rasa, mainly kashyaya rasa, laghu, ruksha guna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaka. It has shothahara, strotoshodhana, vedanasthapana properties.

Amrutottara Kashaya is having tikta katu Kashaya rasa pradhana, laghu guna, ushna virya, Madhura vipaka, tridoshahara, vatanulomana, rasa rakta prasadana, pachaka, strotoshodhana, shophahara. Shunti is best Deepana and pachana dravy, with its Sukshma and teekshna guna does aamapcahana and shogeal (active compound) has ability to suppress inflammatory pathways. Guduchi inhibits autoimmune arthritis by regulating key immune mediators of inflammation and bone marrow.^[12]

MODE OF ACTION OF RELAXI CAPSULE

All the above ingredients are *tikta katu Kashaya rasatmaka, ushna veerya, katu vipaka, vatakaphahara, Deepana, pachana.* Thus acts as *shoolahara, amapachani due to tikta katu Kashaya rasa dravyas. Ushna virya of dravyas* helps to increase *agni.*

Shallaki (Boswellia serrata) is the main ingredient in relxi capsule and best amavatahara property. Shallaki inhibits lipoxygenase enzymes which is powerful contribution to inflammation and diseases. Due to tikta katu Kashaya rasa it helps in amapachana. The role of Maharasnadi kwatha or Kashaya is mainly on musculoskeletal system. It acts as shophahara, shoolahara, and ama pachaka, deepana. Almost all the ingredients of Maharasnadi kada works on vata dosha.

MODE OF ACTION OF MAHAVISHAGARBHA TAIL^[10]

Dhattura due to its anticholinergic properties, it can induce a state of delirium where a person may so disoriented and confused that they may not perceive pain.

Haridra- possesses Tikta, Katu, Kashaya Rasa, Ruksha, Laghu Guna, Ushna Veerya, Katu Vipaka and decreases Kapha Vata. It possesses Analgesic, Shothahara properties

Ashuddha kuchala

After *shodhana*, strychinine and brucine is reduced and increased amount of novel alkaloids such as Isostrychnine, Isobrucine, Strychnine – N oxide and Brucine-N oxide. Brucine and Brucine N oxide has been reported for its analgesic and anti- inflammatory properties.^[11]

MODE OF ACTION OF MYOSTAL LINIMENT

1. Mahanarayana taila^[12]

It is having drugs like rasna, shatapushpa, kushta, prishnaparni, mudgaparni, nagakeshara, ela, tagara etc which are having katu tikta rasa, laghu teekshna guna, katu vipaka, ushna virya, vata kapha hara. Ajadugdha is having Kashaya, Madhura rasa, laghu snidgha guna, does agnideepana. It has properties to destroy all types of vyadhi. Shatavari drug is having Madhura tikta rasa, snigdha guna, shophahara properties. Jeevaniya gana dravyas all are having vatahara and shophahara properties.

2. **Gandhapura taila** is also known as wintergreen oil, *shopha* and *shoolahara*. *Gandhapura Oil* is extracted through a process called steam distillation. Fresh leaves of the Gaultheria fragrantissima plant are collected and subjected to steam distillation, which involves passing steam through the leaves. This process helps release the essential oil, which is then condensed and collected for further use. Gandhapura Oil possesses several therapeutic properties that make it a popular choice in aromatherapy and traditional medicine.

3. Tailaparna taila or nilgiri taila

Oil is extracted from the leaves of eucalyptus plant. This oil helps to relieve pain in joints and muscles.

It is having katu tikta, kashaya rasa, laghu snigdha guna, ushna virya, shoolahara, shophahara.

4. Nirgundi taila^[13]

Ingredients:

Nirgundi: katu tikta rasa, laghu rooksha guna, katu vipaka, ushna veerya, vatakaphahara.

Langali: katu tikta rasa, laghu teekshna, katu vipaka, kaphavata shamaka, shophahara.

Tila taila:

Madhura, tikta Kashaya, katu rasa, ushna veerya, Madhura vipaka, sookshma, guru, Deepana, guna. Vatahara, shoolahara.

5. **Devadaru taila**: katu tikta Kashaya rasa, vatahara, laghu rooksha guna, katu vipaka, ushna guna, shophahara.

6. **Sarala**: Madhura tikta katu rasa, snigdha guna, ushna veerya, kaphavata shaaka, shophahara.

MODE OF ACTION OF SAINDHAVA LAVANA^[14]

Ruksha sweda with *Siandhava lavana* alleviates *stambha* and *gaurava* and *shula* with its *ushna, teekshna, ruksha and Sukshma guna.* It also does *Aama pachana* which is accumulated in joints.

CONCLUSION

First time Acharya Madhava has described the Amavata elaborately with the Nidana, Samprapti, Pratyatma Lakshanas, etc. Amavata is one such disease where authors categorized the pain as Vrischika Danshavat Vedana. During the time of Madhava nidana (7-8th AD) incidence of Amavata might have increased, that might be the reason for detail description regarding the disease. It is a challenging and burning disease for the physicians even in this era. Ama is one of the chief pathogenic factors of the disease. Ama is generated at various levels in the body which are at the Jatharagni level, Bhutagni level, and Dhatwagni level. So to remove the ama and correct the agni internally deepana, pachana with kaishora guggulu, Chitrakadi vati, Amrutottara Kashaya.

Externally sthanika abhyanga, swedana, and upanaha with dashanga lepa, saidhava lavana and mahavishagarbha taila, myostal liniment advised. This resulted in a relieving symptoms in the patient. From this case study it can be concluded that Amavata can be effectively and safely treated with shamana oushadhi. But as it is a single case study, need to conduct studies on large number of patients to know exact pharmacodynamics and kinetics of Shamana oushadhies on Amavata.

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