

AYURVEDIC MANAGEMENT OF INSECT BITE- A REVIEW ARTICLE

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ABSTRACT

Ayurveda literatures like *Charaka Samhita*, *Sushruta Samhita*, *Astanga Hridaya* and various other *Samhita* has described different types of *Visha* like *Sthavara Visha*, *Jangama Visha* and *Kritrima Visha*. A descriptive detail of *Jangama Visha* is mentioned in *Sushruta Samhita Kalpasthana*. *Jangama Visha* includes all kinds of animate poisoning such as snake bite, spider bite, scorpion sting and various types of insect bites. In these *Samhita* sign and symptoms and various types of treatment module of their poisoning due to the bites of snakes, insects, spiders, rodents etc. has described very thoroughly. The main aim of this review article is to compile the various types of treatment module of various types of insect bites mentioned in different *ayurveda* literatures.

KEYWORDS: Jangama Visha, Insect bite, Kalpasthana.**INTRODUCTION**

Keeta Visha is described in details in *Sushruta Samhita Kalpasthana*. *Acharya Charaka* has mentioned different types of *Keeta* in 23rd Chapter of *Charak Chikitsasthana*. Insects are belonging to class *insecta* of phylum *Arthropods*. Members of the class *Insecta*, which comprise approximately 60% of all arthropod species, include *Hymenoptera* (bees, wasps, hornets and fire ants), mosquitoes, bed bugs, fleas, lice, beetles, caterpillars and moths, and kissing bugs.^[1]

The term “bug bite” is commonly used to denote both bites and stings inflicted by members of the class *insect*. Erythematous and oedematous eruptions along with other dermatological findings such as papules and urticaria represent the most common clinical manifestations of insect bites and stings. In some cases, the delivery of toxic venom can result in significant systemic reactions including autonomic instability, neurotoxicity and organ failure. The acute development of anaphylactic reactions can be rapidly fatal, most commonly due to angioedema or circulatory collapse. The most clinically significant impact of insect bites is their ability to serve as vectors for numerous bacterial, viral, and protozoal diseases.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

All the description of insect bite and their treatment module mentioned in different *ayurvedic* literatures were critically analyzed and discussed to check their relation.

OBSERVATION

Most Insect bites and stings can be manageable with simple supportive care measures consisting of local wound care by cleaning the area with soap and water. *Ayurveda* gives you a method to treat insect bites which are natural, harmless and free from side effects.

Medicines used in the management of *Keeta Visha* include *Dashanga Gutika*, *Vilwadi Gutika*, *Visha Vilwadi Gutika*, *Dooshivishari Gutika*, *Amritottara Kashaya*, *Punarnavadi Kashaya*, *Guloochyadi Kashaya*, *Patolakaturohinyadi Kashaya* etc.

External modalities include *Lepa*, *Seka* or *Avagaha* with the following drugs depending on the *dosic* predominance like *Vilwadi gutika* (*Kapha-Vataghna*), *Shigru punarnavadi Yoga* (*Kapha-Vata*), *Haridra* (*Kapha-Vata*), *Shatadhauta Ghrita* (*Pittaghna*), *Rakta Chandana* (*Pittaghna*), *Nalpamaradi Yoga* (*Kapha-Pittaghna*), *Kottamtagaradi Yoga* (*Tridoshaghna*) and *Vara Choorna*^[2] (*Tridoshaghna*).

Table 1: Sign & Syptoms Of Insect Bite And Their Treatment.

S.N.	INSECT NAME	SYMPTOMS	TREATMENT
1	<i>Maksika</i> (honey bee)	Itching, swelling, burning sensation and pain. <i>Sthalika</i> and <i>kasayi</i> cause blue eruption and fever. ^[3]	Application of paste of black mud of ant hill made with <i>gomutra</i> . ^[4] <i>Tagara</i> , <i>Nagara</i> , <i>Nagakesara</i> and <i>Marica</i> together used in the form of a drink and external application destroy the poison of bees.
2	<i>Pipilika</i> (ants)	Swelling, burning as though touched by fire and oedema at the site of bite. ^[5]	Application of Paste of black mud of ant hill made with <i>gomutra</i> .
3	<i>Kanabha</i> (wasp)	Severe pain, swelling, bodyaches, feeling of heaviness of the body and the site of bite will black. ^[6]	<i>Kustha</i> , <i>vakra</i> , <i>vacha</i> , <i>patha</i> , root of <i>bilva</i> , <i>suvarchika</i> , <i>grhadhuma</i> , the two <i>haridra</i> -these together <i>agada</i> is beneficial for poison of <i>kanabha</i> . ^[8] <i>Sitalavana</i> , <i>asitalavana</i> , <i>marica</i> and <i>nagara</i> mixed with the juice of <i>phanijjaka</i> cures the poison of wasp.
4	<i>Satapadi</i> (centipede)	Swelling and pain, burning sensation, fainting and development of white coloured eruptions. ^[7]	<i>Kumkum</i> , <i>tagara</i> , <i>sigru</i> , <i>padmaka</i> , the two <i>Rajani</i> -these lepa used in poison of <i>satapadi</i> . ^[9]
5	<i>Manduka</i> (frog)	Itching, exudation of yellow froth from the mouth, burning sensation, vomiting. ^[10]	Application of <i>sirisabija</i> macerated with <i>snuk kshira</i> . ^[11]
6	<i>Grhagodhika</i> (Lizard)	Burning sensation, sneezing, <i>tod</i> , sweating,	<i>Kapittha</i> , seeds of <i>aksipidaka</i> , <i>trikatu</i> , <i>karanja</i> , two <i>haridra</i> – made a <i>agada</i> remove the poison of the lizard. ^[12]
7	<i>Luta</i> (spider)	Appearance of round rash, white black, mild red, yellow or blue in colour, soft, raised up Center is either black or blue and resembling a net at its edges Burning sensation and severe pain, fever, muscles falling out. ^[13]	<i>Sirisa</i> , <i>katabi</i> , <i>selu</i> , bark of <i>ksirivrksa</i> and <i>arjuna</i> used in the form of paste, powder of pouring decoction on the site cures the ulcers of bites of spiders. ^[14]

- *Dasanga Agada*: *Vacha*, *Hingu*, *Vidanga*, *Saindhava*, *Gajapippali*, *Patha*, *Prativisa* and *Vyosa*- are made *dasanga agada*. These *agada* destroys the poison of all kinds of insects.^[15]
- *Maha Sneha* (mixture of ghee, oil, fat and marrow) added with milk and honey and consumed destroys the poison of insects.^[16]

CONCLUSION

This Study can be concluded that *Acharya Sushruta* described various types of *Keeta Visha* in *Kalpasthanana* of *Sushruta Samhita*. Various types of drugs and treatment modules are also mentioned for different types of *Keeta Visha* like *Maksika* (honey bee), *Pipilika* (ants), *Kanabha* (wasp), *Satapadi* (centipede), *Manduka* (frog), *Grhagodhika* (Lizard), *Luta* (spider) etc. Their treatment module is not only mentioned in *Kalpathana*, but it is also spread in different *Sthanas* of *Sushruta samhita*, *Charka samhita* and other *Samhitas*. So there is need to do more scientific studies on the relevant drugs and treatment module of *Keeta Visha* through different *Samhitas*.

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