INTRODUCTION

VISHADI AGADA LEPA[1]

1. VATSANABHA[2]

Botanical Name: Aconitum ferox Wall.

Family: RANUNCULACEAE

Synonyms: Amrtam, Ugravisa, Visam, Garalam, Mahoushadham, Maranam etc.

Major chemical constituents

Aconitum Ferox – Roots contain toxic Alkaloids, Pseudoaconitine along with bikhaconitine, chasmaconitine, 2-(IH)-Quinolinone and 3,4-dihydro-6-hydroxy-2-(IH)-quinolone. etc.

Aconitum Chasmanthum – Indaconitine and A, B – chasmonacetine and chasmanthinine.

Aconitum Napellus – Neoline, aconitine, aditerpene-15α-hydroxyneoline, aconosine, mesaconitine.

Purification (Shodhana)

Though there is no reference about the purification of Vatsanabha among the major classics, the tuberous roots of aconite are treated in several ways before oral administration probably, Rasa Sastra might have laid emphasis on its Shodhana in ancient days. It is mentioned that impure form of visa may produce Daha, Moha (inebriant state), Hrdgatirodhana (cardiac depressant) and death. Therefore purification is essential. There are several methods for purification, some of them are:

1. Aconite root is cut into pieces and tied in a cloth. Then it is soaked in cow’s urine for three days by changing cow’s urine every day. Afterwards the pieces are shade dried.

2. Purification may be done by means of boiling the aconite roots in cow’s urine for 3-6 hours in Dola Yantra.

Properties

Rasa – Madhura
Guna – Laghu, Ruksha, Tikhsa, Vyavayi, Vikasi.
Virya – Usna
Vipaka – Katu
Karma – Vatakaphaha, Jvaragha, Janghama, Visahara, Madakari, Kusthaghna.
Prabhava – Rasayana.
Indication – Jvara, Jaghama visa, Kustha, Madhumeha, Sotha, Plihodhara, Agnimandya.

Part used- The Tuberous root is medicinally used in various preparations.

Dose – 1/8 ratti
Fatal Dose – 1-2 gm of root or 4-6 mg of aconitine
Fatal period – 3-6 hours.

*Corresponding Author: Dr. Gurusiddeshwar J. Kalyanimath
HOD, Assistant Professor, Department of Agad Tantra, Parul Institute of Ayurved, Parul University, Limda, Vadodara, Gujarat, India.

ABSTRACT

Vishadi Agada Lepa is a unique yoga mentioned in Astanga sangraha Uttarasthana and Rasa Ratna sammucchaya for Lepanartha in Shwitra. For the application the drugs should made churna and applied over the lesion. The ingredients of the yoga are Vatsanabha, Bhallataka, Chitraka, Gunja, and Nimba. Name of the yoga as Vishadi Agada Lepa because of the first ingredient being Visha i.e. Vatsanabha. All visha drugs having tremendous medicinal properties. All visha drugs having property to harm any cells or tissue but judicial utility of visha dravya may act as rejuvenative. This article deals with action of vishadi agada lepa on shwitra.

KEYWORDS: Vishadi Agada Lepa, Shwitra, Purification, Poison.
Adverse effect of Impure Vatsanbha
If used without appropriate purification, it causes burning sensation all over the body, fainting, cardiac arrest even death.

Clinical studies
1. It is documented that unless the skin is sound a dangerous quantity may be absorbed systemically even when applied externally as liniment (Hale white 291).

2. Bhallataka

- Botanical name: Semicarpus anacardium Linn.
- Family: Anacardiaceae
- Synonyms: Aruskara, Agnimukhi, Viravrksa, Sophakrt, Agnimukha.

Major chemical constituents
- Nut – Bioflavanoids, A, B, C, tetrahydrobustaflavone, tetrahydromentoflione, Nallaflavone etc.
- Nutshell – anacardic acid, biliwanol, galluflavanone, jeedilflavanone etc.
- Kernel oil – linolenic, myristic, oleic, palmitic and stearic acids.
- Fruits – Nicotinic acid, riboflavin, thiamine and essential aminoacid.

Purification (Shodhana)
1. Bhallataka are to be cut into pieces and make a pottali give a svedana with Narikelajala in Dola yantra for three hours.
2. Bhallataka is to be cut into pieces and preserved in brick powder for 7-12 days then wash in hot water, dried in shade.

Properties
Rasa – Katu, Tikta, Kasaya
Guna – Laghu, Tiksnra, Snigdha.
Virya – Ushna
Vipaka – Madhura
Karma – Kaphavatahara, Medya, Dipana, Bhedhana.
Indication – Kaphavikara, Arsas, Kusha, Krimi, Gulma, Grahi, Vatavyadi.
Part used – Fruit seeds, Seed kernel and bark.
Dose – 125-250mg seed kernel; oil 10-20 drops.
Fatal Dose – 5-10 gm
Fatal period – 12-24 hours

Adverse effect of Impure Bhallataka
If used without proper shodhana Bhallataka causes blisters, glossitis diarrhea, ulcer, edema and burning sensation.

3. Chitraka

Botanical Name: Plumbago zeylenica Linn.
Family: Plumbaginaceae
Synonyms: Anala, Dahana, Agnika, Vahni, Vahnisanjaka, Sikhi, etc.

Major chemical constituents
Chitrone, Plumbagin, 3-chloroplumbagin, drosorone, eilliptinone, isozeylinone, plumbaginic acid, β- sitosterol etc.

Purification (Shodhana)
Citraka root are immersed in Lime water (churnoodaka) for one night and day and dried in shade and used it medicinal purpose (Rasa Tarangini 24/575).

Properties
Rasa – Katu
Guna – Laghu, Ruksa, tiksnra.
Virya – Ushna
Vipaka – Katu
Karma – Vatakaphahara, Dipana-Pacana, Grahi.
Indication – Arsas, Grahan, Udara, Krimi, Sula, Pandu.
Part used – Root Bark
Dose: 1-2 gm.
Lethal dose -above 5 gm.

4. GUNJA

Botanical Name: Abrus precatorius Linn.
Family: Fabaceae
Synonyms: Kakamanti, Raktika etc.

Major chemical constituents
Root – Precol, abrol and two alkaloids (abrasine and precasine).
Seeda – abrine, hypaphorine, trigonelline, precatorine, abridin.

Purification (Shodhana)
Seeds are purified by boiling in Kanjika or milk for three hours in Dola yantra process (Rasa Tarangini 24/445).

Properties
Rasa – Tikta, kasaya
Guna – Laghu, Ruksa
Virya – Ushna
Vipaka – Katu
Karma – Kaphavahara, Keshya
Root is Madhura and Snigdha
Indication – Indralupta, Timira, Kusha, Kandu, Krimi
Part used – Root, leaf and seed.
Dosage – Root and leaf powder 1-3gm, seed powder 60-170mg.
Lethal Dose: 9 –12 gm.
Fatal Period: 24-72hrs

Adverse effect of Impure Gunja
If used without proper shodhana Gunja causes vomiting and diarrohoea.

5. NIMBA

Botanical Name: Azadirachta indica A. Juss
Family: Meliaceae
Synonyms: Arista, Pichumarda, Sarvatobhadra, Hinguniraysk, Sukapiy, Subhadr.

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Major chemical constituents

- **Leaves** – Azadirachtin, azadirone, nimbandiol, nimbin, nimbulide.
- **Stem bark** – Nimbin, nimbidin, sitosterol, kulinone, margosinolide, etc..
- **Root bark** – Nimbin, nimbidin
- **Fruits** – Azadirachtin, azadirachtol, azadirachtnol, melianone, nimbiol, nimocin etc.
- **Seed oil** – Tocopherol, azadirone, nimbidin, salannol, nimbin, etc.
- **Flowers** – Azadiradione, margosene, linoleic acid, arachidic acid etc.

Properties

**Rasa** – Tikta, kasaya
**Guna** – Laghu, Ruksa
**Virya** – Sita
**Vipaka** – Katu
**Karma** – Kaphapittahara, Dipana, Grahi, krimighna, netrya.
**Indication** – Jvara, Kustha, Krimi, Prameha, Vrana, Kasa, Visa roga, Gula, Kandu.
**Part used** – Root bark, stem bark, gum, flower, leaf and seeds.
**Dosage** – Bark powder 2-4gm, fresh juice 10-20ml, seed oil 5-10 drops.

Table No. 1: Shodhana methods used for drugs.[7]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Media</th>
<th>Principle</th>
<th>Method</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vatsanabha</td>
<td>Cow urine</td>
<td>Nimajjana (soaking)</td>
<td>Piece of aconitum is immersed in cow urine for three days and dried in shade.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhallataka</td>
<td>Isteeka churna</td>
<td>Kept in thick cloth with brick powder</td>
<td>Kept in thick cloth with brick powder for seven days and washed in hot water.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunja</td>
<td>Milk</td>
<td>Swedana</td>
<td>Swedana in Dolayantra for 6 hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitraka</td>
<td>Sudhajala</td>
<td>Prakshalana&amp;Nimajjana</td>
<td>Soaking of Chitraka moola in lime water over night and dried in shade.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Preparation of Vishadi Agada

Materials used

- VatsanabhaKhandha – One part
- Bhallataka Beeja – One part
- Chitraka moola – One part
- Rakta Gunja phala – One part
- Nimbaphala – One part
- Steel vessel
- Khalva yantra
- Dola yantra
- Weighing machine
- Saucer to filter powder
- Polythene packets to store the Churna.

Method of preparation of churna

All Shodita drugs are taken for preparation of churna, as mentioned in Classics, and pounded in modified Ulukhuka yantra (pounding machine) individually and sieved through saucer. Vatsanabha, Gunja, Chitraka, Nimba churna is taken in equal quantity and Bhallataka churna is taken half part of other ingredients and packed in air tight polythene packets. Same procedure followed in preparation of Bakuchi churna.

Difficulties during preparation of drug

1. Bhallataka induced contact dermatitis – The oil of Bhallataka present in pericarp of seed which contain Uroshiol is caused blisters over exposed area during Shodhana procedure.
2. Chitraka churna is very irritant which caused running nose and mucosal irritation (due to dust of drug element) during preparation of churna.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

Table no. 2: Pharmacological property of Vishadi Agada Lepa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dravya</th>
<th>Varga</th>
<th>Visha Guna</th>
<th>Dravya Guna</th>
<th>Active Principles</th>
<th>Type of Poison</th>
<th>Kamrukata</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vatsanabha</td>
<td>Mahavisha</td>
<td>Laghu, Rukha, Tikshna, Vyvayi, Vikasi</td>
<td>Laghu, Rukha, Tikshna, Vyvayi, Vikasi</td>
<td>Aconitine, Picraconitine, Aconine, Alkaloids Aconitic acid</td>
<td>Cardiac poison</td>
<td>VataKaphahara Tridhoshahara Vishahara Shopahara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhallataka</td>
<td>Upavisha</td>
<td>Laghu, Tikshna, Snigdha</td>
<td>Laghu, Tikshna, Snigdha</td>
<td>Semicarpol, Bhilawanol, Glycosides</td>
<td>Organic Irritant</td>
<td>Kaphavatara Krimighna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gunja</td>
<td>Upavisha</td>
<td>Laghu, Rukha</td>
<td>Laghu, Rukha, Ushna, Anirdehya rasa</td>
<td>Abrin, Abralin, Abrine, Abric acid.</td>
<td>Organic Poison</td>
<td>Kaphavatara Pittavardhaka Shwitraghna (RT) Varnya</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Probable mode of action Vishadi Agada Lepa[8]

Mode of action of this drug can be explained based on the following principle of Prabhava.

The Prabhava of Agada yoga is said ‘Vishaveekamad’angum’ (vishajyotsnika-6/72) i.e. it relieves the effect of pathology by virtue of the unique combination of the Agada yoga dravyas. However, action of yoga is due to its Prabhava, the properties of that yoga can be understood by properties of individual ingredient also.

I. Based on Karma of drugs
The overall combination of dualism and synergetic action of yoga act like inducing Vishaja Shopha by the action of Bhallataka over the lesion this process helps in alteration of blood circulation over the site and there is vasodilation in local capillary plexuses (A.H.NI 13/21). The action of Chitraka and Vatsanabha does the Pachana of Sthanika Dosha (AH.Su.12/14.Arundutta, because in shwitra Brajaka Pitta will be inactive by vitiation of Kapha and vata). The Yogavahi guna of Visha or Vatsanabha enhances the combination effect of Gunja and Chitraka Shwitraghna and Varnya property. Nimba help by reducing Shopha by Vranaropana property.

By this pharmacodynamics of overall Synergetic action of Vishadi Agada Lepa helps in deliver the normalcy of colour of shwitra (Vitiligo) by stimulating the Bhrajaka pitta.

II. Based on Guna
Vishadi Agada Lepa contain total 5 ingredients
1. Vatsanabha,
2. Bhallataka,
3. Chitraka,
4. Gunja,
5. Nimba.
Most of the ingredients are Mahavisha and Upavisha category.
Visha is Agantuja hetu for Shopha. By inducing Shopha locally, activation of hypoactive Bhrajaka pitta is the Hypothesisof this study.

By its Katu, Tikta Rasa, Laghu Ruksa Teeksha Guna and Ushna Veerya acts Sroto Shodhaka, KaphaVataShamaka. It stimulates the Bhrajaka Pitta to perform its function and helps in the production of colour. By its Sroto Shodhakaaction it eliminates the Sangha at the level of Raktadhatwagni and acts on Bhrajaka Pitta and may promote pigmentation, invariably correcting the abnormal integrity of Sthanika Pitta.
Yogavahi Guna of Visha helps in enhancing the combined effects of Gunja and Chitraka- Varnya property (RT) which leads to bring the normalcy of color.

The ingredients of Vishadi Agada Lepa consisting of predominant Rasayana, Kapha Medohara properties and may acts as Shvitraghna.
Nimbuwa swaras - Properties like Laghu, Teekshana, Guna, Amlaand Katu Rasa, Ushna Veerya and AmlaVipaka. By these it acts as VataKaphaharaand initiates Pitta (Bhrajaka) to produce pigmentation and helps in enhancing the penetration of potency drug faster to deeper tissue.
A Shodhana process reduces the toxic contents of Visha Dravyas and enhances the Therapeutic action of Vishadhavya.
External application of Vishadi Agada lepa with Nimbuwa swaras and exposing to sunlight causes mild inflammatory changes over the lesion. Visha is External cause for Shopha (inflammatory changes) (C. Chi 12/6) and also Bhallataka (Uroshiol) & chitraka is irritant by nature.
The Synergetic action of Bhallataka and chitraka may causes inflammatory reaction over a skin which leads to reversible or irreversible cell injury.
The reversible cell injury leads to either Degeneration or subcellular alteration or intracellular accumulation of drug concentration in mast cell.
This overall process increases the capillary permeability and blood circulation over the site, and due to other ingredient of VAL like Vatsanabha, Gunja, Nimba and chitraka leads to Antigen and Antibody reaction over lesion which may help to initiates the activation of melanocytes.
The overall procedure may help in formation of new cell growth or re-pigmentation.

In vitiligo there may be some time presence of tyrosinase but not in active form hence no melanin pigment is visible, by this non-lethal pathological injurywill helps to penetrate the drug to deeper tissue and Yogavahi guna of Visha enhances theVarnya property of Gunja and Chitraka combination and helps in carry back the lostcomplexion over the lesion, by Vranagha and Krimighna property of Nimba helps in healing the process of Shvitra.
Table No. 3: Reported Herbs that are claimed to be used in the condition of Vitiligo.[9]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Drug</th>
<th>Botanical name</th>
<th>Active Chemical Constituent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nimba</td>
<td>Azadirachta indica</td>
<td>Azadiracthinol, Nimbosterol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bhallataka</td>
<td>Semecarpus anacardium</td>
<td>Sterols, Flavonoids, Glycosides</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chitraka</td>
<td>Plumbago zylanica</td>
<td>Plumbagin, Vanillicacid, Beta Sitosterol</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The active principle of Nimba, Chitraka and Bhallataka are claimed that helps in curing vitiligo.

REFERENCES