Shirisha kusumadi agada- A review

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Abstract

Agadatantra in Ayurveda deals with the diagnosis and treatment of poisonous bites and stings of various kinds. One of them is Vrischika (the scorpion). Acharyas describe a variety of Agada Yogas for dealing with vrischika visha. Shirisha kusumadi Agada is one of the Agada Yoga mentioned in Ashtanga Hridaya in the context of Vrischika visha. All the bhratrayees expect charaka achariya divided vrischika into three types according to the potency of poison. The doshaavastha of vrischika visha is vata pradhana according Ashtanga Hridaya. Like Sarpa none of the Acharyas mentions causes of scorpion stings. Scorpion stings are a life-threatening emergency. Scorpion stings account for approximately 3,000 deaths a year world wide. The ingredients of Shirisha kusumadi agada having Anti-inflammatory, Anti-allergic, Analgesic, Anti-inflammatory, Anti-oxident action. Shirisha kusumadi agadas pharmacological and therapeutic effects, as well as those of each constituent, will be covered in this review article.

Keywords

Shirisha kusumadi Agada, vrisika visha, Agadatantra

Introduction

Agada tantra is a branch of Ayurveda that deals with sarpa(snakes), keeta(different varities of insects), lootha(spiders), vrischika(scorpions) etc poisons. This branch not only deals with animal poisons but also deals with plant and mineral poisons. Among these poisons vrischika is considered as one of the important poison.

Scorpion stings are a life-threatening emergency, and are considered one of the most important health challenges in tropical and sub-tropical regions. It is recognized that of the more than 1500 scorpion species in the world, few cause severe toxicity; the reports represent more than 1.23 million stings annually, of which approximately 3250 (0.27 %) cause death [1].

All bhratrayees expect Acharya charaka divided vrischika into three types according to the potency of poison they are

a) Mahavisha - Powerful Poison
b) Madhya Visha - Moderate Poison
c) Manda Visha - Mild poison

Acharya charaka mentions two types they are

a) Dooshivisha hara
b) Prana hara

The doshaavastha of vrischika is vata pradhana according Ashtanga Hridaya, Ashtanga sangraha, and Charaka samhitha but Achariya Susrutha did not mention specific Dosha predominance for Vrischika, mentions Vatakapha predominance of Keeta Visha[2]. Like sarpa none of the Acharyas mentions causes of scorpion stings.

The general properties and symptoms of vrishika vishas are thikshanam (highly penetrating), adow dahadi vahnivath(produces burining sensationlike fire at the beginning),urdhvamaarohathi kshipram(quickly rises upwards), damsham paschathu thishtathi(later settles in the site of bite), damsha sadhyoathiruk(site-highly painful), shayava(bluish discolouration-site), sthudyatha sphutana(pricking and burning sensation) [3].

For scorpion bite sadhyo chikitsa, upakaramas, shodana, shamana chikitsas and numerous Agada yoga's are mentioned by all achariyas.

Sirisha kusumadi agada is one among the Agadayoga mentioned in Ashtanaga Hridaya 37th chapter in context of vrischika chikitsa[4]. This article is biased on the textual review and descriptions related to Sirisha kusumadi agada were collected from the text Ashtanga Hridaya.

Objective

1. To study the pharmacological and therapeutic action of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.
2. To study the pharmacological and

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therapeutic action of each ingredient of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.

Materials and Methods

The whole study is based on literary review collected from Ayurveda Samhitas and other ayurvedic texts.

Methode of Preperation [5]

Shirisha pushpa, karanja beeja, kashmari, kushta, manashila should be taken in equal quantity converted into paste, rolled into pills and given internally for vrishika and rathirka visha.

Table 1- Ingredients with properties and indications [6,7,8]

Sl.no	Dravya	Rasa	Guna	Veerya	Vipaka	karma	Doshaghnata
1)	Shirisha pushpa	Kashaya, Tikta, Madhura	Laghu, Ruksha, Tikshna	Anushna	Katu	Vishagna Sothahara Visarpahara Vranahara Kustagna Kandugna	Tridosha samaka
2)	Karanja beeja	Tikta, Katu, Kashaya	Laghu, Tikshana	Ushna	Katu	Krimigna Vrana hara Janthugna Kandugna Kuşthgna Sothahara Vedanasthapana Yakru-duttejaka Mutrasangrahaniya	Kapha vata samaka
3)	Kashmari	Tikta, Kashaya, Madhura	Laghu, Ruksha	Ushna	Katu	Vishagna sothahara Soṣahara Trṣṇāhara Sulahara Dahasamaka	Tridosha samaka
4)	Kushta,	Tikta, Katu, Madhura	Laghu Ruksa, Tiksna	Usna	Katu	Vishagna Visarpahara Kandugna Sothahara kushtagna	Kapha vata Samaka
5)	Manashila	Tikta	Snigdha, Guru	Ushna	Katu	Visha Nashaka Kushtahara Krimihara sosahara	Kapha vata Samaka

Table 2- Drug review [9,10,]

Sl.no	Dravya	Latin name	Family	Chemical Constituents	Pharmacological action	Therapeutic action
1)	Shirisha pushpa	Albizzia lebbeck	Mimosaceae	lebbekanin D, Lebbekanin F, Lebbekanin G, Lebbekanin H, Echinocystic acid and Quercetin glycoside	Antiallergic, Analgesic, Antiinflammatory, Antioxident, Antispermatogenic	Viṣavikāra, Sotha, Śwāsa, Kāsa, Kustha, Kandu, Visarpa, Twakdoṣa, Pamakuṣṭha and Vaivrnya
2)	karanja beeja	Pongamia pinnata	Papilionaceae	Glabrin, Karanjin, Pongapin, Kanjone, Pongaglabrone, Pongamol	Antibacterial, Insecticidal, Hypoglycaemic, Antipyretic, Hypotensive, Anthelmintic and wound healing	Kustha, Kandu, Jantu vikara, Sotha, Vrana, Vedanuyukta vikāra, Agnimandya, Ajirṇa, Yakrut vikara and Prameha

3)	kashmari	Gmelina arborea Linn.	Verbenaceae	Gmelinol, B-sitosterol, Sesquiterpene, cerylalcohol, yellow viscid oil, resin,	Stomachic, Refrigerant, Demulcent, Laxative	Sothahara, Dipana, Păcana, Bhedana, Soşahara, Trṣṇahara, Amahara, Sulahara, Arsoghna, Visaghna, Dahaśāmaka, Jwarahara, Srmahara, Raktapittahara
4)	kushta,	Saussurea lappa CB Clarke	Asteraceae	Kusthin, Inulin-betulin, Friedelein, Stigmasteral, Saussureal, a and B-selinenes, Costunolide, Sausurine.	Hypolipidaemic, Antiseptic, Antibacterial, Insect repellen Insecticidal, Hypotensive, Spasmolytic, Bronchodilator and Anti-inflammatory.	Kustha, Visarpa, Kandu, Dadru, Sukradourbalya, Kāsa, Vatarakta, Viṣavikara, Sotha and Siraśula
5)	manashila	Realgar, arsenic disulphide			Antipyretic Sedative Detoxifier Anti- leprotic Anti-inflammatory Laxative	Visha vikara Kasa, Shwasa, Bhutopadrava, Agnimandhya, Kshaya, Anaha, Kandu Jwara, Varnya,

Diagram 1: Analysis of rasa of ingredients of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.

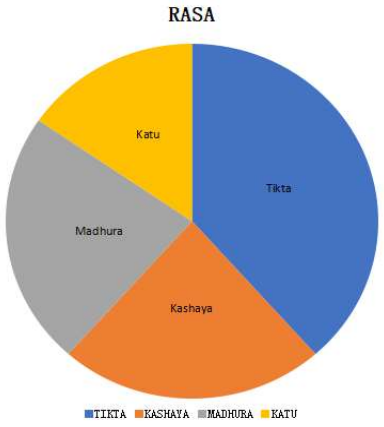


Diagram 2: Analysis of guna of ingredients of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.

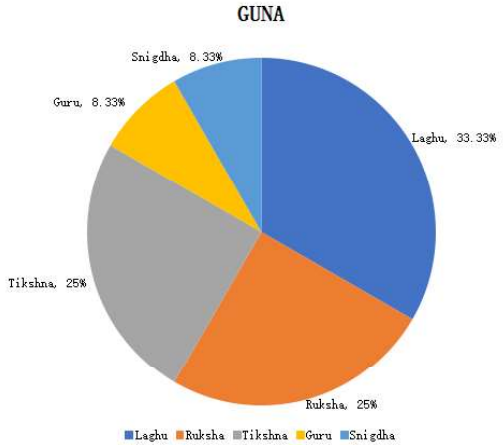


Diagram 3: Analysis of virya of ingredients Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.

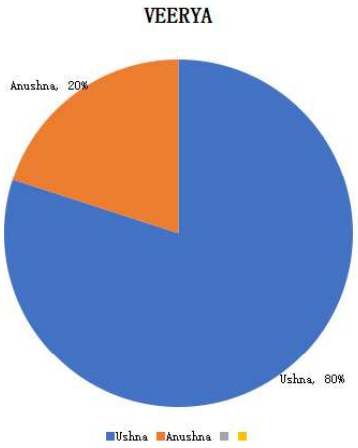


Diagram 4: Analysis of vipaka of ingredients of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.

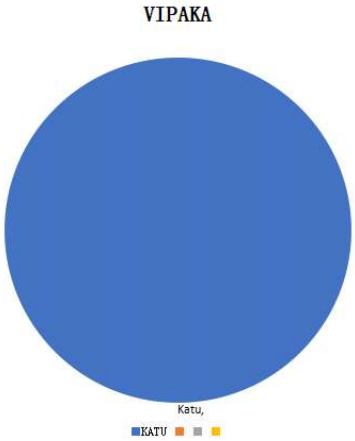


Diagram 5: Analysis of Doshaghnata of ingredients of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.

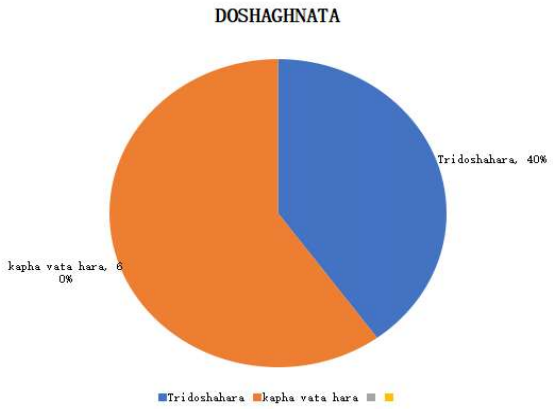
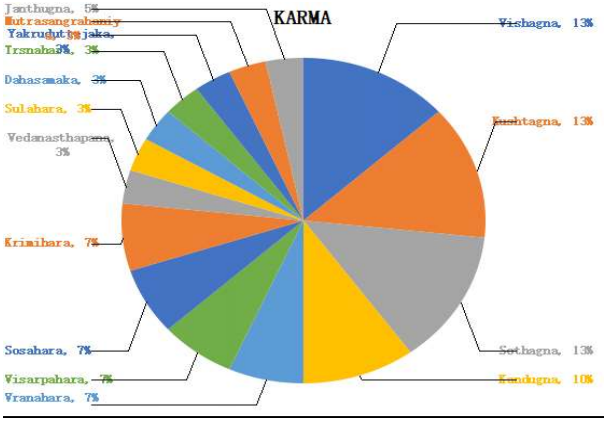


Diagram 6: Analysis of Karmas of Ingredients of Shirisha Kusumadi Agada.



Discusssion

Shirisha kusumadi agada is one among the Agada yoga mentioned in Ashtanga Hridaya in context of vrischika visha. This formulation contains 5 drugs.

Based on Rasa in this formulation about 23% of ingredients have Madhura rasa, 39% of ingredients have Tiktha rasa, 23% of ingredients have Kashaya rasa and 15% of ingredients have Katu rasa. Katu, Tikta, Kashaya rasa are Kapha dosha hara. Kashaya, Tikta, Madhura rasa are Pitta dosha hara and Madhura rasa is Vata dosha hara [11].

Based on Guna this formulation has 34% of ingredients have Laghu Guna, 25% of ingredients have Rooksha Guna and 8.33% of ingredients have Snigdha Guna, 8.33% of ingredients have Guru, 25% of ingredients have Tikshna Guna. Laghu, Rooksha and Tikshana guna is kapha hara in nature and Snigdha,Guru guna is vata hara in nature [12].

Based on Veerya in this formulation, 80% of ingredients have Ushna Veerya and it's on

Kapha and Vata Dosha hara helps for digestion of Dravyas. And 20% of ingredients have Anushna sheeta Veerya [13].

According to the vipaka in this formulation all the drugs contain katu vipaka, which calms the Kapha dosha [14].

Based on doshagnatha 60% of the drugs having kaphavata hara, 40% of drugs are Tridosha hara in nature.

Most of the ingredients in shirisha kusumadi agada are vishagna, shotahara, etc. and also the ingredients like kashmari,karanja etc are vedanastapana and shula hara in nature this will help to manage different type of pain caused by vrischika visha to some extent .

Conclusion

Vrischika is a type of keeta that originates from either goshakrit, kashtheshtiha and sarpa kodha. The main feature of vrischika is the presence of a shooka, or stinger. Vrischika will use its claws to capture the prey and inject its stinging tail.

According to Ayurveda classics in vrischika visha chikitsa Acharyas mention sadhyo chikitsa before shodana , shamana and agada sevana, this suggests that vrischika visha would spread even faster, therefore we must respond quickly, and the treatments must also be fast-acting and penetrating in nature.

All achriyas agree that the principal dosha aggravated is vata or vata kapha, hence medicines should be vatahara, vata kapha hara, or tridosha hara. All of the medications in this context (shirisha kusumadi agada) are either vatahara, vatakapha, vatakapha, or tridoshahara. As a result, this will assist to manage symptoms to some level.

Vrischika visha's characteristics are Tiksna in nature and burn similarly to agni, spudana, athiruk, etc. Therefore, drugs should work against these characteristics of visha. Most of the elements in Shirisha Kusumadi Agada are lagu and rooksha in nature. Additionally, the drugs also possess properties like vishahara, vedanastapana, shotahara, shulahara, and kustagna in nature. These qualities will effectively counter the visha.

By this review of literature, shirisha kusumadi agada was found to be one of the effective formulations mentioned in Ashtanga Hridaya in the treatment of Vrishika Visha. All of the medications mentioned above are safe, risk-free, readily available and cost effective. Screening of pharmacological and therapeutic actions of each ingredient of Shirisha kusumadi agada and the formulation as a whole stand out as the better choice in vrischika visha.

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