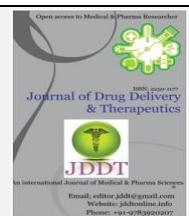


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Review Article

Review on Suchikabharana Rasa

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ABSTRACT

Effect of Chikista (treatment) is depend upon many factors like Aushadha (formulations), Aushadha Marga (route of drug administration). Selection of Aushadha Marga (route of drug administration) depend many factors like Aushadha Kalpana (dosage forms), Roga Avastha (condition of disease). Aushadhi (formulation) which is used in Athyayika Avastha (emergency conditions) like Murcha (unconsciousness), Sarpa Dhamsa (snake bite) should be more potent. In Ayurvedic classics different Aushadha Marga (route of drug administration) are mentioned. Suchikabharana Rasa is one of the formulations mentioned for subcutaneous route in Sarpa Dhamsa (snake bite). It is prepared by Sthavara Visha (plant or mineral poison) and Jangama Visha (animal poison) which is more effective in small dose. Visha Dravya (poison drugs) act quick and effective in small dose because of their Guna (property).

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INTRODUCTION

Aushadha (formulations) are classified into Rasaushadhi (metals and minerals) and Kastaushadhi (herbal). Rasashastra is a branch of Ayurveda which mainly deals with Rasaushadhi (metals and minerals) Visha Dravya (poison drugs). As Rasaushadhi (metals and minerals) and Visha Dravya (poison drugs) are quick in action and effective in small dose.¹ The physician has to give minimum consideration towards Dosha (fundamental constituents), Dushya, Desha (place) and Kala (time) while treating with Rasaushadhi (metals and minerals).² There are different types of route of drug administration such as oral, nasal and rectal. In Ayurveda also there is mentioned about different routes of drug administration such as Nasya (nasal), Basti (rectal), Netra Kriya Kalpa (eye treatment procedures) etc. The route of drug administration is an important factor which influences the absorption of a drug.

Suchikabharana rasa is one example mentioned for parenteral route of drug administration. Suchikabharana rasa is one of the Rasaushadhi (metals and minerals) used in Sarpa Dhamsa (snake bite).³ Twenty one types of Suchikabharana rasa preparations are mentioned by Rasayoga Sagara⁴ and out of which, one is indicated in snake bite. The word

Suchika means needle and it indicates its dose.⁵ In Ayurvedic Formulary of India also mentioned Suchikabharana rasa slightly difference in their method of preparation.⁶ Mainly Suchikabharana rasa indicated in Murcha (unconsciousness).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Suchikabharana rasa mentioned in Ayurvedic Formulary of India is having ingredients like Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur), Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead), Jangama Visha (animal poison), Sthavara Visha (plant poison), Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig) and Chaga Pitta (bile of goat). With the help of Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) and Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur) Kajjali (mercury and sulphur in equal quantity triturated without adding any liquid till it become black like collyrium) has to be prepared and Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead) has to be added to it. Then add equal quantity of Jangama Visha (animal poison) or Sthavara Visha (plant poison) and triturated with bile juices of Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat) till it dries up.⁷

One more reference of Suchikabarana Rasa is explained in Rasa Tarangini. Ingredients are Krishna Sarpa Visha (black cobra poison), Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur), Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox), Tamra Bhasma (incinerated copper), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Swarasa (extracted juices) of Adraka (zingiber officinalia). First Kajjali (mercury and sulphur in equal quantity triturated without adding any liquid till it become black like collyrium) has to be prepared and to this Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox) and Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead), black cobra poison has to be added (2gm each). Later it is triturated with Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat) for 3 days and triturated with Adraka Swarasa (extracted juice of zingiber officinalia). While doing this procedure attender should take care to clean his /her hands properly, as it contains Krishna Sarpa Visha (black cobra poison) and other poison as ingredients. Attender should not have wounds in his/her hands, as it may enter through wounds and cause harmful effects.⁸

Pradhamma Suchikabarana Rasa is mentioned in almost all authoritative text books of Ayurveda. Ingredients are

Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox) 48gms and Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) has to triturate till mercury got invisible. This powder has to put inside the one of the pots and is closed by another pot. It is sealed with cloth which is smeared with Multani Mitti (mud) and it is kept in Agni (fire) for 2 Prahara (6 hours). After the subside of fumes product which is collected in upper pot has to be collected and stored in a bottle. It will be used with the help of needle. It is indicated mainly for Sarpa Dhamsa (snake bite) in the Murcha Avastha (unconsciousness). With the help of needle, it should be rubbed in scalp region till the blood oozes, then it is applied in scalp region.⁹

Table 1: Indication of Suchikabarana rasa^{10,11}

Pandu (Anaemia)	Kasa (Cough)
Amavata (Rheumatoid Arthritis)	Dhanurvadham
Krimi (Parasitic infection)	Grahani (Sprue)
Prameha (Diabetes)	Udara (abdominal disease)
Kampa (Tremor)	Asthma (Dyspnoea)
Shotha (Swelling)	Badiryam (Deafness)
Gulma (Tumour)	Atisaram (Diarrhoea)
Mutra kricchra (Difficulty in urination)	Apasmaram (Epilepsy)
Arsha (Piles)	Hikka (Hiccup)

Table 2: Ingredients of other types of Suchikabarana rasa (Rasayoga Sagara)¹²

Ingredients	Indication
Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) and Shodhita Vatsanab (aconitum ferox)	Sarpa dhamsa (snake bite) Murcha (unconsciousness)
Vanga (tin), Swarna (gold), Mriga shringa (horn of the deer), Gandhaka (sulphur), Parada (mercury), Tutta (copper sulphate), Manasila (Arsenic disulphide, realgar), Yashada (zinc ore) in equal quantity. Bhavana Dravya (drugs for trituration)- Arka (calotropis gigantia), Irimedha (Acacia fernesiana), Agasthya (Sesbania grandiflora), Kimshuk (Palasha- Butea monosperma), Vidanga (Embelia ribes), Palasha Beeja (seeds of Butea monosperma).	Pandu (anaemia), Amavata (Rheumatoid Arthritis), Krimi (worm), Prameha (diabetics), gouty arthritis swelling, Gulma (tumour), Mutrakrichra (difficulty in urination), Urakshata (chest injury), Kshaya (tuberculosis)
Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Gandhaka (sulphur), Gandhaka (sulphur), Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead), Sthavara Visha (plant and mineral poison), Jangama visha (animal poison), Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)
Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Vaikranta (flour spar/tourmaline), Swarna (gold), Abhraka (mica), Tamra (copper) in incinerated form-equal quantity, Shodhita Gandaka (processed sulphur), Bhavana Dravya (drugs for trituration)- Nirkundi (Vitex nigrundo), Chitraka (Plumbago zeylanica), Agasthya (Sesbania grandiflora), Bringa (Eclipta alba), Tilaparni (Cleome gynandra), Indra varuni (Citrullus colocynthis), Kakamachi (Solanum nigrum), Aparajitha (Clitoria ternatea), Dattura (Dattura metal), Tulasi (Ocimum sanctum), Danti (Baliospermum montanum), Brihati (Solanum indicum), Mahashthri (Melia azadirachta), Kanguni (setaria italica or foxtail millet), Kantakari (Solanum xanthocarpum), Snuhi (Euphorbia nerifolia) Arka (Calotropis gigantia), Bhanga (cannabis sativa), Mundi (Sphaeranthus indicus), Kakatundi (Asclepias curassavica), Pittala (brass), Jaya (Cannabis indica), Amrutha (Tinospora cordifolia), Arka moola (root of calotropis gigantia), Pancha Pittam (5 types of bile juices), Vishamushti (Strychnos nux vomica), Jayapala Beeja (Seeds of Croton tiglium), Madhu (Honey)	Sannipata (final stage of disease), Jwara (fever), colic pain, Arsha (piles), Pleaha vikara (splenic disease), Pandu (anaemia), Udara sula (abdomen pain), Agnimandhya (reduced appetite), Kasa (cough), Asthma (dyspnoea)
Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Parada Bhasma (incinerated mercury), Tamra (copper), Abhraka Bhasma (incinerated mica) and Shodhita Vatsanab (aconitum ferox) all are in equal quantity	Murchita sannipatha (unconscious and final stage of disease)
Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox), Sarpa Visha (snake poison), Devadaru (citrus deodara)- all are in 1 part, Shodhita Hingula (processed cinnabar), Bhavana (triturated) with Matsya Pitta (bile of fish), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Mahisha Pitta (bile of buffalo)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)
Shodhita Vatsanab (aconitum ferox), Arka Ksheera (latex of Calotropis gigantia), Kanji (sour gruel) and Bhavana (triturated) is given with Sarpa Visha (snake poison)	Samjanasha (unconsciousness)
Ahiphena (papaver somni ferum), Tamra Bhasma (incinerated copper), Shodhita Hingula (processed cinnabar), Ativisha (aconitum heterophyllum) all are in equal quantity, Bhavana (triturated) is given with Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Gaja Pitta (bile of elephant), Mahisha Pitta (bile of buffalo),	Samjanasha (unconsciousness)

Shodhita Manasila (processed arsenic disulphide, realgar) and Hingula (cinnabar) in equal quantity, Bhavana (triturated) is given with Sarpa Visha (snake poison)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)
Sauvarchala Lavana (Unaqua Sodium Chloride) Abraka Bhasma (incinerated mica), Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur), Manasila (realgar), Haratala (orpiment), Yashada (ore of zinc), Tutta (copper sulphate), Tamra (copper), Vatsanaba (aconitum ferox), Tankana (borax), Hingula (cinnabar), Saindava Lavana (sodi chloridium) all are in equal quantity and equal to all above Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) is taken. Bhavana (triturated) is given with Madukabija Tailam, bile of Krishna Sarpa (black cobra)	Hikka (hiccup), Murcha (unconsciousness), Kampa (tremor), Bhadriya (deafness), dumb, Asthma (dyspnoea), Kasa (cough), ophtitonomous
Abraka Bhasma (incinerated mica), Swarna (gold), Vaikranta (fluorspar), Tamra Bhasma (incinerated copper), Loha (iron), Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum Ferox), Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur), Shodhita Swarna Makshika (processed chalco pyrite), Vanga Bhasma (incinerated tin) & Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead). Bhavana (triturated) is given with - Nirgundi (Vitex nirgundo), Bhringaraj (eclipta alba), Punarnava (Boerhavia diffusa), Pata (Cissampelos pariera), Chitraka (Plumbago zeylanica), Amruta (Tinospora cordifolia), Arka (Calotropis gigantia), Dattura (Dattura metal), Tulasi (Ocimum sanctum), Jambira (Citrus medica), Langali (Gloriosa superba), Kumari (Aloe vera), betel leaf, Matsya Pitta (bile of fish), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mahisha pitta (bile of buffalo), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Krishna Sarpa Pitta (bile of black cobra), Kamatya pitta (bile of tortoise), Manduka (bile of frog), Kokkuta (bile of hen), Nara Pitta (bile of human being), Ashwa Pitta (bile of horse),	Sannipata (final stage of disease), Pliha (spleen), Gulma (tumour), Udara (abdominal disease), Grahani (sprue), Atisara (diarrhoea), Dhanurvatam, Kampavata , Hikka (hikkup), Badiry (deafness), Mookatha (dump), Koubjyam, Urdha swasam ,Apasmaram, ativibramam, sarvaroga (all diseases),
Tamra Bhasma (incinerated copper), Vanga Bhasma (incinerated tin), Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead) taken in 1 part each, Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox) -equal to that of above, Arka Ksheera (latex of calotropis gigantia), Sarpa visha (snake poison).	If it is rubbed in talu pradesha (scalp) even if dead person can survive.
Vajra Bhasma (incinerated diamond), Vaikranta (fluorspar) -4g, Ativisha (aconitum heterophyllum)-2g, Navasadara (ammonium chloride)-3gm Ambara (ambergris)-5gm, Parada Bhasma (incinerated mercury), Sharangeshtyadhi Varga, Ksharajala (alkali water), Vyaghri (Solanum xantocarpum), Karira (Capparis decidua), Tilaparnika (Cleome gynandra), Indravaruniaka (Citrullus colocynthis), Musta (Cyperus rotundus), Haridra (Curcuma longa), Ankola (Alangium salvifolium) Mulika (Raphanus sativus), Apamarga (Achyranthus aspera), Kana (Piper longum), Swarna (gold), Katutumbi (Lagenaria leucantha), Thinthidika (Rhus parviflora)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)
Swarna Bhasma (incinerated gold), Rajat Bhasma (incinerated silver), Vanga (tin), Loha Bhasma (incinerated iron), Pittala (brass), Kamsa (bronze), Yashada (zinc), 2 variety of Swarna Makshika (chalco pyrite), Chapala (bismuth or selenium), Tutta (copper sulphate), Parada (mercury), Abraka (mica), Dattura (dattura metal), all Dhatu (metals and minerals), all ratna (gem stones)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)
Parada Bhasma (incinerated mercury), Sarpa Visha (snake poison), Kasthuri (musk) all in equal quantity, Dattura (dattura metal)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)
Shodhita Parada (processed mercury)- 48gm, Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur)-96gm, Kapariya -48gm, Vanga Bhasma (incinerated tin), Naga Bhasma (incinerated lead), pholada-12gm, Swarna Bhasma (incinerated gold) or Rajata Bhasma (incinerated silver)-24gm, Vajra Bhasma (incinerated diamond)-500mg, Pravala (coral)-48gm, zircon-24gm, Mukta (pearl)- 48gm, Abhraka Bhasma (incinerated mica) - Navasadara (ammonium chloride), Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Mahisha pitta (bile of buffalo), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Nara Pitta (bile of human)	Person is affected by snake bite if it feels coldness, poor eyesight, memory loss, cough, unconsciousness
Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) and Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur), Loha Bhasma (incinerated iron), Tamra Bhasma (incinerated copper), Rajat Bhasma (incinerated silver), Swarna Bhasma (incinerated gold), Rajavartha (lapis lazuli), Abhraka Bhasma (incinerated mica), Tutta (blue vitriol), Swarna Makshika (chalcopyrites),	Samnjanasham (unconsciousness)
Incinerated form of Loha (iron), Tamra (copper), Akika (agate), Naga (lead), Shodhita Parada (processed mercury), Shodhita Gandhaka (processed sulphur), Swarna Makshika (chalcopyrites), Abhraka Bhasma (incinerated mica) powder, Shodhita Haratala (processed orpiment), Shodhita Manasila (processed realgar), Shodhita Hingula (processed cinnabar), Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox), Vaikranta Bhasma (incinerated fluorspar), Mukta (pearl), Pravala Bhasma (incinerated coral), Nirgundi (vitex nirgundo), Jambu (Syzygium cumini), Chitraka (plumbago zeylanica), Gambari (Gmelina arborea), Guduchi (tinospora cardifolia), Trikatu (zingiber officinale, piper longum and piper nigrum)	Samnjanasham (unconsciousness)
Swarna Makshika Bhasma (incinerated chalco pyrite), Neelanjana (lead sulphide), Shodhita Tuttha (processed blue vitriol), Abhraka Bhasma (incinerated mica), Shodhita Manasila (processed realgar), Shodhita Haratala (processed orpiment), Shodhita Hingula (processed cinnabar), Vajra Bhasma (incinerated diamond), Mukta Bhasma (incinerated pearl), Pravala Bhasma (incinerated coral), all are in equal	Samnjanasham (unconsciousness)

quantity, Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) -1/8 parts, Dattura taila (oil of dattura metal), Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Mahisha pitta (bile of buffalo), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat).	
Incinerated form of Swarna (gold), Rajat (silver), Naga (lead), Vanga (tin), Loha (iron), Tamra (copper), Parada (mercury), Shodhita Hingula (processed cinnabar), Aphim, Swarna Makshika (chalcopyrites)/Haratala (orpiment) all in equal quantity, Trikatu (Zingiber officinale, piper longum and piper nigrum), Ativisha (aconitum heterophyllum), Tankana (borax), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mayura Pitta (Bile of peacock), Matsya pitta (bile of fish).	Samnjanasham (unconsciousness)
Dattura Taila (oil of dattura metal), Gandhaka (sulphur), Hingula (cinnabar), Loha (iron), incinerated form of Tamra (copper), Swarna (gold), Shodhita Vatsanab (processed aconitum ferox), Tulasi Swarasa (extracted juice of Ocimum sanctum)	Sannipata (final stage of disease)

DISCUSSION

Broadly, there are two types of route of administration of drugs such as enteral and parenteral route. Enteral route includes oral, sublingual, rectum and parenteral route includes intramuscular, intravascular, subcutaneous, inhalations. Ayurveda mentioned about different routes of drug administration like oral in the form of Kwatha (decotion), Churna (powder), Vati (tablet), Lehya (linctus) etc., and for other than oral route of drug administration in the form of Lepa (tropical application), Nasya (nasal), Vasti (enema), Upanaha (poultice). There are different types of Suchikabarana Rasa are mentioned in the Ayurvedic classics. Suchikabarana Rasa is indicated in many diseases and in emergency conditions like Sannipata (final stage of disease). Suchikabarana rasa is one of the formulations mentioned for parenteral route of drug administration. Suchikabarana rasa can be considered under subcutaneous type. Most of the drugs possess Visha Hara (anti poisonous) action, Jangama (animal) and Sthavara (plant and mineral poison) Visha act as antidote for each other because of their Virudha Gati¹³(opposite properties). Shodhita Parada (processed mercury) and Shodhita Tamra (processed copper) present in Suchika bharana rasa as Sthavara Visha¹⁴ (plant and metal poison) it is indicated in Jangama Visha (animal poison). In most of the formulations, Bhavana (trituration) is done by Matsya pitta (bile of fish), Varaha Pitta (bile of pig), Mayura Pitta (bile of peacock), Chaga Pitta (bile of goat), Mahisha pitta (bile of buffalo). In some formulations either Mahisha pitta (bile of buffalo) or Gaja pitta (bile of elephant) is used as Bhavana Dravya (drugs used trituration). In one of these formulations' bile of black cobra and frog are also mentioned for trituration.¹⁵

Mode of administration is very important while administering a medicine. In this Kakapada (crow's foot) type of incision is made on Brahmarandra (aperture in the crown of the head) and paste is applied on the affected parts. It is used as an emergency medicine in case of Sannipata (final stage of disease) where person in Murcha Avastha (unconsciousness).¹⁵ Visha Drvaya (poison drugs) are having Vyavayi (exhilarates) and Vikasi (spread all over the body) Guna¹⁶ (property), because of which they are able to spread and act very quickly in small dose.

CONCLUSION

In ancient Ayurvedic classics, different routes of drug administration and different types of dosage forms mentioned. It reveals that in those days also different routes of drug administration were in practice. Suchikabarana rasa is one example for parenteral route of drug administration. There are different types of Suchikabarana Rasa are mentioned in Ayurvedic classics. In all types of Suchikabarana rasa, the ingredients used are Sthavara Visha (plant and mineral poison) and Jangama Visha (animal poison) which are quick in action, effective in small doses so that emergency conditions can be managed.

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