Anjali W.G et al. Journal of Biological & Scientific Opinion • Volume 5 (2), 2017

Available online through
www.jbsoweb.com
ISSN 2321 - 6328

Review Article

REVIEW ON TRADITIONAL MANAGEMENT OF VIPER BITE CASES
Anjali W.G 1, Sanath Kumar T 2, Chaitra H 3
1PG Scholar, Department of Agada Tantra, Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara College of Ayurveda and hospital, Hassan, Karnataka, India
2Assistant Professor, Department of Agada Tantra, Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara College of Ayurveda and hospital, Hassan, Karnataka, India
3Associate Professor, Department of Agada Tantra, Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara College of Ayurveda and hospital, Hassan, Karnataka, India
*Corresponding Author Email: anjali991oct@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

India is having highest snake bite mortality in the world. According to WHO estimates, place the number of bites to be 83,000 per annum with 11,000 deaths. Most of the fatalities are due to the victim not reaching the hospital in time where definite treatment can be administered. Ayurvedic treatments plays a major role in treating these bite cases from years back and these treatment modalities are still having great effect in reducing the death rate due to poisonous bite cases. Kerala is a state with a vast traditional knowledge of Ayurveda and has developed its own identity in the respective field. There were many traditional visha vaidyas in Kerala who handled every poisonous bite cases and given best results. Some part of this knowledge has been written down and made in the form of visha chikitsa books which are useful for current generation to get knowledge of these treatment modalities. This article gives an idea about the traditional management of viper bite cases as mentioned in vishavaidya jyotsnika and vishavaidya sara samuchaya, the two important visha chikitsa books in Kerala.

Keywords: viper bite, keraleeya visha chikitsa, vishavaidya jyotsnika, vishavaidya sara samuchaya

INTRODUCTION

Snake bite cases are common in a country like India which is densely populated and people work more in fields and near forest area. Due to deforestation and industrialization snakes have also lost their place to live and have started to dwell in cities also. These reasons have contributed to the increase in the snake bite cases in country India stands first in the world with 83,000 snake bite cases and 11,000 deaths per year as per the records of WHO1. Most of the snake bite cases are nonpoisonous and requires no major treatment and rest which are poisonous have to be treated with emergency effect to avoid fatalities. But more number of deaths occurs due to poor transportation facilities and unavailability of ASV which is used as primary care in any poisonous snake bite cases in the country. Ayurveda deals with every aspect of snakes and their treatment in detail. Kerala is a state with wide traditional knowledge in Ayurveda and especially in visha chikitsa (treatment of poisonous condition). There are many paramparaya visha chikitsa viyadys in Kerala who developed their own methods for treating snake bite which include both mantra chikitsa and also oushadha (bitter) taste in mouth. If the victim perceives the following taste one can infer the bite as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandal Sarpa Types</th>
<th>Vishesha Kevala Preparation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1. Sweta | 1 rupee 
| 2. Kushta | 2 rupees 
| 3. Khakad Kshana | 3 rupees 
| 4. Bhuhya | 4 rupees 
| 5. Theekshna | 5 rupees 
| 6. Krishna | 6 rupees 
| 7. Brama | 7 rupees 
| 8. Chaitra | 8 rupees 
| 9. Sopha | 9 rupees 
| 10. Hema | 10 rupees 
| 11. Prasarma | 11 rupees 
| 12. Praetanethraghya | 12 rupees 
| 13. Naga Kshana | 13 rupees 
| 14. Kumbha | 14 rupees 
| 15. Sonitha | 15 rupees 
| 16. Sopha | 16 rupees |

Mandala Sarpa 1 is mixed with 1/5 part of this mixture and mixed well with hand till no water content remains. This should be preserved in airtight containers.

Preparation: 1 kudava (300ml) of mirundangaphala (Luffa amara) paste is mixed with 2 prastha (2.5l) of nagavalli swarasa (Piper betle) and suspended in a cloth. The filtrate dripping is collected in a wide mouthed bronze vessel. Equal quantity of nimba taila (Azadiracta indica) is added to that. Purified mercury and sulphur is added 1/50th part of this mixture and mixed well with hand till no water content remains. This should be preserved in airtight containers.

How to administer: when a bite case comes, immediately 1 paanathbookkam (2.5gms approx.) of leha have to be smeared in a betel leaf and the victim is made to chew and experience the taste in mouth. Normal taste of vishahari leha is tikta rasa (bitter). If the victim perceives the following taste one can infer the bite as follows:
Kashya rasa (astringent)- mild envenomation
Katu rasas(pungent)-dwarvekara bite(cobra)
Amla rasasour-mandali bite(viper)
Madhura rasasweet-rajila bite(krait)1

Table 1: Mandasiri sarpa damsya lakshana3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Vega lakshana (Symptoms)</th>
<th>Chikitsa</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yellowish discoloration of body and burning sensation (rasa dhathu)</td>
<td>Jaladhaara followed by administration of kalka of Chandana (Santalum album) and hiberea with water</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shivering and pallor (rakta dhathu)</td>
<td>Sirayadha (venesection), lepana (topical application) and pana (drinks) of ushira and chandana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sleepiness and severe thirst (mamsa dhathu)</td>
<td>Yastimadu, ushira and chandana lepa applied over body</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of speech, pricking pain all over body, oedema and fever (meda dhathu)</td>
<td>Triphala without seeds triturated with water given as paana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blindness, burning sensation, delirium (asthi dathu)</td>
<td>Rakta removed by sirayadha and chandana given for paana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weakness of body and nasal obstruction (majja dhathu)</td>
<td>Root of punarnava (Boerhavia diffusa) triturated with warm water administered</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weakening of all senses and may even cause death (sukra dhathu)</td>
<td>Ruksha nasya and ruksha anjana done</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Treatment of viper bite

Paanalepaadi yoga (drinks and topical application):
1. Chandana (Santalum album) with cold water is administered orally.
2. Root of sarpagandha (Rauwolfia serpentine), root of vacha (Acorsus calamus) and chandana is made into paste and administered orally.
3. Root of neeli (Indigccra tinctoria) made into paste with warm water and used orally and topical application in bite site
4. Root of punarnava (Boerhavia diffusa) and arka (Calotropis procera) used internally as well as topical application in bite site.
5. Root of karaskara (Strychnos nux-vomica) is made into paste and applied on site of bite.
6. Equal quantity of saindhava (rock salt), shunti (Zingiber officianale) and pippali (Piper longum) are powdered and added into equal quantity of freshly extracted butter, curd and honey taken together and is used for drinking and application.

Nasya yogas (nasal drops)
1. Sainghava with vyosha (shunti- Zingiber officianale, pippali-Piper longum, maricha-Piper nigrum).
2. Vacha (Acorsus calamus) and maricha mixed in swaras of dronapushpi (Leucas aspera).
3. Sainghava and maricha mixed with swaras of black variety of surasa (Okium sanctum) and sigru (Moringa oleifera).

Anjana yogas (collyrium)
1. Root of sireesha (Albizia marginata) and maricha made paste in swaras of thamboola patra (Piper betel).
2. Kalka of old maricha
3. Kalka of vyosha

Treatment for complications
1. Leaves of dathura (Datura alba) and chinch (Tamarindus indicus) taken in equal quantity pasted and mixed with equal amount of buffalo dung is applied externally.
2. Kalka of punarnava root (Boerhavia diffusa), sigru (Moringa oleifera), streesha (Albizia marginata) and ashwagandha (Withania somnifera) applied as lepa.
3. Equal quantity of kustha (Saussurea lappap), tagara (Valeriana wallchii), useera (Vetteria zizanoida), chandana (Santalum album), yastimadhu (Glycyrhiza glabra), sariva (Hemidesmus indicus) paste.
4. Trivrit is given bhavana with triphala kashaya for 3 days, this mixed with ghee given orally.

Treatment for yellowish urine: Bark of karanja pasted and mixed in warm water and administered orally.

Treatment for fever: Bark of chinch pasted mixed with milk and administered.

Treatment for hotness of body: Kalka of usheera, hreebera and chandana applied all over body.

Treatment for hematemesis: Leaves of nimba pasted and mixed with milk and consumed orally.

Treatment for thirst and burning sensation: Swarasa of root of banana plant mixed with milk and taken internally.

Treatment for vomiting: Kalka of triphala given with proper anupana.

Treatment for hiccup: Shunti, maricha, pippali and draksha pasted with swaras of dadima phala.

Treatment for stertorrhea
1. Kalka of kadamba bark administered.
2. Kutajamoolatwak triturated and mixed with the decoction of same or with hot water administered to patient.

Treatment for headache
1. Root of kaakatikthaka is pasted mixed with milk and taken orally.
2. Equal quantity of amalaki choorna and musa are boiled until milk evaporates. Then pasted along with some chandana and applied over forehead.

Treatment for anxiety
1. Useera and chandana administered orally.
2. Karpasamoola, maricha, haridra, darulheridra, usheera moola and stem, sarjikshara, kusha powdered and administered with water.

Treatment for obstruction to passage of urine and feces
1. Equal amount of seeds ela and pippali powdered and administered with hot water or tender coconut water.
2. Same above drugs dhaara over abdomen also done.
3. Aragvadha with hareethaki, honey and ghee is given orally.
4. Trivrit with hareethaki, honey and ghee is given orally.
5. Pippali with hareethaki, honey and ghee is given orally.

Preparations: - Nalpamaradi lepa: Used as lepa for reducing swelling, burning sensation and all problems due to vran.
Ekanayakamoooladi lepa and ghirtha: Used as lepa over vran.

22
Karaskaravandakadi lepa: Used as external application for vrana. It’s effective in reducing vitiated rakta dosha and reduces foul smell, also used for reducing oozing and itching.

Bhrahmirasadi tailam, njetanjetadi tailam, paranthyadi tailam: Used for doing dhara over vrana.

Treatment in Ashtanga Hrdaya
Equal part each of mrdika (Vitis vinifera), gaja dhantika and half part of leaves of surasa (Ocimum sanctum), bilva, (Aegle marmelos), dadima (Punica granatum) mixed with honey is an agada especially for viper bite. The person bitten by mandalai snake should drink the decoction of manjistha (Rubia cordifolia), madhukra (Glycyrrhiza glabra) 6.

Treatment in Sushruta samhita
In the case of mandalai visha the first phase should be managed like in darvikara, in the second phase anti poisonous recipe should be given to drink with honey and ghee, then the patient should be vomited and there after served with gruel, in the third phase after evacuating the patient with drastic purgative, he should be given wholesome gruel, in the fourth as well as fifth phase managed as in darvikara, in the sixth phase kakolayadi group and sweet anti poisonous recipe is useful and in the seventh phase anti poisonous formulation should be used as pressed snuff 5.

Treatment in Charaka samhita
The patient should be treated with effusion which is very cold and which is stambhana (arresting the movement of fluids in the body) and the application of cold ointment 6.

DISCUSSION
Snakes are the most feared venomous animals in the world due to their induced morbidity and mortality worldwide which represent 5,400,000 bites over 2,500,000 fatalities followed by about 125,000 deaths 7. The knowledge about snakes their types, how to identify them and their bite management is mentioned along with the remedies for complications are mentioned.

CONCLUSION
Snake bite cases are common in India and requires at most care to avoid complications and fatalities. The traditional vaidyas who developed their own way of treatment methods were totally depended on their practical experience which makes these traditional books more logical and can be made use in present era also. Those visha chikitsa books are having not only containing snake bite management but also mentions about all poisonous bite case managements.

REFERENCES
2. Department of Agadatantra, Vaidyaratnam P.S Varier Ayurveda college Kottakkal, Visha vaidya jyotsnika, ed.2009 november, pg 43.
3. Cherkululapurath Krishnan Namboodiri: visha vaidya sara samuchaya, pg 132
4. KR. Srikantha Murthy, Ashtanga hrdyam english translation, nidara chikitsa kalpa stana, vol 2, Chaukambha publishers academy, P353
5. PV sharma, Sushruta samhita with English translation of text and dalhana’s commentary along with critical notes, vol 3, kalpasta and uthara stana, chaukambha visvabharathli oriental publishers P50
6. RK. Sharma, Bhagawan dash, Charaka samhita text with English translation and critical exposition based on chakrapani dattas Ayurveda dipika, chikitsa stana, Vol 4, Chowkambha publication P 368
7. VV Pillay, Modern Medical Toxicology, 4th edition, Jaypee Brother Medical publishers LTD New Delhi, 2002, P138

Cite this article as:

Source of support: Nil; Conflict of interest: None Declared

Disclaimer: JBSO is solely owned by Moksha Publishing House - A non-profit publishing house, dedicated to publish quality research, while every effort has been taken to verify the accuracy of the contents published in our Journal. JBSO cannot accept any responsibility or liability for the site content and articles published. The views expressed in articles by our contributing authors are not necessarily those of JBSO editor or editorial board members.