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A Piloting Study on Godugdha Yukta Vaitaran Basti in Vataja Gridhrasi (Sciatica)

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Abstract

Gridhrasi (Sciatica) is a major health problem related to locomotor system in both developed and developing countries. There is close association between low back pain and Sciatica. The prevalence data on low back pain and Sciatica shows the problematic status of the disease. As many as 90% of patients with acute back pain return to work within three months, but many experience symptoms of recurrence and function limitations. This hospital based observational piloting study on Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti evaluates its therapeutic efficacy on Vataja Gridhrasi. For control study, Katibasti with sahacharadi tailam is taken which is a well known & proven procedure for lumbosacral disorders. The study was conducted on sixty clinically diagnosed cases of Vataja Gridhrasi (Sciatica) on the basis of various subjective & objective scientific parameters. Clinically and statistically improvements were observed after completion of therapy which was more in Vaitaran basti group rather than Katibasti group. Both drugs were well tolerated and patients were not forced to discontinue drug treatment out of drug intolerance. However in the series of trial 100 % recovery leading to Cure could not be achieved. This may be due to the reason that Basti chikitsa is said to be Ardhachikitsa. Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti has been found to be an effective therapeutic regimen in the management of Vataja Gridhrasi.

Keywords

Vaitaran basti, Gridhrasi (Sciatica), Godugdha (Cow milk)

INTRODUCTION

Gridhrasi (Sciatica) is enumerated under eighty types of Nanatmaja Vata vyadhis and Basti chikitsa is described as Ardhachikitsa for Vatavyadhies^[1]. There are two groups of symptoms found in Gridhrasi i.e. Vataja and Vatakaphaja. There is also indications of two types of Vaitaran basti i.e. Gomutra yukta (cow's urine used – ref. Chakradutta^[2]) and Godugdha Yukta (cow's milk used – ref. Vangasen^[3]). Critical studies of the above two Samhitas confers that Gomutra yukta Vaitaran basti is used in case of Vatakaphaja Gridhrasi where as Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti is used in case of Vataja Gridhrasi. The present piloting study on Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti in Vataja gridhrasi (sciatica) has been planned and implemented with emphasis on easy administration, random availability, no



known side effects, low cost and textual reference etc. Control studies are done using Katibasti with sahacharadi tailam which is a well known & proven procedure for lumbosacral disorders.

Aims and Objectives

This study aims to evaluate the therapeutic efficacy of Godugdha Yukta (cow's milk used) Vaitaran basti on Vataja Gridhrasi. The study was carried out at Gopabandhu Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Puri. Out of the resembling cases of Gridhrasi (Sciatica) having Vatik type complains, sixty cases were selected according to the selection criteria. They were divided into two groups (TG_I & TG_{II}) keeping behind parity in the age, sex etc. TG_I were treated with Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti and TG_{II} were treated with Katibasti with sahacharadi tailam.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Design

- ☞ TG_I (BT) vs. TG_I (AT) -Effectiveness of treatment group -I will be assessed
- ☞ TG_{II} (BT) vs. TG_{II} (AT)-Effectiveness of treatment group -II will be assessed

Subjective criteria

- Low back pain radiating to foot (left / right / both)
- Stiffness (Stambha)
- Pain (Ruk) (Numeric pain scale)^[4]
- Pricking sensation (Toda)
- Fasciculation (Spandana)

Objective Criteria

- □ Lumbar spine mobility (LSM) test
- □ Oswestry disability (OD) index[5]
- The low back outcome score (LBOS)scale of Greenough & Fraser[6]
- Straight leg raising test (SLR / Sakti akshepa nigraha)

The Exclusion Criteria

- Vatakaphaja Gridhrasi (Sciatica having kapha predominance symptoms)
- Traumatic, infective, neoplastic conditions of spine
- Those who are crippled & bed bound (as per Oswestry disability index - 2.0 Grade 4 & 5)

Drug, Dose and Duration

 Vaitaran basti - 372 ml / dose, once daily, empty stomach per rectum for 8 days.

[Saindhava Lavana (Rock salt) - 12gm,

Guda (Gur) – 24gm, Amleeka (Tamarind) –

48gm, Tila taila (Sesame oil) – 96ml,

Godugdha (Cow milk) - 192ml]

 Katibasti with sahacharadi tailam as per requirement locally for 8 days.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The clinical improvement has been ascertained on the presence of Subjective criterias as well as Objective Criterias after treatment basing on clinical assessment criteria [Table-1]. The Clinical assessment of results obtained basing upon the cardinal clinical features i.e. Straight leg raising test (SLR), Lumbar spine mobility (LSM) test, Oswestry disability (OD) index, The low back outcome score (LBOS) scale of Greenough & Fraser was classified in view of percentage of improvement as follows:

Maximum improvement	>75%
/ Cured	improvement
Moderate improvement	> 50% to 75%
	improvement
Mild improvement	> 25% to 50%
	improvement
Unsatisfactory	Negligible
	(≤25%)
	improvement

Observations on data - The study reveals that after the middle age, people are more prone to Gridhrasi (Sciatica). The highest incidence is found in the fourth-fifth decade [Fig-1]. This is Vata Prakopaka Kala (aggravation period) and according to modern science there is progressive decrease in degree of hydration of the intervertebral disc with age that leads to the cycle of degeneration resulting in disc problems and causing Gridhrasi (Sciatica). About occupational status this study reveals that Gridhrasi (Sciatica) can occur among various occupations that are prone to more physical works because they have to sustain higher load on their spine [Fig-2]. Regarding Chronicity it is found that maximum was in > 1 - 2 yrs of chronicity group [Fig-3]. The chronicity is due to the greatest stress and progressive degenerative changes of discs.



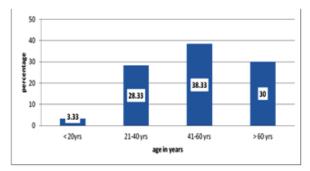


Figure 2 Showing the incidence of occupational status

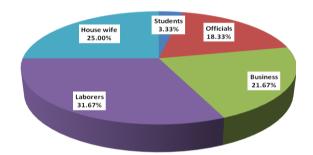
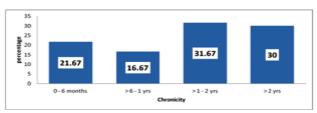


Figure 3 Showing the Incidence of Chronicity Status



Low back pain rac		-	G ₀	\rightarrow	Pain i anywh			ber r	egion not radiates to				
foot (Sphik Pur Pristha Uru Janu			G ₁	\rightarrow	Pain in	lu	mber	regio	n radiates up to thigh.				
Pada Kramat Veda		igna	G ₂	\rightarrow	Pain in	lu	mber	regio	n radiates to calf.				
Faua Mainat Veua	illa)		G ₃	\rightarrow	Pain in	ı luı	mber	regio	n radiates to foot.				
			G ₀	\rightarrow	No stif	fne	ss						
Stiffness (Stambha			G ₁	\rightarrow	Mild Stiffness								
Summess (Stamona	()		G ₂	\rightarrow	Moderate Stiffness								
			G ₃	\rightarrow \rightarrow	Severe Stiffness								
			G ₀	Pain Fi	ree								
Pain (Ruk)			G ₁	Mild P	ain								
(The Numeric Pair	n Scal	le)	G ₂	\rightarrow	Moder	ate	Pain						
			G ₃	\rightarrow	Severe	Pa	in						
			G ₀	\rightarrow	No Prie	cki	ng Se	nsatio	on				
Pricking sensation	(Tod	la)	G ₁	\rightarrow	Mild P	ric	king S	Sensa	tion				
			G ₂	\rightarrow	Moder	ate	Prick	ting S	ensation				
			G ₃	\rightarrow	Severe	Pr	icking	g Sen	sation				
			G ₀	\rightarrow	No fase	cicı	ulatio	n					
Fasciculation /Twi	tchin	g					ally d	iscont	tinued fasciculation				
(Spandana)	0			\rightarrow	Occasi	ona	ally co	ontinu	ued fasciculation				
			G ₃	\rightarrow	Persist	ent	conti	nued	fasciculation				
	Sev	erity	Grade			Improvement Grade							
	G 0	\rightarrow	$> 70^0$ (Nor	rmal)			I ₀	\rightarrow	< 15 ⁰ (Unsatisfactory)				
Straight leg rising test (SLR /	G 1	\rightarrow	51 - 70 ⁰ (N	Aild form)		I ₁		\rightarrow	$15^{0} - 30^{0}$ (Mild)				
Saktiakshapa nigraha)	G 2	\rightarrow	$30^{\circ} - 50^{\circ}$ (1	Moderate f	orm)		I_2	\rightarrow	$31^{0} - 45^{0}$ (Moderate)				
	G 3	\rightarrow	$< 30^{0}$ (Sev	ere form)			I ₃	\rightarrow	> 45 ⁰ (Maximum)				
	G 0	÷	> 5 cm from the second				I ₀	\rightarrow	\leq 3 cm (Unsatisfactory)				
Lumbar Spine Mobility (LSM)	G 1	÷	> 4 - 5 Junction bending	cm fron during fo	n L.S. orward		I ₁	→	> 3 - 4 cm (Mild)				
test	G 2	→	> 3 - 4 cm from L.S. Junction during forward bending				I ₂	→	> 4 –5 cm (Moderate)				
$G_{3} \rightarrow$			< 3 cm from L.S. Junction during forward bending				I ₃	\rightarrow	> 5 cm (Maximum)				
The Low Back Outcome Score	G 0	\rightarrow	\geq 65 Sc status)	oring (Ex	cellent		I ₀	>	0 - 29 (Unsatisfactory)				

Table 1 Clinical assessment criteria of the disease

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(LBOS)	G 1	\rightarrow	50 - 64 Scoring (Good status)		I ₁	\rightarrow	30 - 49 (Mild)				
	G 2	>	30 - 49 Scoring (Fair status)		I ₂	\rightarrow	50 – 64 (Moderate)				
	G 3	\rightarrow	0 - 29 Scoring(Poor status)		I ₃	\rightarrow	≥65 (Maximum)				
	G 0	\rightarrow	No disability (0%)		I ₀	\rightarrow	> 40 % (Unsatisfactory)				
The Oswestry	G 1	→	> 0% - 20% (Minimal disability)		I ₁	\rightarrow	21 -40 % (Mild)				
Disability (OD) Assessment scale	G 2	→	21 % - 40% (Moderate disability)		I ₂	\rightarrow	> 0 - 20 % (Moderate)				
(Oswestry disability	G 3	>	41 – 60 % (Severe disability)		I ₃	\rightarrow	No disability (0%) (maximum improve)				
index - 2.0)	G 4	→	61-80 % (Crippled)								
	G 5	<i>></i>	81 - 100 (Bed bound)								
	N.B. $-G_0$, G_1 , G_2 , G_3 are respective Grades of Severity of symptoms and I_0 , I_1 , I_2 , I_3 are respective Grades of Improvement in symptoms										

Response of treatment - Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti exhibits good clinical improvement in of terms relieving individual symptoms as well as reducing the severity of disease. As regards subjective and objective parameters all patients belonging to TG_I & TG_{II} were got relief, which has been critically assessed in the language of percentage. So far the improvement of cardinal sign symptoms in the present study, the percentage being 86.66 % & 63.33 % in Radiation of pain, 66.66 % & 55.55 % in Stambha (Stiffness), 86.65 % & 63.33 % in Ruk (Pain), 67.77 % & 49.99 % in Toda (Pricking sensation), 55.55 % & 52.22 % in

Spandana (Fasciculation) among Trial group-I (TG_I) & Trial Group-II (TG_{II}) respectively. Considering the vital objective parameters, the percentage of improvement being 76.66 % & 38.89 % in S.L.R test, 66.66 % & 55.55 % in **L.S.M. test,** 48.88 % & 44.44 % in L.B.O.S. scale, 43.33 % & 49.99 % in **O.D. index** among TG_I & TG_{II} respectively [Table 2, 3, 4]. The clinical assessment of results proves the efficacy of Godugdha yukta Vaitaran basti which shows that maximum cases are got moderate improvement [Table 5]. The statistical adjudication with suitable parameters for different sign and symptoms shows highly significant at 0.1 % level [Table 6].

Discussion on acceptability of trial drug -

The trial drug was selected from ayurvedic text Vangasen samhita. It mainly comprising

of Saindhava Lavana (Rock salt), Guda (Gur), Amleeka (Tamarind), Tila taila (Sesame oil) and Godugdha (Cow milk).

	-	esenc			BT	(Seve	rity	grade))				AT	(Sever	rity g	rade)		
	-	of dina		G ₀	(G ₁		G ₂		G3		G ₀		G ₁		G ₂		G3
TG I	fea	l ture s	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Radiation	3	10	0	00.	0	03.	0	10.	2	86.	2	80.	0	16.	01	03.	00	00.
of pain	0	0	0	0	1	33	3	00	6	67	4	00	5	67	01	33	00	0
Stambha	3	10	0	00.	0	20.	0	26.	1	53.	2	76.	0	13.	03	10.	00	00.
(Stiffness)	0	0	0	0	6	00	8	67	6	33	3	67	4	33	05	00	00	0
Ruk (Pain - Numeric scale)	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 1	03. 33	0 3	10. 00	2 6	86. 67	2 4	80. 00	0 5	16. 67	01	03. 33	00	00. 0
Toda (Pricking sensation)	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 4	13. 33	1 0	33. 33	1 6	53. 33	2 1	70. 00	0 7	23. 33	02	06. 67	00	00. 0
Spandana (Fascicula tion)	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 1	03. 33	1 7	56. 67	1 2	40. 00	1 9	63. 33	0 9	30. 00	02	06. 67	00	00. 0
S.L.R test	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 1	03. 33	0 6	20. 00	2 3	76. 67	1 9	63. 33	0 9	30. 00	02	06. 67	00	00. 0
L.S.M. test	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 7	23. 33	1 1	36. 67	1 2	40. 00	1 6	53. 33	1 0	33. 33	04	13. 33	00	00. 0
L.B.O.S. scale	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 0	00. 00	1 1	36. 67	1 9	63. 33	0 0	00. 00	2 5	83. 33	5	16. 67	00	00. 0
O.D. index	3 0	10 0	0 0	00. 0	0 0	00. 00	0 8	26. 67	2 2	73. 33	0 0	00. 00	1 7	56. 67	13	43. 33	00	00. 0
BT – Before AT – After Treatment Treatment				<i>f</i> - F	requ	ency	9	% - Pe	rcen	tage	Re	, G ₁ , G spectiv adatio	ve	.—				

Table 2 Showing the presence of Cardinal features, Degree of severity in TG_I

Table 3 Showing the presence of Cardinal features, Degree of severity in $\mathsf{TG}_{\mathrm{II}}$

	Pre	esen		BT (Severity grad)							AT (Severity grade)							
	ce of		G ₀		G ₁		G ₂		G ₃		G ₀		G ₁		G ₂		G ₃	
TG I	ہ fea	rdin al atur es	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
Radiation	3	10	0	00.	0	06.	0	10.	2	83.	0	30.	1	53.	0	16.	0	00.
of pain	0	0	0	00	2	67	3	00	5	33	9	00	6	33	5	67	0	00
Stambha	3	10	0	00.	0	23.	0	26.	1	50.	1	60.	0	20.	0	20.	0	00.
(Stiffness)	0	0	0	00	7	33	8	67	5	00	8	00	6	00	6	00	0	00



Ruk (Pain	3	10	0	00.	0	06.	0	06.	2	86.	0	30.	1	50.	0	20.	0	00.
- Numeric	0	0	0	00.	$\frac{0}{2}$	67	2	67	6	60. 67	9	30. 33	5	00.	6	20. 00	0	00.
scale)	Ŭ	U	U	00	2	07	2	07	Ŭ	07		55	5	00	Ŭ	00	Ŭ	00
Toda	3	10	0	00.	0	00.	0	30.	2	70.	0	13.	1	53.	1	33.	0	00.
(Pricking	0	0	0	00.	0	00.	9	00	1	00.	4	33	6	33	0	33	0	00.
sensation)	0	0	0	00	0	00	/	00	1	00	+	55	0	55	U	55	U	00
Spandana	3	10	0	00.	0	10.	1	56.	1	33.	1	46.	1	40.	0	13.	0	00.
(Fascicula	0	0	0	00.	3	10. 00	1 7	50. 67	$1 \\ 0$	33. 33	4	40. 67	2	40. 00	4	13. 33	0	00.
tion)	0	0	0	00	3	00	/	07	U	33	4	07	2	00	4	33	U	00
S.L.R test	3	10	0	00.	0	13.	1	53.	1	33.	0	26.	1	43.	0	30.	0	00.
S.L.K lest	0	0	0	00	4	33	6	33	0	33	8	67	3	33	9	00	0	00
L.S.M.	3	10	0	00.	0	26.	1	43.	0	30.	0	26.	1	53.	0	20.	0	00.
test	0	0	0	00	8	67	3	33	9	00	8	67	6	33	6	00	0	00
L.B.O.S.	3	10	0	00.	0	06.	1	43.	1	50.	0	10.	2	70.	0	20.	0	00.
scale	0	0	0	00	2	67	3	33	5	00	3	00	1	00	6	00	0	00
O.D.	3	10	0	00.	0	03.	0	16.	2	80.	0	10.	1	53.	1	36.	0	00.
index	0	0	0	00	1	33	5	67	4	00	3	00	6	33	1	67	0	00
BT – Before AT – After										$G_0, G_1, G_2, G_3 -$								
-				AT – After Treatment				f - Frequency		ency	% - Percentage				Respective			
Ireatm	Treatment			116	atm	ent									Gradations			

Table 4 Percentage average improvement in $TG_I \& TG_{II}$

Average % of improvement	TGI	TG _{II}							
Radiation of pain	86.66	63.33							
Stambha (Stiffness)	66.66	55.55							
Ruk (Pain - Numeric scale)	86.65	63.33							
Toda (Pricking sensation)	67.77	49.99							
Spandana (Fasciculation)	55.55	52.22							
S.L.R test	76.66	38.89							
L.S.M. test	66.66	55.55							
L.B.O.S. scale	48.88	44.44							
O.D. index	43.33	49.99							
TG _I – Treatment Group 1, TG _{II} – Treatment Group 2									

There were no unpleasant incidents or side effects due to Vaitaran basti therapy. Another advantage of Vaitaran basti is that it is easy to constitute, less time consuming and gives least discomfort to both patient and physician. It is cheap as compared to other conventional methods of management of Gridhrasi (Sciatica). While returning through rectum, it decreases the intra abdominal pressure by cleansing the bowel through evacuation of fecal matter during the course of basti.

S.	Clinical	After treatment (8 Days)								
S. No.	assessment		$n_1 (n_1 = 30)$	$TG_2 (n_2 = 30)$						
		f	%	f	%					
1	Maximum improvement / Cured	-	-	-	-					
2	Moderate improvement	23	76.67	7	23.33					
3	Mild improvement	7	23.33	23	76.67					
4	Unsatisfactory	-	-	-	-					

TG₁ – Treatment Group 1, TG₁₁ – Treatment Group 2 n –No of patients

The composition of Vaitaran basti is such that it strongly reduces the pain and prevents the degenerative processes. Modern researches also appreciate individual action on bone and bone marrow to promote strong bones. On the whole, keeping in consideration the composition and there multidimensional effect, it can be inferred that the nutrient property of Guda (Gur), Tila taila (Sesame oil) and Godugdha (Cow milk) work against vitiated Vata due to loss of dhatus (Dhatukshaya). The obstruction of passage of Vata (Margavarodha) can be eliminated due to anti-inflammatory benefit attributed to Amleeka (Tamarind) and Saindhava Lavana (Rock salt).

TABLE 6 Statistical analysis showing the effectiveness of trial-i & trial-ii with respect to different sign & symptoms

Sign & Symptoms	Treatment Group	Duration	Mean ± S.D.	Mean diff. ± S.E	d. f. (n-	t – Value	p - Value	Remarks
					1)			
	TGI	B.T.	02.83 ± 0.46	2.6 ± 0.12	29	21.66	<	****
Radiation of	101	A.T.	00.23 ± 0.50	2.0 ± 0.12	2)	21.00	0.001	
pain	TG _{II}	B.T.	02.77 ± 0.56	1.9±0.13	29	14.61	<	****
	ιo _{II}	A.T.	00.87 ± 0.68	1.9± 0.13	29	14.01	0.001	
	TGI	B.T.	02.33 ± 0.80	2.0±0.14	29	14.29	<	****
Stambha	IUI	A.T.	00.33 ± 0.66	2.0± 0.14	29	14.29	0.001	
(Stiffness)	ΤG _{II}	B.T.	02.27 ± 0.83	1.67 ± 0.15	29	11.13	<	****
	IUII	A.T.	00.60 ± 0.81	1.07±0.13	29	11.15	0.001	
	TGI	B.T.	02.83 ± 0.46	2.6± 0.12	29	21.66	<	****
Ruk (Pain -	IOI	A.T.	00.23 ± 0.50	2.0± 0.12	29	21.00	0.001	
numeric scale)	TG _{II}	B.T.	02.80 ± 0.55	1.9±0.13	29	14.62	<	****
	IOI	A.T.	00.90 ± 0.71	1.9± 0.13	29	14.02	0.001	
	TGI	B.T.	02.40 ± 0.72	2.0±0.13	29	15.38	<	****
Toda (Pricking	101	A.T.	00.37 ± 0.61	2.0± 0.13	29	15.56	0.001	
sensation)	ΤG _{II}	B.T.	02.70 ± 0.46	1.5±0.13	29	11.54	<	****
	IUI	A.T.	01.20 ± 0.66	1.5± 0.15	27	11.34	0.001	
Spandana	TGI	B.T.	02.36 ± 0.55	1.93±0.13	29	14.85	<	****
(Fasciculation)		A.T.	00.43 ± 0.63	1.75±0.15	29	14.05	0.001	
(rasciculation)	TG _{II}	B.T.	02.23 ± 0.63	1.57 ± 0.12	29	13.08	<	****

d. f. – Degree of	freedom	n = No.	n = No. Of Patients				**** Highly significance at 0.1% lvl			
TG_Trial Group		P-Value	Probability at 0.1 %	t - Value – Test of Significance						
	101	A.T.	1.43 ± 0.50	1.552 0.09		1	0.001			
O.D. MUCX	TGII	B.T.	2.73 ± 0.45	1.33 ± 0.09	29	14.78	<	****		
O.D. index	101	A.T.	1.26 ± 0.63	1.40± 0.09		10.22	0.001			
	TGI	B.T.	2.76 ± 0.50	1.46 ± 0.09	29	16.22	<	****		
		A.T.	1.67 ± 0.38	1.5 ± 0.11	29	15.04	0.001			
L.D.O.S. Stale	TG _{II}	B.T.	2.63 ± 0.49	1.5±0.11	29	13.64	<	****		
L.B.O.S. scale	IUI	A.T.	1.1 ± 0.54	1.5± 0.09	2)	14.44	0.001			
	TGI	B.T.	2.43 ± 0.62	1.3±0.09	29	14.44	<	****		
	IOII	A.T.	0.6 ± 0.72	1.0/±0.13	27	11.15	0.001			
L.J.111. USI	TG _{II}	B.T.	2.17 ± 0.79	1.67±0.15	29	11.13	<	****		
L.S.M. test	IUI	A.T.	0.33 ± 0.47	2.0± 0.14	27	14.27	0.001			
	TGI	B.T.	1.73 ± 0.44	2.0±0.14	29	14.29	<	****		
	IGII	A.T.	0.43 ± 0.63	1.1/± 0.0/	29	10.71	0.001	-111-		
S.L.R lest	TGII	B.T.	2.73 ± 0.52	1.17±0.07	29	16.71	<	****		
S.L.R test	IUI	A.T.	1.03 ± 0.76	2.5± 0.15	29	17.09	0.001			
	TGI	B.T.	2.2 ± 0.66	2.3+0.13	29	17.69	<	****		
		A.T.	00.66 ± 0.71				0.001			

CONCLUSION

The nature of incurability and abandancy of Gridhrasi (Sciatica) has inspired to undertake such a problem. The clinical assessment of results proves the efficacy of Vaitaran basti (Godugdha yukta) with moderate improvement in symptoms. However, in the series of trial 100 % recovery leading to cure could not be achieved. This may be due to the reason that Basti chikitsa is said to be Ardhachikitsa. One may try Basti chikitsa along with other chikitsa to get 100% results. Hence Vaitaran basti (Godugdha yukta) is acceptable for the management of Vataja Gridhrasi (Sciatica) which is proved by the response of the above clinical trial.

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