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**RESEARCH ARTICLE** 



# A Comparative Clinical Study on the Effect of *Virechana* & *Shamana Snehapana* in *Eka Kushta* w.s.r. to Psoriasis

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# ABSTRACT

Ayurveda, the knowledge of life science bestowed health and longevity in the form of preventive and curative measures. Shodhana chikitsa play a vital role in curative measures, because there is no chance of reprovacation of doshas. In Ayurveda all the skin diseases are considered under kushta, but still there is controversy regarding nomenclature of psoriasis. Kitibha, Mandala, Ekakushta etc are taken as Psoriasis. But in this study, psoriasis is correlated with Ekakushta based on clinical features. Psoriasis is one of the burning problems in the medical field. It is a heredo-familial, chronic, recurrent, inflammatory disease of skin of unknown origin. It disturbs the social and personal life of the patient due to ugly appearance. The aim of present study is to assess the role of virechana karma and shaman snehapana comparatively in the management of ekakushta with special reference to Psoriasis. In this study, 30 subjects were divided into two groups, 15 patients in each group and the patients who were fit for *snehana* and *virechana karma* were selected. In group-A only virechana karma was administered. In group-B virechana followed by shaman snehapana was administered. For shodhana Go ghritam and for shaman snehapana Brahmi ghrita is used. The assessment of results was made on pre and post treatment data of subjective and objective parameters of study. Clinical signs and symptoms of ekakushta are taken as subjective parameters, PASI score taken as objective parameters.

On the basis of results of two groups, it was observed that reduction of symptomatology and PASI Score highly significantly in group-B, i.e.*virechana* followed with *shaman snehapana*. So *virechana* shows significant role in the management of *Ekakushta* than only *shamana snehapana*.

# **KEYWORDS**

Virechana karma, Shamana snehapana, Brahmi ghrtam, PASI Score and Psoriasis



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# CERTIFICATE

The institutional Ethical Committee of Dr.B.R.K.R. Government Ayurvedic College, Hyderabad, Affiliated to Dr.N.T.R.University of Health Science, Vijayawada has convened a meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> April-2014 in the college Conference Hall for the purpose of evaluation and approval of the Synopsis of the P.G. Scholars for Registration.

Name & place of the Department: P.G of PANCHAKARMA, Dr.B.R.K.R.Govt.Ayurvedic College, Hyderabad

Title of Synopsis: A COMPARATIVE CLINICAL STUDY ON THE EFFECT OF VIRECHANA AND SHAMANA SNEHAPANA IN EKAKUSHTA W.S.R. TO PSORIASIS

Name of the P.G.Scholar:- Dr.P.Sushma

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Name of the Guide

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Name of the Co-Guide

:- Dr.M.Praveen Kumar Lecturer

Result

Suggestion

Sign.:-

Approved Rejected

Ethically Viable

- Resubmission after modifications

Convener

Chairman

# **INTRODUCTION**

Psoriasis is among the widest spread chronic, frequently reoccurring disease of skin. About 3 % of world population suffering from psoriasis and it becomes a major source of frustration to patients suffering In spite of various from psoriasis. advancements in all the branches of modern science its etiology is still a dermatological mystery the solution to which is being tackled by many scientists but still there is no satisfactory results found till now. In Ayurveda all skin diseases have been described under the Umbrella of kushta. Signs and symptoms of psoriasis can be with correlated Ekakushta. Charaka Acharya quoted chikitsa sutra of kushta that includes *snehapana* and *Virechana* in it<sup>1</sup>. Virechana karma is effective in breaking the pathogenesis of kushta. As kushta is Vatakaphapradhanapitta

samsargajatridosajavikara, virechana may helps in this condition by eliminating the morbid *Tridoshas*. *Trivrutadi modaka* a purgative yoga explained by *Acharya Charaka*. *Trivrutadi modaka* for *virechana karma* has been selected for clinical study to evaluate the efficacy of *Virechana karma* in management of *Ekakushta*. *Panchakarma* has unique therapeutic procedures, because of its preventive, promotive, prophylactic and rejuvenative properties as well as in providing radical cure.

# **OBJECTIVES**

To evaluate the effect of *Virechana karma* in *Ekakushta*.

To assess the combined effect of Virechana karma and Shamana Snehapana.

# **MATERIAL & METHODS**

*Chitrakadivati*: It was administered for both A, B groups. *Citrakadi vati* for *deepana*, *pachana*.

*Brahmi ghritam<sup>2</sup>:* It was administered for both A, B groups, for *shodhanga snehapana, shamana snehapana.* 

*Trivrutadi modaka*<sup>3</sup>: It was administered for two groups for *Virechana Karma*.

Study design: It was an open, randomized preliminary clinical study.

Clinical Plan: Total 30 patients of either sex diagnosed on signs & symptoms of psoriasis w.s.r. *Ekakushta* were selected from OPD of DR. B.R.K.R GAH, Hyderabad. On the random basis patients were assigned into 2 groups, each group consisting 15 subjects.

Inclusion Criteria:

Patients having classical symptoms of *EkaKushta* 

Patients suitable for *Snehapana* and *Virechana karma*.

Chronicity of the disease less than 5 years will be included.

Exclusion Criteria:

Patients of *Ekakushta* with other systemic illness like diabetes, hypertension, etc.

Patients unfit for *Snehana* and *Virechana* karma.

Intervention:

Group A:

*Amapachana*: The patients were given with *Chitrakadivati* 250mg thrice daily before food with *ushnodaka* until *nirama laxanas* was observed, for duration of 3-5 days.

Shodhanga snehapana: Snehapana with Go ghritam was administered in arohana krama starting with hrisryasi matra until samyax snigdha laxanas was observed, for duration of 3-7 days.

Abhyanga & swedam: Abhyanga with karanja tailam<sup>4</sup> & bashpa swedam was administered for one day in Vishrama kala.

*Virechana:Trivrutadi modaka* with *ushnodaka* was administered on empty stomach & dose varies between 10-50gm depending on *koshta* of patient, *samsarjana krama* was advised according to *shuddhi prakara*.

Group B:

Amapachana:ThepatientswereadministeredChitrakadi vati 250mgthricedailybeforefoodwithushnodakauntil

nirama laxanas was observed, for a period of 3-5 days.

Shodhanga snehapana: Snehapana with Go ghritam was administered in arohanakrama starting with hrisryasi matra until samyaxsnigdha laxanas was observed for a period of 3-7 days.

Abhyanga & swedam: Abhyanga with Karanja tailam & basha swedam was administered for one day in vishrama kala.

Virechana karma: Trivrutadi modaka with ushnodaka was administered on empty stomach, dosage varies between 10-50gm depending on koshta of patient, samsarjana krama was advised according to shuddhi prakara.

Shamana Snehapana: After samsarjana krama, shaman snehapana with Brahmi ghritam 15ml twice a day one hr before meals was administered for 45 days. Pathya ahara was advised through course of trial work.

Parameters to assess the treatment involved.

The patients of both groups were assessed with clinical features of *ekakushta* as mentioned in *ayurvedic* classics and modern science taken as subjective parameters. Subjective parameters are *Mandala* (Erythema), *Kandu* (Itching), *Matsyashalakala* (Scaling). Psoriasis area



and severity index scoring as objective parameter.

Grading of Results:

Good: 90% and more than 90% relief in both subjective and objective parameters.

Moderate: 70% to 90% relief in both subjective and objective parameters.

Mild: 50% to 70% improvement in all parameters.

Poor: Less than 50% relief in both subjective and objective parameters.

#### **OBSERVATIONSAND RESULTS**

<b>Table 1</b> Distribution of patients by age groups					
Age in	No. of subjects	Percentage			
years					
21-30 yr	5	16.6%			
31-40 yr	14	46.6%			
41-50 yr	5	16.6%			
51-60 yr	6	20%			
Total	30	100.0%			

Table 2 Gender of the subjects					
Gender	No. of subjects	Percentage			
Female	6	20.0%			
Male	24	80.0%			
Total	30	100.0%			

 Table 3 Family history of the subjects

 Family history
 Na of

Family history	NO. OF subjects	Percentage
Negative	26	87%
Positive	4	13%
Total	30	100.0%

Chronicity	No. of Subjects	Percentage
<1 years	11	39%
1-5 years	15	54%
6-10 years	4	13%

Table	5	Aggravating season:	
1 4010	-	1 1661 at the season.	

Aggravating season	No. of subjects	Percentage
Rainy	8	26.6%
Summer	4	13.4%
Winter	18	60.0%
Total	30	100.0%

**Table 6** Distribution of patients according to Koshta

Koshta	No. of	Percentage
	subjects	
Mrudu	4	13%
Madhyama	14	47%
Krura	12	40%

#### **Table 7** Site of involvement on the body

Site of involvement	No. of subjects	Percentage
Extremities	5	17%
Scalp	5	17%
Scalp &	5	17%
extremities		
Trunk &	2	6%
extremities		
Whole body	13	43%

Mandala: Result in both Groups A,group –B have shown significant results,hence on comparative analysis p value 0.0281 shows statistically significant difference between 2 groups.

Kandu: Result in both Groups A,group –B have shown highly significant results, hence on comparative analysis p value 0.086 shows statistically significant difference between 2 groups.

Matsyashakalopam: Result in both Groups A,group – B have shown highly significant results, hence on comparative analysis p value 0.0030 shows statistically significant difference between 2 groups.



S.No	Parameter	Group	Mean	SD	SE	P Value	Result
1	Mandala	А	0.93	0.46	0.12	0.0281	S
		В	1.33	0.49	0.13		
2	Kandu	А	1.33	0.49	0.13	0.086	H.S
		В	1.80	0.41	0.11		
3	Matsya-	А	1.53	0.52	0.13	0.0030	H.S
	shakalopam	В	2.27	0.70	0.18		
4	Pasi score	А	5.73	4.7666	1.2307	0.0577	N.S
		В	10.97	9.0837	2.3454		

Table 8 Group A and Group-B comparative analysis

Pasiscore: Result in both Groups A,group – B have shown same results,hence on comparative analysis p value 0.0577 shows statistically significant difference between 2 groups.

 Table 9 Diagram showing overall effect:

	GOOD	MODERATE	MILD	POOR
Group	0	7	8	0
-A				
Group	4	10	1	0
-B				

# RESULTS

After cross checking, the data was analysed by unpaired t-test a p value of <0.001 was considered as the level of statistical significance.

In group A *Mandala* have got relief in 75.5 % of patients, while *kandu &matsya shakalopam* have got relief in 63.8%, 63.8% of patients respectively.

In Group B *Mandala* have got relief in 90.9% of patients, while *kandu & matsya shakalopam* have got relief in 90.9%,88.5% of patients respectively.

In Group A 75.5 % relief was observed in *Mandala*, In Group B 90.9 % relief was

observed.Hence group B provided stastistically siginificant results at the level of p <0.0001 .Hence, group B provided better relief than group A therapy in *Mandala*.

In Group A 63.8 % relief was observed in Kandu, in Group B 90.9 % relief was observed.Hence, group В provided stastistically significant results at the level of p <0.0001 .Hence, group B provided better relief than group A therapy in *Kandu*. In Group A 63.8 % relief was observed in Matsyashakalopam, In Group B 88.5 % relief was observed. Hence group B provided stastistically significant results at the level of p <0.0001 .Hence, group B provided better relief than group A therapy in Mandala.

In Group A, there is highly significant effect on PASI SCORE with p value 0.0004, on other hand in Group B ,is also highly significant with p value 0.0004. In group A: 0% of patients gained good results, 47% of patients gained moderate and 53% of patients gained mild results.

In group B : 27 % of patients gained good results, 67% of patients gained moderate results, 6% of patients gained mild results and 0% of patients gained poor results.

# DISCUSSION

Main objective of this study was to evaluate efficacy of *shodhana* followed by *Shamana Snehapana*. For this purpose one group was given only *virechana karma*, other with *Virechana* followed by *Shamana snehapana* group B were effectively benefited in reduction of symptoms of *Ekakushta*.

*Citrakadi vati*<sup>5</sup> possessing *agni deepana* property thereby it restores the *agni* and checks the formation of *ama*. It is also having *pachana* property which helps in digesting already formed *ama*.

Ghrita is Vatapitta hara& by its samskara it also acts as kaphahara & Kushta is ratapradoshaja .Ghrita act as pittahara & raktashodhaka. As Kushta is shakagataroga, requires repeated shodhana, shodhana snehapana with ghrtam for *g0* doshautkleshana. In vishrama kala abhyanga and swedana helps in bringing shakhagata dosas to koshta along with swedana karma which is essential prior to

shodhana karma.Trivrutadi modaka forvirechana as trivrut is sukha virechana and indicated in kushta chikitsa by Charaka, administered for both groups for virechana. Brahmi ghritam is mentioned in kushta chikitsa, so in this study it is used for shamana snehapana purposes. Brahmi ghritam posses mainly tikta kashaya rasa, which are beneficial to pacify the kushta.As ghritam is having twakprasada kara, krimihara and varnya thereby acts as kushtahara.

# PROBABLE MODE OF ACTION

Go ghrtam as shodhanaga snehapana: Charaka mentioned karmukata of shodhana snehapana that by Vruddi (increasing) Vishyandana (dissolving) Paka (digesting) Srotomukhavishodhana (cleaning the orifice of srotas) &Vayu nigrahana the morbid doshas may be brought back from srotas to  $koshta^{6}$ .

Trivrtchurna, Pathya, Dhatri, Urubuka (castor seeds) are the ingredients in Trivruttadi modaka. Eranda is Rechana, Haritakiis Anulomana<sup>7</sup>, Trivrut is sukha virechaka<sup>8</sup> possessing properties like laghu, ruksha, tikshna, ushnavirya. Due to Teekshnaguna the dosha vilayana takes place in the srotas by the chedana, bhedana actions. Sukshma guna allows entering into minute srotas of body. The Vikasi guna

separates the accumulated doshas from *dhatus*, these properties helps in bringing the doshas to koshta and also eliminates from koshta. Virechana drug having predominance of Prithvi & Apa mahabhutas and *adhobagahara prabhava*<sup>9</sup>. These drugs soften the compactness of the dosas and disintegrate the larger molecules to smaller Then eliminates through once. the adhobhaga of body i.e., guda and then mala, pitta, kapha and vata are excreted by virechana karma.Virechana yoga gets absorbed and due to veerya, it reaches to hrudaya, then dhamanis and thereafter it reaches to sthula and anusrota sof body. The vyavayi guna, drug is responsible for quick Then vikasi guna causes absorption. softening and loosening of the bond by dhatu (shaitilya karma). Due to ushna guna, the dosha sanghata (compactness) is disintegrated (vishyandhana). Action of teeksha guna is to break the mala and dosha in microform.

Brahmi ghrita as Shamanasnehapana: Acharya Charaka emphasized the role of shaman snehapana that if properly administered alleviated all the ailments instantaneously. It pacifies the aggravated doshas without expelling them and brings them back to their normal state, pervades all the system of the body, strengthens and rejuvenates the body, sense organs, and mind. The action of *shamanasnehapana*is entirely at the time of administration *sneha.Brahmi ghrita* is given during *annakala*<sup>10</sup>, when patient is having good appetite, gets digested easily without adhering to the *srotases*. This *sneha* spreads all over the body gain access into the *sukshma rasayanis* and reaches the site of vitiated *doshas* by its virtue of *sukshmaguna*. After reaching the site of vitiation it pacifies the *doshas* by its *tikta* and *kashaya rasa* qualities of brahmi. *Charaka* has used the term *sarva marganusarini* to explain this particular action of *shaman sneha*.

*Twacha* is *vatasthana* as does *indriya uttejakakarma*, the basic pathology of Psoriasis is increased epidermopoesis which may be taken as *atipravrutti* caused due to vitiated *dosha*. This *ghrita* may reach up to stem cells present in stratum basale and may reduce the proliferation rate by acting as *vatashamaka*.

# CONCLUSION

*Virechana karma* is biopurification measure commonly applicable in general practices as it is easy to administrate. As *virechana* can be indicated in *pitta pradhanavyadhis*, *raktapradoshaja vikaras*, *vata* associated



*kapha* associated *tridoshaja* and other types of *vyadhis*.

*Ekakushta* is *vatakaphaja raktapradoshaja vyadhi* is one among *kshudra kushta* and it bears great resemblance with psoriasis.

Based on observations and results made in the study the following conclusions can be drawn, *Virechana karma* followed by *shamanasnehapana* is highly effective in the reduction of symptomolgy of *ekakushta*.

*Virechana karma* is also highly effective when performed in efficient manner.

*Virechana Karma* helps to control the epidermal cell cycle time there by reducing the recurrent rates.

The reduction of scaling, itching, erythema found in both the groups.

*Brahmighrita* is highly effective in *ekakushta* due to its *kandughna* property. *Tridosha shamana*.

Prognosis of *Kushta* ranges from *Krichra* sadya to yapya for multiple reasons. Shodhana plays important role in management of psoriasis by removal of *kupita doshas* from their *moola sthana* and helps in controlling symptoms of prevents the relapse.

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