

# Anti-Oxidant Activity perspectives in Rasayana Karma

Sushama B Bhuvad, K Nishteswar



## Abstract:

*Acharya* Charaka stated about two types of medicine, one which promotes resistance to the body and another which cures the diseases. *Rasayana* and *Vajikarana* therapies play a key role in achieving these goals. The main aim of *Rasayana* therapy is to promote formation of *Ojasa* or resistance which in modern terminology can be called as promoting the strength of immune system. In the present study, review of the *Rasayana* drugs had been made from *Rasayanachikitsa* of Ayurveda classics. They are furnished on the basis of definition of *Rasayana* stated by *Acharya* Bhavamishra. There are total 158 herbal *Rasayana* drugs proven for their antioxidant activity and are categorized according to their actions. A total of 12 activities were found to be common in majority of drugs i.e. *Vrishya*, *Chakshushya*, *Brihmana*, *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Keshya*, *Swarya*, *Hridya*, *Balya*, *Medhya*- *Smritida* and *Jeevaniya*. Some of the activities like *Vrishya*, *Hridya*, *Medhya*, *Deepana* and *Pachana* can be scientifically validated. But other activities like *Chakshushya*, *Keshya*, *Swarya* require proper scientific method of evaluation.

**Key words:** Antioxidant activity, *Rasayana* Karma, Herbal drugs

## Introduction:

There are many misconceptions regarding cure or prevention of disease. It can be thought that all the diseases can be prevented by immunization or by any physico-chemical methods or else the health will be automatically promoted if proper nutrition is given. Modern scientists feel that one cannot improve health of the person more than what is genetically determined for him. However, it can be contradicted by research of Linus Pauling. Pauling's promotion of large doses of vitamins for everything from the common cold to cancer has often gone beyond the available evidence. However, in more recent years, re-evaluations of Pauling's work have shown that dietary supplementation with antioxidants such as vitamin C can have significant beneficial effects on health. Pauling's ideas about molecular balance and health are increasingly important to a health-conscious public, as well as to a growing number of health professionals [1].

*Rasayana* is considered as one of the *Angas* (part) of the *Ashtanga* Ayurveda. *Acharya* Charaka had described *Rasayanachikitsa* to fulfill the aim of the Ayurveda i.e. *Swasthasya Swasthya Rakshanam*. *Rasayana* drugs acts by preventing the old age and diseases in the healthy person. E.g *Haritaki*, *Guggulu* and *Shilajatu* [2]. *Acharya* Sushruta quoted about *Rasayana* as the drug having potential for *Vayasthapana* (Anti-

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ageing), *Ayushyakara* (Invigorating), *Medhya* (Memory booster), *Balakara* (Strength promoting) and *Rogahara* (cure of disease) activities [3]. *Acharya* Bhavamishra defines *Rasayana* as the medicine which prevents old age, cures diseases, acts as *Vayasthapana* (retards ageing), *Chakshushya* (eye tonic), *Brihmaneeya* (increases bulkiness of the body) and *Vrishya* (aphrodisiac) [4].

On scientific basis, *Rasayana Karma* can be analogous with Anti-oxidant, Anti-ageing, Adaptogenic, Nootropic and cognitive, immunomodulatory activities. The anti-oxidant agent decreases the cell destruction activity of free radical and promotes cell longevity. Adaptogenic drugs help to adopt the body for various types of stress (environmental, physical, mental etc.). The drugs supplements, nutraceuticals and functional foods that enhance attention, control and memory are called as cognitive enhancers. Immunomodulatory drugs modulate the immune system. Anti-ageing drugs slow down the ageing process in the body.

By taking into considerations the different views about the definition of *Rasayana*, the review of the drugs was done considering 11 activities i.e. *Vrishya*, *Chakshushya*, *Brihmana*, *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Keshya*, *Swarya*, *Hridya*, *Balya*, *Medhya*- *Smritida*, *Jeevaniya* with regard to *Rasayana* activity.

#### Material and Method:

*Rasayana* drugs were compiled from the Charaka samhita, Sushruta samhita, Ashtanga hridaya, Ashtanga samgraha, Harita samita, Bhavaprakasha, Sarangadhara, and Gadanigraha. Drugs were identified with the help of commentaries of these classical texts, and "Glossary of Vegetable drug in Bruhatrayi" by Thakur Balawant Singh. The actions of drugs are compiled from Bhavaprakasha nighatu, Kaiyadeva nighantu, Raja nighantu and Rasatarangini. The research activities reported about these drugs has been collected from 'Selection of Prime Ayurvedic Plant Drugs' by Sukh Dev as well as relevant articles have been downloaded from Google scholar.

#### Observation and Result:

Upon screening the above mentioned Ayurvedic compendia a total of 158 drugs possessed *Rasayana* property which were categorized according their actions. In total 20 drugs having *Rasayana* karma, 29 drugs are having *Vrishya* karma, 12 are

*Chakshushya* drugs, 11 drugs are having *Brihmana Karma*, 29 are *Balya* drugs, 15 are *Medhya* drugs and 4 are *Jeevaniya* drugs. Apart from these actions, other actions like *Deepana* (Digestive stimulant), *Pachana* (promotes digestion), *Keshya* (Hair tonic), *Swarya* (beneficial to voice) and *Hridya* (Cardioprotective) are also found to be attributed to these drugs.(see the tabulations)

There are 12 drugs mentioned in *Rasayana chikitsa* which possess *Chakshushya* property.

1. *Ajaaji*,
2. *Haritaki*,
3. *Draksha*,
4. *Lodhra*,
5. *Madhuka*,
6. *Mudgaparni*,
7. *Lashuna*,
8. *Mudga*,
9. *Nimbapatra*,
10. *Nirgundi*,
11. *Shatavari*,
12. *Aparajita*

*Rasayana* drugs attributed with *Deepaniya* activity are as follows:

1. *Agnimantha*
2. *Ajaji*
3. *Ajamoda*
4. *Apamarga*
5. *Ativisha*
6. *Bijapura*
7. *Bhallataka*
8. *Bharangi*
9. *Danti*
10. *Dhanyaka*
11. *Ela*
12. *Gokshura*
13. *Guduchi*
14. *Guggulu*
15. *Haritaki*
16. *Hribera*
17. *Indrayava*
18. *Krishnajeeraka*
19. *Kantakari*
20. *Karchoora*
21. *Katuki*
22. *Maricha*
23. *Musta*
24. *Patola*
25. *Pippali*
26. *Saptaparna*
27. *Shatavari*

28. *Shyonaka*
29. *Surana*
30. *Surasa*
31. *Vacha*
32. *Varahi*
33. *Vidanga*
34. *Yava*
35. *Yavani*

The drugs attributed with *Pachana* property are as follows:

1. *Apamarga*
2. *Ativisha*
3. *Bharangi*
4. *Bilva*
5. *Brihati*
6. *Chitraka*
7. *Dhanyaka*
8. *Hingu*
9. *Hribera*
10. *Krishnajeeraka*
11. *Kantakari*
12. *Lashuna*
13. *Musta*
14. *Nagakesara*
15. *Ushira*
16. *Patola*
17. *Shunthi*
18. *Yavani*

In total 11 drugs having *Rasayana* along with *Brihmana* property. They are listed below: *Bhallataka*

*Kadali*  
*Kapikachhu*  
*Lashuna*  
*Madhooka*  
*Masha*  
*Mushali*  
*Shaali*  
*Shalaparni*  
*Talamuli*

*Vidari* There are total 10 *Rasayana* drugs attributed with *Keshya* property and they are as follows: *Asana*

*Bakuchi*  
*Bhallataka*  
*Bhringaraja*  
*Bibhitaka*  
*Gambhari*  
*Krishna Tila*  
*Madhuka*  
*Nilika*  
*Nirgundi*

In total seven drugs are possessing *Kanthya* property, they are mentioned below:

*Guggulu*  
*Kakamachi*  
*Madhuka*  
*Shali*

*Shunthi*

*Vasa*

*Yava*

In total 29 drugs listed for their *Rasayana* and *Balya* activity. And they are as follows:

*Ajaji*  
*Ajamoda*  
*Ashwagandha*  
*Atibala*  
*Bala*  
*Bhringaraja*  
*Bilva*  
*Guduchi*  
*Guggulu*  
*Kapikachu*  
*Kharjura*  
*Krishnajeeraka*  
*Krishnatila*  
*Lashuna*  
*Madhooka*  
*Madhuka*  
*Mahashatavari*  
*Masha*  
*Mashaparni*  
*Nagabala*  
*Palandu*  
*Priyangu*  
*Shali*  
*Shankhpushpi*  
*Shatavari*  
*Tugakshiri*  
*Varahi*  
*Vidari*  
*Yava*

Chakrapani interprets that the word '*Jivaniya*' means '*Ayu*' and the drug/diet that it *Hitakara* (Conductive for sustenance of life) is *Jivaniyanam* [56]. Bhadanta Nagarjuna described that *Jivaniya* drug usually constituted by *Prithvi* and *Jalamahabhuta*. Doctrine of Ayurvedic physiology attributed *Jivanam* as main *Karma* of *Rakta dhatu*. Basing on this concept, the mode of action of *Jivaniya* drugs can be explained on *Raktadhatu*. Site of action (*Adhikarana*) of *Jivaniya* drugs usually is *Raktadhatu* and the drugs may help to improve the total constituents of *Rakta*. There are only 4 drugs namely *Haritaki*, *Varahi*, *vidari* and *Kshiravidari* attributed for their *Rasayana* and *Jeevaniya* property.

#### Discussion:

In the Ayurvedic pharmacology, *Rasayana*

Karma may include in total 11 activities which are discussed sequentially as according to modern pharmacology, *Rasayana Karma* may be correlated with antioxidant, adaptogenic, anti-stress, anti-ageing activities etc.

The part of activity of *Rasayana Karma* may be interpreted with antioxidant activity or free radical scavenging activity. Antioxidants are reducing agents, and limit oxidative damage to biological structures by passivating them from free radicals. Free radicals accumulate in the cell as the age progresses. They are highly unstable and reactive in nature and cause oxidative chain reaction. The free radical oxidation moves from molecule to molecule, cell to cell and causes immense damage to human body [57]. Among 20 drugs, 18 are already reported for their antioxidant activity. *Bakuchi* and *Mahashatavari* are yet to be validated for their antioxidant or free radical scavenging activity. (Table 1) Drugs like *Shatavari*, *Ashwagandha*, *Mushali* increases libido and may be called as *Vajikara* or *Vrishya dravya*. About the mode of action aphrodisiac drugs Bhavamishra states that these drugs act by their *Prabhava* (specific potency) just like *Virechana dravyas* (Purgative drugs). E.g. *Dugdha*, *Masha*, *Bhallataka* and *Amalaki* are said to be producer and expellers of *Shukra* (Semen) [58]. Among the 29 drugs, 11 drugs like *Pippali*, *Shankpushi*, *Shali* are not validated for their aphrodisiac activity though they possess *Vrishya* property. According to modern phytochemistry, flavonoids and others phenolics compounds; alkaloids, xanthins and others amines; and saponins may responsible for the aphrodisiac activity [59]. These drugs improve sexual behavior, spermatogenesis; increase sperm count and testosterone level.

Some drugs like *Krishnajeerka*, *Padma* seed and *Patola* seed show anti-fertility activity. The use of anti-fertility agent or Contraceptive pills in developing countries is estimated to have decreased the number of maternal deaths by 40% (about 270,000 deaths prevented in 2008) and could prevent 70% of deaths if the full demand for birth control were met [60]. These benefits are achieved by reducing the number of unplanned pregnancies that subsequently result in unsafe abortions and by preventing pregnancies in those at high risk, which ultimately

result in improvement or increase in life span of human being. (Table 2)

It is generally stated that *Hridya* refers to group of drug which promotes the strength of the heart [61]. But Gangadhar, commentator on Charaka samhita, expressed it as the drugs which can be good for mind or which also act at psychic level [62]. Mostly *Amlarasa* is attributed with *Hridya karma*. There are 15 drugs, reported for their antioxidant activity and possess *Hridya* activity too. Among them only 5 drugs are proven for their cardioprotective activity. (Table 3)

A drug which increases the *Budhhi* (intelligence) is known as *Medhya* [63]. This word is interpreted as intellect promoting or brain tonic by *Acharya* Priyavrat Sharma [64]. *Acharya* Nagarjuna opines that *Medhya Karma* may be attributed to *Prabhava* [65]. *Medha* faculty includes power of acquisition, retention and recollection (memory). There are 10 drugs, reported for their nootropic and cognitive, anti-amnesic activities. (Table 4)

The drug which is good to eye sight is called as *Chakshushya*. *Pitta (Alochaka pitta)* does the function of maintenance of eye sight and *Kapha* is responsible to strengthen the eye. Therefore vitiation of *Pitta* and *Kapha Dosha* can cause various eye diseases. The drugs which alleviate vitiation of *Kapha* and *Pitta Dosha* and strengthen the eye sight should be administered. The drugs containing tannins, flavonoids, Vit.A, B, C, and zinc contents can improve the eye sight. Tannin containing drugs like *Haritaki* can be used in inflammatory conditions e.g. conjunctivitis etc., flavonoids can perform antioxidant activity and drugs like *Cuminum cyminum* which contains zinc can help in normal functioning of lens, retina to stop diseases like night blindness and macular degeneration [66].

In total 35 drugs having *Rasayana* as well as *Deepana* property. *Deepana* drugs stimulate *Agni* (digestive fire). *Agni* can be *Jatharagni*, *Dhatvagni* or *Bhutagni*. Hence, to exercise *Rasayana* property, the drug should act not only on *Jatharagni* but also at *Dhatvagni* level to generate normal *dhatu*s. Sushruta considered *Agni* predominant dravya as *Deepaniya* [67]. Therefore drugs having *Amla* and *Katurasa* may possess *Deepaniya* activity e.g. *Bijapuraka*, *Ajaji*, *ajamoda*, *Yavani*, *Vidanga*, *Maricha* etc.



The drug which digests *Ama* but does not directly stimulate the *Agni* is *Pachaniya* [68]. Arunadatta quoted that which increases the digestive power of *Agni* is known as *Pachana*. The drugs should be of *Akasha*, *Vayu* and *Agni mahabhuta* dominance. Therefore *Tikta*, *Katu Rasa* can cause digestion of undigested material due to their *Sukshma* (Subtle), *Tikshna* (Penetrating), *Ushna* (Hot), *Laghu* (easy to digest) properties. There are in total 18 drugs mentioned in *Rasayana chikitsa* having *Pachana* property too.

Measures that increases bulkiness of the body is referred as *Brihmaneeya*. In a way *Brihmaneeya* drug promotes body weight and it possess the *Gunas* like *Guru*, *Mridu*, *Snigdha*, *Sandra*, *Sthula*, *Picchila*, *Manda*, *sthira* and *Shlakshna* [69]. *Brihmaneeya Dravyas* are mainly constituted by *Prithvi mahabhuta*. Sushruta opines that *Brihmaneeya* drug is constituted by *Prithvi* and *Jala Mahabhutas* [70]. Site of action of *Brihmaneeya* drugs is predominantly on *Mamsadhatu* and if it happens to be *Kaphakara* drugs it may exert its action on rests of the *dhatu*s like *Rasa*, *Meda*, *Majja* and *Shukradhatu*.

*Keshya* drugs act to fulfill both the purposes i.e. Growth of hairs and color of the hair. Loss of the hairs can occur in skin diseases like *Indralupta*, *Khalitya*, *Darunaka* and also due to endocrinal diseases like hypothyroidism. In such conditions, *Vata*, *Pitta*, *Kapha* as well as *Rakta* also get vitiated. Vitiating *Vata*, *Pitta* causes hair fall and *Kapha* causes obstruction at opening of hair follicle which further stops their growth. Therefore the drugs having *Ushna*, *Tikshna*, *Snigdha*, *Sukshma* attributes can be administered. E.g. *Asana*, *Bibhitaka*, *Bhallataka*, *Nirgundi*. Another burning problem i.e. greying of hairs at early age can be overcome by natural coloring agents like *Bhringaraja*, *Nili*, *Krishna tila* etc. Site of action of the drug should be *Meda*, *Asthi dhatu* because *Kesha* is *mala* of *Asthi dhatu* [71].

The drug which acts on voice is called as *Kanthyas* or *Swaryas*. The diseases related to *Kantha* are mainly due to vitiation of *Vata*, *Kapha* and *Rakta doshas*. The drugs having *Tikta*, *Katu rasa*, *Ushna*, *Tikshna Guna* can be used in *Vata-kaphaja* conditions. E.g. *Shunthi*, *Guggulu*. But in case of vitiation of *Rakta*, drugs having *Sheeta* potency should be administered. E.g. *Vasa*, *Madhuka*. Another feature of

these drugs is to improve voice. The drug should act on *Majja Dhatu* for improvisation of voice. As “*Snigdha Swara*” and “*Prasanna Swara*” are symptoms of *Majjadhatu*sara and *Shukradhatu*sara individuals respectively [72]. Ultimately these drugs show their action up to *Shukra dhatu* therefore they would act as *Rasayana*.

*Kapha* is normal state imparts *Bala* [73] (strength) to the body which is also referred by the name *Shaishmika ojas*. *Bala* is measured by physical exercise. *Bala* is also interpreted as immunity. Five *dhatu*s are belonging to *Kapha varga* i.e. *Rasa*, *Mamsa*, *Meda*, *Majja* and *Shukra* may serve as site for action of *Balya* drugs. *Balya dravyas* are often interpreted as tonics and strength promoters or immune enhancers. Charaka samhita's Vidyotini commentator classifies *Balya* drugs into two groups 1. General drugs- promote the general strength. E.g. *Kapikachhu*, *Shatavari*. 2. Specific drugs- Certain drugs specifically increase the strength of the organ or toned up the organ. E.g. *Hridaya- Arjuna*; *Amashaya- Shatavari*; *Nadisamsthana- Lashuna*, *Garbha sthapana: Kapikachhu*, *Vidari* etc.

### Conclusion:

In total 158 herbal drugs are enumerated from the *Rasayana* therapy basing on eight important *Samhita* and *Yogasamgraha granthas* and classified them further into different groups like *Vrishya*, *Chakshushya*, *Brihamana* etc. basing on the definition furnished by Bhavamishra to *Rasayana Karma*. A critical analysis to data clearly indicates that maximum number of drugs is attributed with *Deepana*, *Vrishya* and *Balya* activities. In total 142 drugs have exhibited antioxidant activity, which is preferred as one of the pharmacological expression of *Rasayana Karma*. It appears that *Rasayana Karma* is exhibited by influencing the *Agni* (*Jatharagni*, *Dhatwagni*, and *Bhutagni*) and *Bala* (contributed by *Kapha* with its five *dhatu*s namely *Rasa*, *Mamsa*, *Meda*, *Majja* and *Shukra*) simultaneously.

*Vrishya*, *Chakshushya*, *Brihamana*, *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Keshya*, *Swarya*, *Hridya*, *Balya*, *Medhya-Smritida*, *Jeevaniya* activities are attributed to drugs included in the *Rasayana* therapy. These can be categorized as General *Rasayana* like *Balya*, *Brihamana*, *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Jeevaniya*; and

specific organ wise Rasayana like *Keshya*, *Swarya*, *Hridya*, *Medhya*, *Smritida*, *Vrishya*, *Chakshushya*. Certain activities like *Hridya*, *Vrishya*, *Medhya* can be interpreted as Cardioprotective activity, Aphrodisiac, Nootropic and Cognitive activities respectively. But other activities like *Chakshushya*, *Keshya*, *Brihmana*, *Balya* etc. require methods to evaluate it scientifically. Degenerative changes in different organs due to oxidative stress may be controlled by *Rasayana* drugs with proven antioxidant activities.

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Table 1 showing list of drugs having Rasayana property with antioxidant activity				
No.	Rasayana	Botanical source	Part Used	Research study
1.	<i>Amalaki</i>	<i>Embolica officinalis</i> Gaertn.	Seed	Free radical scavenging activity by DPPH and reducing power method [5]
			Methanolic extract of Fruit	Anti-oxidant activity by DPPH radical, hydroxyl radical, Superoxide anion radical, Reducing power, inhibition capability of Fe
2.	<i>Asana</i>	<i>Pterocarpus marsupium</i> Roxb	Heartwood	Radical scavenging by DPPH reduction, Nitric oxide [6]
3.	<i>Bakuchi</i>	<i>Psoralea corylifolia</i> Linn	-	-
4.	<i>Bhringaraja</i>	<i>Eclipta alba</i> (Linn.) Hassk.	Methanolic extract of leaves	Radical scavenging by DPPH [7]
5.	<i>Brahmi</i>	<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> (Linn.) Penn.	Ethanollic extract of aerial part	Free radical scavenging by Nitric oxide, Superoxide radical, and reducing power [8]
6.	<i>Gambhari</i>	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb.	Ethanollic, ethyl acetate, petroleum ether extract of Fruit	Reducing power assay, Radical scavenging by DPPH [9]
7.	<i>Guduchi</i>	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i>	Five different extracts of leaves	Total reducing sugar, lipid peroxidation, DPPH & superoxide radical scavenging method [10]
8.	<i>Guggulu</i>	<i>Balsamodendron mukul</i> Hook. ex Stocks	Guggulu extract	Hydroxyl radical scavenging, lipid peroxidation inhibition activity [11]
9.	<i>Kshiravidari</i>	<i>Ipomoea digitata</i> Linn.	Methanolic extract of root	Nitric oxide, Total anti-oxidant activity [12]
10.	<i>Lashuna</i>	<i>Allium sativum</i> Linn	Ethanollic and aqueous extract of bulb	Radical scavenging by DPPH, Nitric oxide, Reducing power, Total phenolic content [13]
11.	<i>Mahashatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus adscendens</i> Roxb.	-	-
12.	<i>Mandookaparni</i>	<i>Centella asiatica</i> (Linn.) Urban	Ethanollic extract of leaves	Reducing potential, radical scavenging by DPPH [14]
13.	<i>Mushali</i>	<i>Asparagus adscendens</i> Roxb. <i>Chlorophytum arundinaceum</i> Baker	Methanolic extract of tuber	Ferrous ion chelating assay, Beta carotene bleaching assay, radical scavenging DPPH [15]
14.	<i>Pippali</i>	<i>Piper longum</i> Linn.	Extract of fruit	Total phenolic content, Radical scavenging by DPPH, ABTS [16]
15.	<i>Shalaparni</i>	<i>Desmodium gangeticum</i> DC	Total alcoholic extract	Superoxide dismutase, glutathione and catalase increases with lipid peroxide decrease [17]
16.	<i>Shankhapushpi</i>	<i>Convolvulus pluricaulis</i> Choisy.	Methanolic extract of whole plant	By DPPH method [18]
17.	<i>Shatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> willd	Root extract	Free radical by DPPH method [19]
18.	<i>Talamuli</i>	<i>Curculigo orchioides</i> Gaertn	Methanolic extract of rhizome	Lipid peroxidation, activity of antioxidant enzyme SOD, CAT, GPX, GRD [20]
19.	<i>Varahi</i>	<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i> Linn	Ethyl acetate extract of bulb	Scavenging activity by DPPH, ABTS, total phenolic content [21]
20.	<i>Vidari</i>	<i>Pueraria tuberosa</i> DC.	Tuber	ABTS assay, lipid peroxidation, superoxide, hydroxyl radical scavenging activity [22]

[SOD- Superoxide dismutase, CAT- catalase, GPX-Glutathione peroxidase, ABTS- 2,2'-azino-bis(3-ethylbenzothiazoline-6-sulphonic acid, DPPH- 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl, GRD- Glutathione reductase]

Table 2 showing list of drugs having *Rasayana vis a vis Vrishya* property

No.	Vrishya	Botanical source	Part used	Research activity
1.	<i>Ajaji</i>	<i>Cuminum cyminum</i> Linn.		--
2.	<i>Ajamoda</i>	<i>Trachyspermum roxburghianum</i> (DC.) Craib		--
3.	<i>Amalaki</i>	<i>Emblica officinalis</i> Gaertn	Fruit	Sexual behavior in <i>Drosophila melanogaster</i> [23]
4.	<i>Bhallataka</i>	<i>Semecarpus anacardium</i> Linn. f.	Ether, chloroform, ethanolic extract of Seed	Mounting behavior test, assessment of mating performance [24]
5.	<i>Bharadwaji</i>	<i>Gossypium herbaceum</i> Linn.	--	--
6.	<i>Draksha</i>	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> Linn.	--	--
7.	<i>Gambhari</i>	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb	--	--
8.	<i>Gokshura</i>	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> Linn.	Aqueous extract of Fruit	Sexual behavior, Testosterone level, sperm count [25]
9.	<i>Ikshu</i>	<i>Saccharum officinarum</i> Linn.	Stem	Policosanol/ PPG derived from sugarcane enhance sexual function [26]
10.	<i>Krishnajeeraka</i>	<i>Carum carvi</i> Linn.	Seed	Anti-fertility, Anti-oxidant, Adaptogenic, Nootropic activity [27]
11.	<i>Kadali</i>	<i>Musa paradisiaca</i> Linn	Aqueous extract of root	Stimulate testicular function and exhibit both androgenic and anabolic function [28]
12.	<i>Kapikachhu</i>	<i>Mucuna prurita</i> Hook.	Seed powder	Sixty infertile subjects treated with 5g/day seed powder of Kapikachhu improves sperm count and motility [29]
13.	<i>Kshirini</i>	<i>Euphorbia thymifolia</i> Linn	-	-
14.	<i>Lashuna</i>	<i>Allium sativum</i> Linn	Aqueous extract of rhizome	Significant increase in the weight of seminal vesicles and epididymis of male animals as compared to controls and the sperm count was significantly elevated [30]
15.	<i>Mahashatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus adscendens</i> Roxb	Root powder	It is used as Safed musali. More popular in industry for increasing sperm count and sexual behavior.
16.	<i>Mushali</i>	<i>Chlorophytum arundinaceum</i> Baker	Ethanolic extract of root & sapogenin isolates	Sexual behavior and spermatogenesis [31]
17.	<i>Padmakesara, Mrinala</i>	<i>Nelumbo nucifera</i> Gaertn.	Flower	Male sexual profile and testosterone level [32]
			Seed	Anti-fertility activity [33]
18.	<i>Palasha</i>	<i>Butea monosperma</i>	Methanolic extract of	The effect of Methanolic extract of <i>B.frondosa</i> treatment on sexual behavior of both young (5 month)

Table 2 continued - showing list of drugs having <i>Rasayana vis a vis Vrishya</i> property				
No.	Vrishya	Botanical source	Part used	Research activity
1.	<i>Patalagaarudi</i>	<i>Cocculus hirsutus</i> (Linn.) Diels	Methanolic extract of whole plant	The significant increase in the weight of reproductive organs is also indirectly supports the increase availability of androgens. Increased weight and high protein concentration of the testis indicates the enhancement of testicular growth [35]
2.	<i>Patola</i>	<i>Trichosanthes dioica</i> Roxb.	Seed	The roots also contain an abortifacient protein, trichosanthin, which is a ribosome-inactivating protein (RIP), a similar RIP, trichokirin, was also found in the seeds of <i>Trichosanthes</i> [36].
3.	<i>Pippali</i>	<i>Piper longum</i> Linn.		-
4.	<i>Prishniparni</i>	<i>Uraria picta</i> Desv.		-
5.	<i>Shaali</i>	<i>Oryza sativa</i> Linn.		-
6.	<i>Shankhapushpi</i>	<i>Convolvulus pluricaulis</i> Choisy		-
7.	<i>Shara</i>	<i>Saccharum munja</i> Roxb		-
8.	<i>Shunthi</i>	<i>Zingiber officinale</i> Rosc	Aqueous extract of rhizome	Androgenic activity [37]
9.	<i>Talamuli</i>	<i>Curculigo orchoides</i> Gaertn	Ethanollic extract of Rhizome	Sexual behavior and spermatogenesis in rats [38]
10.	<i>Tugakshiri</i>	<i>Bambusa bambos</i> (L.) Voss	Ethanollic extract of tender shoot	The number of spermatozoa in the caput and cauda epididymis was decreased with concomitant decrease in the motility of spermatozoa collected from the cauda epididymis. Also the weight of testes, epididymis, vas deferens and prostate were significantly decreased [39].
11.	<i>Vridhhdaru</i>	<i>Argyreia speciosa</i> Sweet.	Root, flower, leaves	Study was carried out on sexual behavior in rats [40].

Table 3 showing list of drugs having <i>Rasayana vis a vis Hridya</i> property				
No.	Hridya	Botanical Source	Part used	Experimental activity
1.	<i>Ajamoda</i>	<i>Trachyspermum roxburghianum</i> (DC.) Craib.	-	-
2.	<i>Bakuchi</i>	<i>Psoralea corylifolia</i> Linn.	Aqueous extract of whole plant	Cardioprotective activity, Serum levels of CK-MB, LDH and SGPT enzymes [41]
3.	<i>Bijapura</i>	<i>Citrus medica</i> Linn.	Ethanollic and aqueous extract of peel	ACE inhibitor activity [42]
4.	<i>Brihati</i>	<i>Solanum indicum</i> Linn		--
5.	<i>Chakramarda</i>	<i>Cassia tora</i> Linn.	Extract of leaves	Cardioprotective activity [43]
6.	<i>Katuki</i>	<i>Picrorhiza kurroa</i> Royle ex Benth	Root extract	Cardioprotective activity [44]
7.	<i>Kharjura</i>	<i>Phoenix dactylifera</i> Linn.		-
8.	<i>Mahashatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus adscendens</i> Roxb		-
9.	<i>Patalapushpa</i>	<i>Stereospermum personatum</i> (Hassk.) D. Chatterjee.		-
10.	<i>Patola</i>	<i>Trichosanthes dioica</i> Roxb		-
11.	<i>Shaileya</i>	<i>Parmelia perlata</i> (Huds.) Ach.		--
12.	<i>Shyonaka</i>	<i>Oroxylum indicum</i> Vent.		--
13.	<i>Surasa</i>	<i>Ocimum sanctum</i> Linn.	Extract of whole plant	The long term feeding of OS offers significant protection against isoproterenol-induced myocardial necrosis in Wistar rats through enhancement of endogenous antioxidant [45]
14.	<i>Vasa</i>	<i>Adhatoda vasica</i> Nees.		--
15.	<i>Yuthika</i>	<i>Jasminum auriculatum</i> Vahl		--



<b>Table 4 showing list of drugs having Rasayana vis a vis Medhya property</b>				
No.	Medhya, Smritida	Botanical source	Part used	Experimental activity
1.	<i>Ajaji</i>	<i>Cuminum cyminum</i> Linn.	Seed extract	The cognition was observed to be dose-dependent as determined by the acquisition, retention, and recovery in rats [46].
2.	<i>Gambhari</i>	<i>Gmelina arborea</i> Roxb.	Alcohol and aqueous Extract of fruit	Memory enhancing effect in electroshock induced amnesia in rats [47]
3.	<i>Haritaki</i>	<i>Terminalia chebula</i> Retz.	Ethanollic extract of fruit	Learning and memory capacity in albino rats [48]
4.	<i>Krishnajeeraka</i>	<i>Carum carvi</i> Linn.	Aqueous extract of seed	Nootropic activity [49]
5.	<i>Lashuna</i>	<i>Allium sativum</i> Linn.	-	-
6.	<i>Mahashatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus adscendens</i> Roxb.	-	-
7.	<i>Mahashravani</i>	<i>Sphaeranthus africanus</i> Linn	-	-
8.	<i>Mundi</i>	<i>Sphaeranthus indicus</i> Linn. (Also auct. non L.)	-	-
9.	<i>Shankhapushpi</i>	<i>Convolvulus pluricaulis</i> Choisy.	Ethanollic extract of whole plant	Learning and memory power in mice [50]
10.	<i>Shatavari</i>	<i>Asparagus racemosus</i> willd	Aqueous extract of root	Nootropic activity [51]
11.	<i>Aparajita</i>	<i>Clitoria ternatea</i> Linn.	Ethanollic extract of leaves	Neuroprotective and Nootropic activity [52]
12.	<i>Yava</i>	<i>Hordeum vulgare</i> Linn.	-	-
13.	<i>Brahmi</i>	<i>Bacopa monnieri</i> (Linn.) Penn	Methanollic extract of whole plant	Memory enhancing activity [53]
14.	<i>Mandookaparni</i>	<i>Centella asiatica</i> (Linn.) Urban	Aqueous, methanollic chloroform extracts of whole plant	Cognitive function [54]
15.	<i>Nirgundi</i>	<i>Vitex negundo</i> Linn	Extracts of whole plant	Anti-amnesic activity [55]