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Pharmacognostical and Phytochemical Evaluation of *VasadiKwatha*- An Ayurvedic Polyherbal Formulation

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Abstract

The woman isconsidered as one of the most essential factors for the continuity of the human race.WHO defines normalbirth as-spontaneous in onset, low-risk at the start of labour and remaining so throughout labour and delivery.*AcharyaCharaka*has used a new term '*PrasutiMaruta*' i.e.,the function of *ApanaVayu* (*PrasutiMaruta*) to expel the foetus. So, the *PrakrutaApana*and*VyanaVayu*are very much essential for *PrakrutaPrasava*. *VasadiKwatha* is an Ayurvedic poly herbalformulation used for *Basti* for normalization of these *Vayus*.The present work was carried out to standardize the finished product"*VasadiKwatha"*in terms ofits identity, quality and purity. Pharmacognostical and phyto-chemical observations revealed the specific characters of all active constituents used in the preparation. The pharmacognostical study revealedthe presence ofgroupof Stone cells,StarchgrainPitted vessel, Prismatic crystal,Starch grains;Corkfibers, Simple Trichome, Pitted stone cells and Scleroidesetc. Pharmaceutical analysis showed that the loss on drying value was 7.2 % w/w, Ash value 7.7% w/w, water soluble extraction 66%w/w,methanol soluble extraction 33.3%w/w, pH value 6.5, Particle size, Percentage of fine powder = 55.7%w/w,Percentage of very fine powder = 13.88 %w/wHPTLC finger printing profile of*VasadiKwatha*revealed 6 spots at 254nm and 4 spots on 366nm.

Keywords

VasadiKwatha, Basti, PrakrutaPrasava, Pharmacognosy

Greentree Group

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INTRODUCTION

"Woman is the originof theprogeny". In a pregnant woman, the *Prakruta*function of*Apana* and *VyanaVayus* are very much essential for normal delivery. At the time of parturition, if any one of it is vitiated, then it leads to *VilambitaPrasava*(Prolong labour*),* *MoodhaGarbha*(Obstructedlabour*)* etc. which convert the *Prasava* from normal to abnormal.In Ayurvedic literature, many drugs and procedures are mentioned to achieve *Prakrutaprasava*as a part of *GarbhiniParicharya.*

Basti is considered as best therapy in *Vatic* disorders &*Anulomana* of *Vata*. *ApanaVayu* plays an important role along with *VyanaVayu* for normal uterine function i.e. contraction and relaxation. Uterine muscles are involuntary muscles. *VyanaVayu*, which is situated in whole bodyit's functions are*Gati* (motion), *Akshepa* (contraction), *Prasarana* (relaxation) etc.When proper time of *Prasava* comes, the *VyanaVayu* stimulates the uterus for contraction and relaxation in the uterine muscles and due to its influence, *ApanaVayu* becomes active to expel the *Garbha* outside the *Garbhasaya*.

In the context of mechanism of normal labour, *AcharyaCharaka[ch.sha.6/24]*has used a new term "*PrasutiMaruta'* which may be correlated with combined and coordinated function of *Apana&vyanaVayu*especially for process of expulsion of foetus or*GarbhaNishkramana*. The function of *ApanaVayu*particularly is to expel the foetus, while*VyanaVayu* is to stimulate the myometrium of the uterus. So, in a pregnant woman, the *PrakrutaApana* and *VyanaVayus* are very much essential for conduct of normal delivery, for which*Acharyas* have instructed to give *Basti*.At the same time, for expulsion of foetus, the stretching of ligaments is very much essential, when the *Vayu* is in its normal direction and then the expulsion of foetus from the birth canal is very easy. *Basti*of*VasadiKwatha*is the best drug for *Vatanulomana*. Its normal function is expulsion of foetus through natural passage without any complication.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Collection, Identification and authentication of raw drugs

The raw drugs for the study were procured form the Pharmacy of Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar. The ingredients were identified and authenticated in the Pharmacognosy Institute for Post Graduate

Teaching & Research in Ayurveda, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar

Table 1 Ingredients of VasadiKwatha[*AcharyaPriyavatSharma*][2]

Sr.no.	***Name***	***Latin name***	**Part used**	**Proportion**
1	*Pippli*	*Piper longam*Linn.	Dry Fruit	*2*
2	*Pipplimoola*	*Piper longam*Linn.	Root	*2*
3	*Chavya*	*Piper retrofractum*Linn.	Root	*2*
4	*Chitraka*	*Plumbagozeylanicam*Vahl	Root	*2*
5	*Nagara*	*Zingiberofficinale*Rose	Rhizome	*2*
6	*Vasa*	*Adhatodavasica*Nees	Dry leaves	*5*
7	*Haritaki*	*Terminaliachebula*Retz.	Dry fruit	*10*

Method of Preparation of *VasadiKwatha*[*Sha.M.Kh.*2/1-2][3]

VasadiKwathaDravyas – 50gm

16 Part of water added (800ml)*VasadiKwathaDravyas*in amount of 50gm and 16parts of water (800ml) were added for *Kwatha then Shesha*-200ml of Kwatha

Pharmacognostical evaluation of ingredients of *VasadiKwatha*-

***Organoleptic study*:**

Individual powders were subjected for various sensory characters like colour,taste,odour,and touch were carefully noted**.**

Powder *microscopy*:

The powder of respective parts was taken on a glass slide covered with cover slip and observed under the Carl Zeiss microscope with stain (Phloroglucinol and Conc. HCl) and without stain, to study variouscharacteristics. Microphotographs were taken by using Carl Zeis Trin ocul armi cros cop eattached withacamera[4].

***Physicochemical study*:**

*VasadiKwatha*was analyzed by using qualitative and quantitative parameters at Pharmaceutical Chemistry Laboratory, Institute for Post Graduate Teaching & Research in Ayurveda, Gujarat Ayurved University, Jamnagar byusing variousstandard physico-chemical parameters such as Loss on drying, water soluble extract, alcohol soluble extract etc[5].

HPTLC(High Performance Thin Layer Chromatography)

Methanolic extract of *VasadiKawatha*compound was spotted on pre-coated silica gel GF CO254 Aluminium plate as 5 mm bands, 5 mm apart and 1 cm from the edge of the plates, by means of camage, linomate V sample applicator fitted with a 100 µL. Hamilton syringe was used as the mobile phase. After development,

densitometry scanning was performed with a camage TLC scanner III reflectance absorbance mode at 254 nm and 366 nm under control of win CATS software (V 1.2.1 manufactured by CAMAGE Switzerland).The slit dimensions were 6.00 x 0.45 mm and the scanning speed was 20 mm per second and microscopic evaluation separately to confirm the genuineness of all the raw drugs. Later after the preparation of formulation, pharmacognostical evaluation was carried out[12].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 2 Organoleptic characters of *VasadiKwatha*

Characters	Results
Colour	Greenish brown
Taste	Astringent followed by Katu rasa
Odour	Slightly Aromatically
Consistency on Touch	Coarse Powder

Microscopic Study[6-9]

Microscopic evaluation was conducted by dissolving powder of *VasadiKwatha*in the distilled water and studied under microscope for the presence of characteristics of ingredient drugs. The diagnostic character microscopically characters of individual powder are shown in PLATES1-14. *Pippali*have the contents of the group of stone cells,in *Pippalimoola*Starch grains and Pitted vessel, in *Chavya*Prismatic crystal and Pitted vessels in *Chitraka*, in *Shunthi*Starch grains,Cork fibres, in *Vasa* Simple Trichome, Pitted vessel and Compound starch, in *Haritaki* Pitted stone cells and Sclerides are present.(plate 1-14).All ingredients were identify under microscopy in the laboratory of pharmacognocy of IPGT&RA GAU Jamnagar.

Physicochemical tests

Table 3 Physicochemical analysis of *VasadiKwatha:*

No.	Practical name	*VasadiKwatha*
1.	Particle size	(a) Percentage of coarse powder = 70.67 % w/w (b) Percentage of moderately fine powder = 84.3% w/w (c) Percentage of fine powder = 55.7%w/w (d) Percentage of very fine powder = 13.88 %w/w
2.	Loss on drying (at 110^0C)	7.2 % w/w
3.	Ash Value	7.7 % w/w
4.	Water soluble extraction	66 % w/w
5.	Methanol soluble extraction	33.3%w/w
6.	pH value by pH meter	6.5

HPTLC Study

On analyzing under demonstrator at 254 nm the chromatogram showed 6 peaks and at 366nm 3 peaks. Three dimensional densitogram (3D) at 254 and 366nm shows comparative Rf value of sample with standard (Figure 1 and 2).

DISCUSSION

Pharmacognostical evaluation showed that the *VasadiKwatha*contains all the ingredients, which were observed in the microscopical characters. Phytochemical analysis showed that material gains no moisture during storage, so quality of the product is not affected.

Table 4 The findings of HPTLC at 366nm and 254nm UV light (Methanol Extract)

Wavelength	Sports	Rf Value
At 254 nm	6	0.03, 0.15, 0.20, 0.30, 0.92, 0.99
At 366 nm	3	0.03, 0.20, 0.92
Vaniline sulphuric acid (after spray)	3	0.03, 0.12, 0.94

Figure 1 Densitogram of *VasadiKwatha*at 254 and 366nm

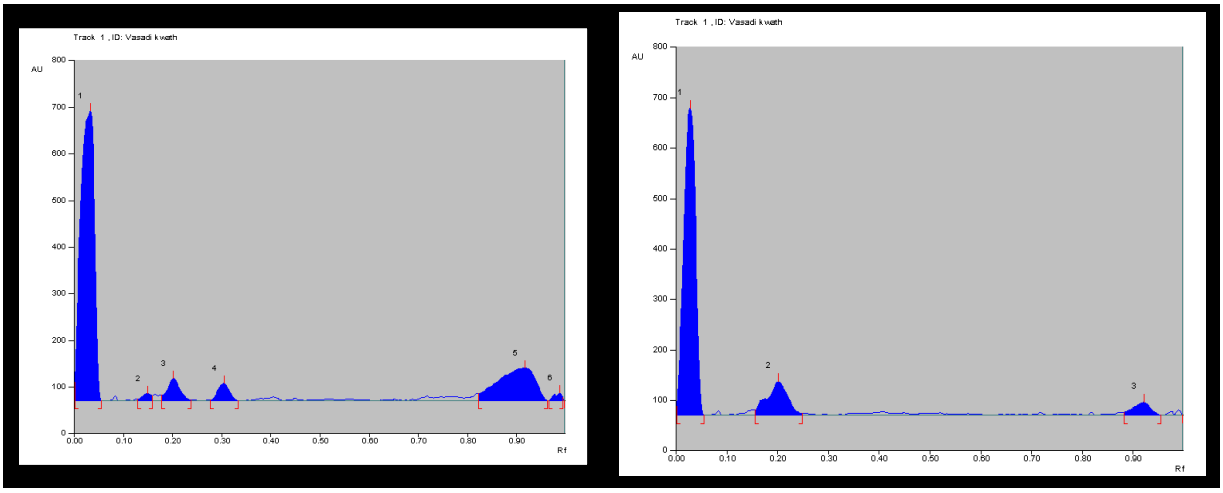
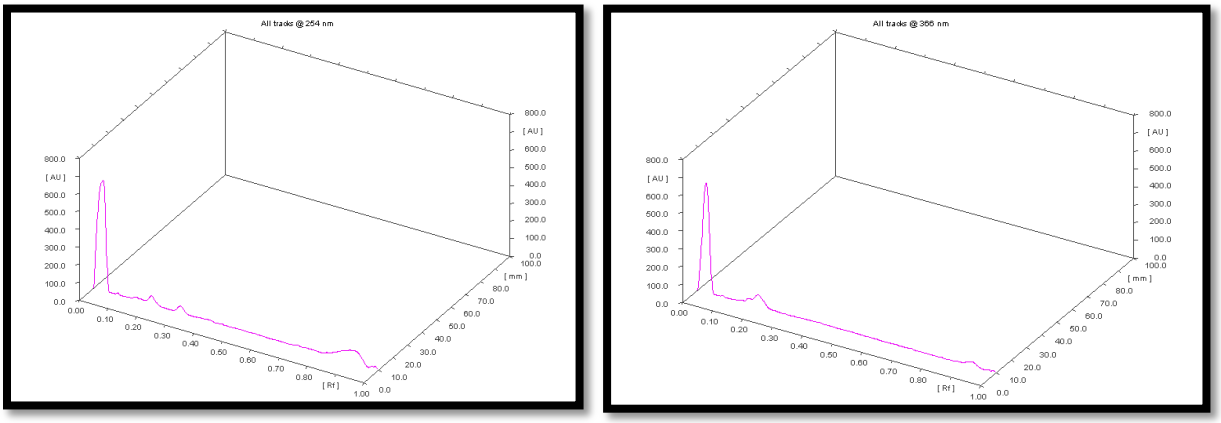


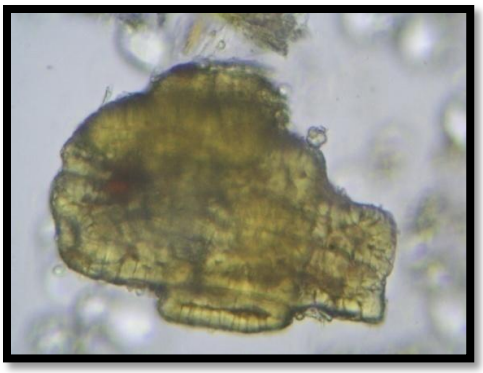
Figure 2 Three dimensional HPTLC (3D) Densitogram



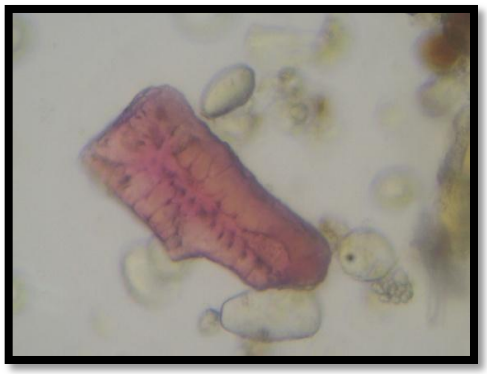
254nm **366nm**

The obtained values of these tests were found within normal limits which indicate good quality of product. All physico-chemical parameters of *VasadiKwatah*showed that loss on drying value was 7.2% w/w, Ash value 7.7% w/w,

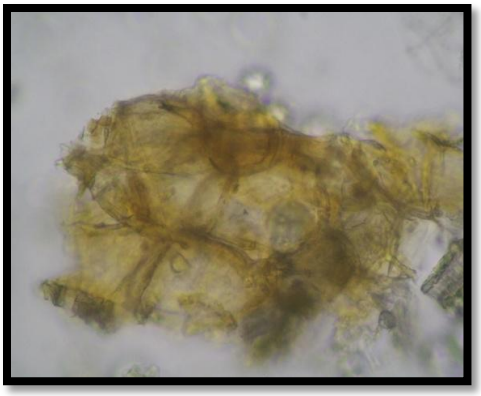
Plate no. 1-14



1.Group of stone cells of *Pippali*

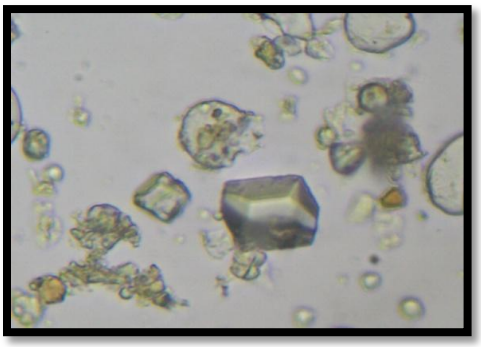


2.Stone cells of *Pippali*



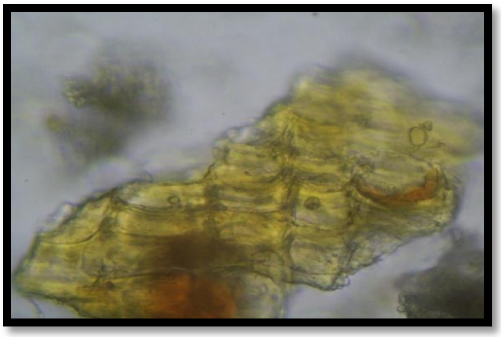
3. Cork cells of *Pippalimoola*

4. Pitted vessels of *Pipplaimoola*

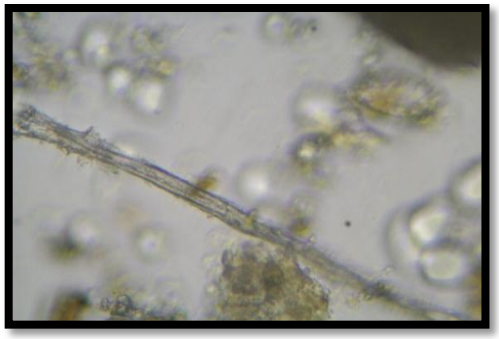


5. Prismatic crystals of *Chavya*

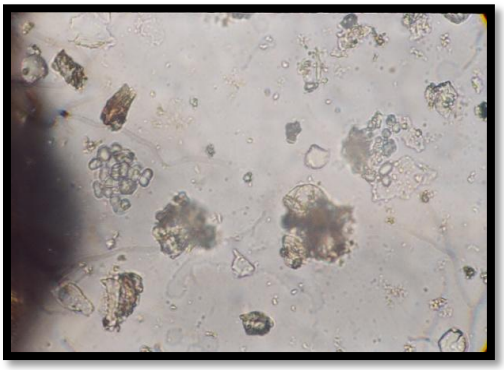
6. Scleroids of *Chavya*



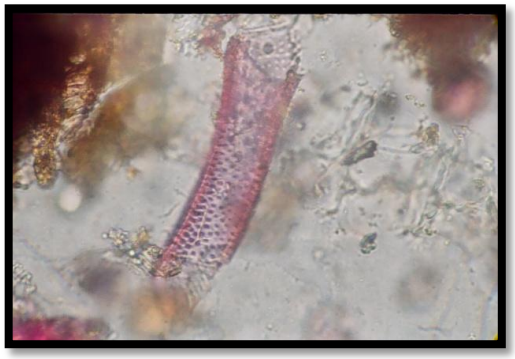
7. Cork cells of *Shunti*



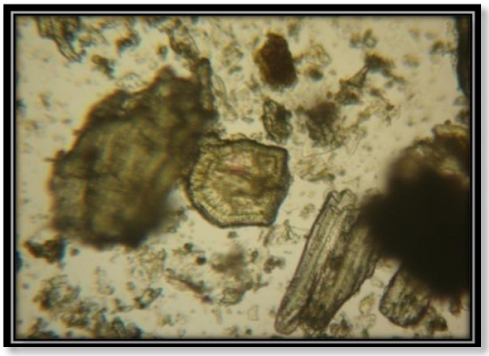
8. Fibres of *Shunti*



9. Coumpound starch of *Vasa*

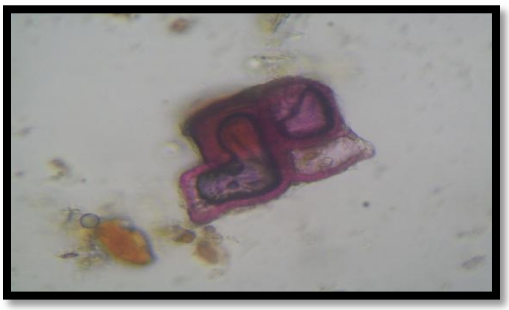


10.*Vasa*-Pitted vessel

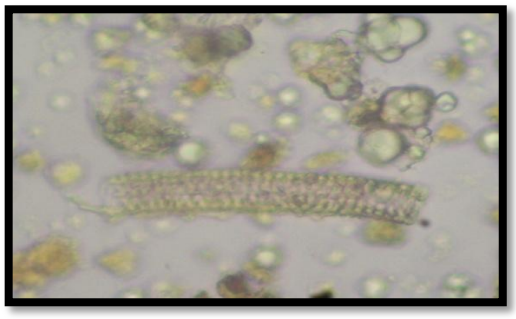


11. Pitted stone cells of *Haritaki*

12.Sclerides of *Haritaki*



13. Pitted stone cells of *Chitraka*



14. Pitted vessels of *Chitraka*

water soluble extraction 66%w/w,methanol soluble extraction 33.3%w/w, pH value 6.5, Particle size (a) Percentage of coarse powder = 70.67 % w/w,(b) Percentage of moderately fine powder = 84.3% w/w ,(c) Percentage of fine powder = 55.7%w/w,(d) Percentage of very fine powder = 13.88 %w/w. All tests are normal in limit and shows that the product is good in quality. HPTLC results showed that the 6 spots at 254 nm and 3 spots at 366 nm.

CONCLUSION

Pharmaogonostical and phytochemical evaluation of *VasadiKwatha*illustrated the specific characters of all ingredients which are used in the preparation. The pitted vessels, prismatic crystal,Sclerideset c. are observed in the ingredients. All the physicochemical parameters like acid value, saponification value, iodine value, refractive index, specific gravity analyzed are within the normal range. The result show the quality of the preparation is standard, further studies may be carried out on it on the basis of observations made and results of experimental studies, this study may be beneficial for future researchers and can be used as a reference standard in the further quality control researches.

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