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A Review on *Mruta Sanjivana Agada*

Author: Krishnapriya S¹

Co Authors: Gazala Hussain² and Anu Robert³

¹Dept of Agadatantra and Vyavahara Ayurveda Evam Vidhi Vaidyaka, Sri Sri College of Ayurvedic Science and Research, Bangalore, KA, India

²Dept. of Rasashastra & Bhaishajya Kalpana, Sri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara College of Ayurveda & Hospital, Hassan, KA, India

³Dept. of Shalya Tantra, KVG Ayurveda College, Sullia, KA, India

ABSTRACT

Sanjeevani or sanjivani is a Sanskrit word and is translated directly as the one that gives life or as life giving. Reference of mrutasanjivanaagada is found in Charaka samhita chikitsasthana vishachikitsa adhyaya. It is indicated in all types of visha, makes a person victorious, revives a person who is apparently dead because of poisoning and cures fever. It is a herbo- mineral formulation that has forty three ingredients. The mineral drugs are arsenic compounds that act antagonist to other animate poisons.

Key Words *Visha, Mrutasanjeevana, Herbo- Mineral Formulation*

Received 19th October 21 Accepted 28th February 22 Published 10th March 2022

INTRODUCTION

Mrutasanjeevanividya is described as the knowledge about mrutasanjeevani, a sacred knowledge which lends immortality and can rouse dead people to the life. The old saints and masters looked after this knowledge about timeless life in search for immortality. Today, there is still mystery and the search for sanjeevani, the plant that gives back life again. In Hindu mythology, sanjivani is described as a magical plant which can awaken dead people to the life or which lends immortality. The plant is described in the Ramayana, that during the war with ravana, lakshmana was wounded and was killed almost by indrajit. Hanuman was called, to bring sanjeevani

from the mountain dronagiri in the Himalayas to heal Lakshmana.

Mrutasanjeevanaagada is mentioned in Charakasamhitachikitsasthana. It is prepared with 43 drugs, in that, two drugs are mineral and 41 drugs are plant in origin. It is indicated in all types of visha, makes a person victorious, revives a person who is apparently dead because of poisoning and cures fever.

Method of preparation

All the drugs to be collected in pushyanaksatra (constellation) and should be taken in equal quantity. These drugs are to be triturated, till subhavitakshana (test of perfectness where a smooth paste is formed) appear and then rolled pills.¹

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Indications

If inhaled, applied externally as anointment, carried in the body as an amulet, smoked or kept in the house, it annihilates the afflictions by the evil spirits, poisons, germs, inauspiciousness, black

magic, fire, thunder bolt and enemies. It counteracts tridosha (poisons secretly given by women). It prevents untimely death, it endows a person with wealth and longevity².

Table 1 Ingredients and its properties³

Sl.no	Drug	Rasa	Guna	Veerya	Vipaka	Karma
1	Sprukka(<i>Trigonellacorniculata</i>)	Tikta (bitter)	Laghu (light), Ruksha (dry)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Hrudya (beneficial to heart), balakaraka (strengthens the body), jwaraghna (anti-pyretic), krimighna (anti-microbial)
2	Plava (<i>Cyperuscrisus</i>)	Kashaya (astringent), Katu (pungent), Tikta (bitter)	Laghu (light), Ruksha (dry)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Kaphapittashamaka (alleviates kapha and pitta dosha), anti-poisonous
3	Sthauneyaka	Tikta (bitter), Madhura (sweet)	Laghu(light), Teekshna (Sharp)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Hrudya (beneficial to heart)
4	Kantakari(<i>Solanumxanthocarpum</i>)	Katu (pungent), Tikta (bitter)	Laghu (light), Ruksha(dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Krimighna (anti-microbial)
5	Saileya(<i>Parmeliaperlata</i>)	Tikta(bitter), Kashaya(astringent)	Laghu(light) Snigdha (unctuous)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Katu(pungent)	Kaphapittashamaka (alleviates kapha and pitta dosha), Vishaghna(anti poisonous)
6	Ankola (<i>Alangiumsalvifolium</i>)	Tikta(bitter), Katu(pungent)	Laghu(light) Snigdha (unctuous)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Kaphapitahara
7	Tagara (<i>Valerianawallichii</i>)	Katu (pungent), Tikta (bitter)	Laghu (light), Snigdha (unctuous)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna (anti poisonous)
8	Dhyamaka (<i>Cymbopogonmartini</i>)	Tikta (bitter), Katu (pungent)	Teekshna (sharp)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Kaphapittashamaka (alleviates kapha and pitta dosha), krimihara (anti-microbial), hrudrogahara (beneficial in heart ailments)
9	Kumkuma (<i>Crocussativus</i>)	Katu(pungent), Tikta(bitter)	Snigdha (unctuous)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Tridosahara (alleviates all dosha), varnya, vranaropana (ulcer healing)
10	Mamsi(<i>Nardostachysjatamansi</i>)	Tikta (bitter), Kashaya (astringent)	Laghu (light), Snigdha (unctuous)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Tridosahara (alleviates all dosha)
11	Surasa (<i>OcimumSactum</i>)	Katu (pungent), Tikta(bitter),	Laghu(light)Ruksha(dry)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishagna (anti-poisonous) Hrudya (beneficial to heart)
12	Ela (<i>Elettariacardamomum</i>)	Katu (pungent), Madhura (sweet)	Laghu(light), Ruksha(dry)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Hrudya (beneficial to heart)
13	Haratala (Orpiment)	Katu (pungent),	Snigdha (unctuous),	Ushna (Hot)	-	Ojaskara, Balakara (strengthens body),

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		Tikta (bitter), Kashaya (astringent)		guru (heavy), Ushna			Mrutyuhara, (anti- poisonous) Vishahara
14	Khadira (<i>Acacia catechu</i>)	Tikta(bitter), (astringent)	Kashaya	Laghu(light) Ruksha(dry)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Kushtaghna (anti- pruritic), Jwaraghna(anti-pyretic)
15	Bruhati (<i>Solanum dicum</i>)	Katu (pungent), (bitter)	Tikta	Laghu (light) Ruksha (dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Sothahara (anti- inflammatory) Kushtaghna (useful in skin disease), kanduhara (anti- pruritic)
16	Sirisha (<i>Albizia lebeck</i>)	Kashaya (astringent), Tikta (bitter)		Laghu (light)	Sheeta (cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Visarpa (erysipelas), Vishaghna (anti- poisonous)
17	Striveshtaka (<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>)	Madhura (sweet), (bitter)	Tikta	Snigdha (unctuous)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Krimihara (anti- microbial), vedanapaha (analgesic)
18	Padma <i>carati</i> (<i>Nervilia aragoana</i>)	Katu (pungent), (bitter)	Tikta	Laghu (light)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishapaha (anti- poisonous), Shulaghni (analgesic), useful in kasa (cough), shwasa (asthma), mutrakrichra (urinary disorder)
19	Visala (<i>Citrullus olocynthis</i>)	Tikta (bitter), acrid		Laghu (light), Sara (mobile)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna (anti- poisonous), kushtaghna, vranahara (wound healing property)
20	Suradaru (<i>Cedrus odara</i>)	Tikta (bitter), (astringent)	Kashaya	Laghu (light) Ruksha (dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vedanasthapana (analgesic)
21	Padma kesara (<i>Nelumbo ucifera</i>)	Madhura (sweet), (bitter)	Tikta	Laghu (light), Snigdha (unctuous)	Sheeta (cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Medya (increases intellect)
22	Sarala (<i>Pinus roxburghii</i>)	Madhura (sweet), (bitter)	Tikta	Snigdha (unctuous)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Kaphavatahara (alleviates kapaha and pitta dosha)
23	Manahsila (Realgar)	Tikta (bitter), (pungent)	Katu	Snigdha (unctuous), Ushna (hot), Guru (heavy), Sara (mobile)	Ushna(hot in potency)	-	Rasayana (rejuvenation of body), Vishaghna (alexeterics), Varnakara (increases complexion)
24	Renuka(<i>Vit exnegundo</i>)	Tikta (bitter), (astringent)	Kashaya	Laghu (light) Ruksha(dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna (anti poisonous), Shothahara(anti- inflammatory)
25	Jati (<i>Jasminum grandiflorum</i>)	Tikta (bitter), (astringent)	Kashaya	Laghu (light) Snigdha (unctuous)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Tridosahara (alleviates all dosha)
26	Arka (<i>Calotropis gigantea</i>)	Katu (pungent), (bitter)	Tikta	Laghu (light), Ruksha (dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Krimihara (anti-microbial), Vranahara (ulcer healing)
27	Haridra (<i>Curcuma longa</i>)	Tikta (bitter), (astringent)	Kashaya	Laghu (light) Ruksha (dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna (anti-poisonous)
28	Daruharidra (<i>Berberis aristata</i>)	Tikta (bitter), (astringent)	Kashaya	Laghu (light), Ruksha (dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna (anti poisonous), Kushtaghna (useful in skin

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29	Hingu(<i>Ferula foetida</i>)	Tikta (bitter), acrid	Teekshna (sharp)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	disease), Kaphavatahara (alleviates kapha and vatadosha), Hrudya (beneficial to heart), jantughna (anti-microbial)
30	Pippali(<i>Piper longum</i>)	Katu (pungent)	Laghu (light), Ruksha(dry)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Madhura (sweet)	Kaphavatahara (alleviates kapha and vatadosha)
31	Laksha(<i>Laccifer lacca</i>)	Tikta(bitter), Kashaya(astringent)	Laghu(light), Snigdha (unctuous)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Madhura (sweet)	Pitta shamaka (alleviates pitta dosha), Varnya (increases complexion)
32	Hribera (<i>Plecthrant husvettiver oides</i>)	Tikta(bitter)	Ruksha(dry) Laghu(light)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Madhura (sweet)	Pittakaphahara (alleviates pitta and kaphadosha)
33	Mudgaparni (<i>Phaseolus trilobus</i>)	Madhura(sweet),	Laghu(light), Ruksha(dry)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Madhura (sweet)	Shothaghna (anti-inflammatory) Pittahara (alleviates pitta dosha)
34	Chandana(<i>Santalum album</i>)	Madhura (sweet), Tikta (bitter)	Laghu (light) Ruksha (dry)	Sheeta (cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Varnya (increases complexion)
35	Madhuka(<i>Madhuca longifolia</i>)	Madhura (sweet), Tikta (bitter), Kashaya(astringent)	Guru (heavy)	Sheeta (cold potency)		Vatapittahara (alleviates vata and pitta dosha), Vranaropana (ulcer healing), rasayana
36	Madana (<i>Xeromphis spinosa</i>)	Madhura(sweet),, Tikta(bitter)	Laghu(light), Ruksha(dry)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu(pungent)	Vranaropana (ulcer healing)
37	Sinduvara (<i>Vitex trifolia</i>)	Katu (pungent), Tikta(bitter)	Laghu (light)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Kushtaghna Kandughna(anti- pruritic), shulahrut (analgesic)
38	Aragwadha (<i>Cassia fistula</i>)	Madhura (sweet)	Mrudu (soft), Snigdha (unctuous)	Sheeta (cold potency)	Madhura (sweet)	Hrudya(beneficial to heart), Jwaraghna (anti-pyretic)
39	Lodra (<i>Symplocos racemosa</i>)	Kashaya(astringent), Tikta(bitter)	Laghu(light), Ruksha(dry)	Sheeta(cold potency)	Katu	Raktapitta (bleeding disorder)
40	Apamarga (<i>Achyranthes aspera</i>)	Katu (pungent), Tikta(bitter)	Laghu(light), Ruksha(dry)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu(pungent)	Kandughna (anti- pruritic)
41	Priyangu (<i>Callicarp amacrophylla</i>)	Madhura (sweet), Tikta (bitter)	Laghu (light) Ruksha (dry)	Sheeta (cold potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna (anti poisonous)
42	Rasna(<i>Pluchanceolata</i>)	Tikta(bitter)	Guru (heavy)	Ushna(hot in potency)	Katu (pungent)	Vishaghna(anti poisonous)
43	Vidanga (<i>Embelia</i>)	Katu (pungent), Kashaya (astringent)	Laghu (light) Ruksha (dry)	Ushna (hot in potency)	Katu(pungent)	Krimighna (anti-microbial)

DISCUSSION

Mrutasanjeevanaagada is mentioned in Charakasamhita for all types of visha. It is said to be propounded by Lord Bramha prior to the

discovery of amruta (ambrosia). This agada consists of forty three ingredients. As the ingredients of the formulation are katu and kashaya rasa dominated it helps to regain
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consciousness when used in the form of nasya (nasal installation) and anjana (collyrium). Laghuguna of the drugs helps in quicker action in case of visha. The other symptoms of snake bite can be counteracted with shotahara (anti oedematous), vrunaropana (ulcer healing), vedanasthapanana (analgesic), jwaragna (fever), kandugna (antipruritic), pittahara (pacifies pitta) properties of particular drugs.

CONCLUSION

Mrutasanjeevanaagada is a formulation explained in all types of poisons. Based on the attributes of the drugs, it can be said that it helps in counter acting the poison. In case of poisoning the use of this formulation helps to retain consciousness of the patient in remote area where anti snake venom is not available. Further research study may help to find the exact mode of action of drugs.

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