CONCEPTUAL STUDY OF ANTI-TOXIC ACTION OF TAGARADI AGADA ON POISONOUS INSECTS BITE: A SHORT REVIEW

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Abstract

Rapid urbanization lead to frequent encounters with wild animals and insects which leads to health hazards. Poisoning due to insect bite may warrant immediate medical attention. Tagaradi Agada is one of such agada useful in poisonous insect bite which is mentioned in ashtanga sangraha uttaratantra vishapratishedha adhyaya. Shloka phalashruti has mentioned its specific anti-toxic effect in makshika visha. This review is for collective information of therapeutic and pharmacological study of this agada for makshika visha poisoning.

Keywords: Tagradi Agada; Makshika Visha; Agada.


1. Introduction

Agada-Tantra is the branch of Ayurveda which deals with various kind of poisons broadly classified as Sthavara visha (poisons which have plant origin and mineral origin) and Jangam Visha (poisons which have animal origins). It also describes various parts of it which leads to poisoning by each of them called as Visha Adhishthana.1 poisoning due to insect bite is one of the type of Jangam Visha poisoning. Makshika Visha (honeybee sting) is one of them. Encounter with honeybees is now frequent as due to deforestation they have lost most of their habitat and now it is very common to see them making their nest on buildings.

Tagaradi Agada is one of the Agada Kalpa mentioned in Asthanga Sangraha Uttarsthana Vishapratishedha Adhyaya2. it is describing as Makshika Visha Nashanam. it has 4 herbal contents- Tagara, Sunthi, Nagakesara and Maricha
Aim:

To study antitoxic action of Tagaradi Agada

2. Objectives

1) To study therapeutic and pharmacological action of each ingredient of Tagaradi Agada
2) To study pharmacological and anti-toxic action of Tagaradi Agada

3. Materials and Method

The whole study based on literary review collected from Ayurveda Sanhita
Method of preparation of Tagaradi Agada
All ingredients are taken in same quantity and mixed well.

3.1. Tagara

Latin Name: Valeriana wallichii DC
Family: Valerianaceae
Chemical Constituent: Valerenic Acid, Valepotriates
Pharmacological Action: Coronary Dilating and antiarrhythmic effect, Anxiolytic activity, Sedative/Anticonvulsant Activity, gastrointestinal activity
Pharmacological action according to ayurveda:
Tagara has Madhura Rasa, Ushna Veerya, Madhura vipaka, Snigdha and laghu guna. It has properties like Vishaghna, Shoolaghna, tridosha-shamaka
Therapeutic action: Akshirog nashaka, Apasmar nashaka

3.2. Nagara

Latin Name: Zingiber officinale Roscoe
Family: Zingiberaceae
Chemical Constituent: Zingeron, gingerdiol, zingibrene, gingerols and shogaols
Pharmacological Action: Antioxidant, Antiemetic, Anti-inflammatory, Analgesic, Cardioprotective, Anticlotting, Antibacterial, Antiviral, Antifungal Antiparasitic
Pharmacological action according to ayurveda:
Shunthi has Katu Rasa, Ushna Veerya, Madhura vipaka, Laghu and snigdha Guna. It has properties like Ruchikara, pachaka, vrishya, swarya, shoolagha, vanighna, Kapha-Vata shamaka
Therapeutic action: Aamvataghni, Shwasahara, Kasahara, hridrog, shlipada, shotha, arsha,

3.3. Nagakesara

Latin Name: Mesua ferrea Linn.
**Family:** Guttiferae  
**Chemical Constituent:** Coumarins, xanthones, terpenoids, and sterol type of phytochemicals, mesuol, mesuogin

**Pharmacological Action:**

**Pharmacological action according to ayurveda:**
*Nagakesara* has *Kashaya, tikta rasa, ushna veerya, Katu vipaka, laghu* and *ruksha guna.* It has properties like *Aampachaka, Kanduhara, trishanashaka, swedanashaka, chhardi-hrillasnashaka, vishaghna, Kapha-Pitta shamaka*

Therapeutic action: *Kushtha, Visarpa, jwara*

### 3.4. Maricha

**Latin Name:** Piper nigrum, Linn  
**Family:** Piperaceae  
**Chemical Constituent:** Piperine, piperamine, piperamide, sarmentosine, sarmentine, trichosta

**Pharmacological Action:** Anti-asthamatic activity, Antioxidant activity, Anti-inflammatory activity, Immunomodulatory activity, Anticonvulsant activity, Analgesic activity

**Pharmacological action according to ayurveda:**
*Maricha* has *Katu Rasa, Ushna veerya, Katu Veepaka, Laghu* and *tikshna Guna,* It has properties like *Deepana, shoolahara, Kapha-vata shamaka*

Therapeutic action: *swasahara, krimihara*

**Poisonous Insects: (Makshika Visha)**
The well-known members of the Hymenoptera order are bees, wasps, hornets, yellow jackets and ants. This order in fact consists of about 100,000 species of bees, wasps and ants.

Many of these animals have poison glands and stinging apparatus. Two distinct families exist, the Apidae and the Vespidae. The genus *Apis* contains only the honeybee, while the genus *Polistes* and the genus *Vespula* contain wasp, yellow jacket and hornet.

Among the species of Hymenoptera, bees are the most commonly encountered species because of beekeeping activities. Two of the more commonly encountered species of bee are honeybee *Apis mellifera* and the bumblebee (*Bombus* species).

The non-allergic local reaction is a toxic response to venom constituents, while the large local reaction appears to be caused by an allergic reaction to venom proteins.

The IgE mediated late-phase reaction is probably responsible for most of these reactions; however, a Cell-mediated mechanism, or a combination of the two, is possible.
Clinical Features: Hymenoptera sting envenomation results in a number of clinical presentations
(i) Non-allergic, local reactions (pain, minor edema, redness at the sting site);
(ii) Allergic, large local reactions (extensive swelling >10 cm persisting more than 24hrs);
(iii) Anaphylaxis (generalized urticaria, angioedema, bronchospasm, hypotension, cardiovascular
collapse and loss of consciousness); (iv) Systemic toxic reactions (edema, vomiting, diarrhea,
headache, seizures and altered sensorium); (v) Unusual reactions (cardiac ischemia,
encephalomyelitis and cerebral infarctions)

4. Discussion

Tagaradi agada have 4 herbal ingredients. These drugs contain many pharmacological properties
like anti-inflammatory, anti-analgesic, anti-convulsant, cardioprotective, immunomodulatory
activity, anti-asthmatic activities. Poisonous insect bite can cause non allergic local reactions like
pain, minor edema, redness at sting site, also allergic reactions like extensive swelling and
anaphylactic shock. Combined Pharmacological actions of Tagaradi Agada covers most of the
symptoms due to poisonous insect bite which makes this agada preferred Agada in makshika visha

5. Conclusion

Ashtang sangraha mentioned Tagaradi Agada in vishapratischedha adhyaya specially for
makshika visha treatment. This Agada can be used as local application as well as can be taken
internally owing to its vishaghna, kandughna, shoolahara properties as well as its pharmacological
properties like anti-inflammatory, anti-analgesic, anticonvulsant, cardioprotective,
immunomodulatory activity, anti-asthmatic activities. The review of this article is to provide
collective information on pharmacological and therapeutic use of Tagaradi Agada in makshika visha

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