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A critical review on shelf life of Ayurvedic dosage form w.s.r. to Sneha Kalpana

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ABSTRACT

Ayurveda is an ancient science that has many branches. The branch which deals with the herbal drug and used in the form of medicine to cure the disease is known as Bhaishajya Kalpana. Acharya Charaka quoted "Sansakaro hi nam Gunantaradhan" in Vimanasthana, which means because of the process on herbal drug Gunvardhana occurs. Also, the shelf life of formulations increases. Shelf life (Saviryataayadhi) means the period during which the potency (Virya) of the drug remains unaffected due to environmental factors or from microbial contamination. Different dosage forms have different Shelf period. This paper is given a detailed study of the literature review of the shelf life of Sneha Kalpana.

Key words: Sneha Kalpana, Shelf life, Saviryata Avadhi.

INTRODUCTION

Bhaishajya Kalpana is a branch of Ayurveda which deals with the study of methods of preparation of various formulations. Bhaishajya Kalpana is mainly divided into two parts viz. Ahara Kalpana and Aushadha Kalpana. Among these Ahara Kalpana is useful not only to protect the health of healthy individuals and also for the treatment of diseases. Aushadhi Kalpana is mainly required for the treatment of a diseased person. According to the method of preparation action of drugs changes also does the shelf life of drugs. After doing specific Sanskar it increases the Guna of drugs also increases

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Published by Maharshi Charaka Ayurveda Organization, Vijayapur, Karnataka (Regd) under the license CC- stability. Panchavidha Kashaya Kalpana is five basic preparation of Ayurvedic pharmacy. Also Avaleha Kalpana, Snehapak Kalpana, Sandhan Kalpana are methods of preparation of Ayurvedic formulations. Traditional or alternative medicine is widely used in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of an extensive range of ailments. Stability is an important parameter for the safety and efficacy of products. Which indicates the active ingredient capacity of the formulation. Sneha Kalpana is a method of preparation of Ayurvedic formulations in which Sneha i.e. Taila, Ghruta, Vasa, Majja any one of them is heated with herbs and in some liquid media like Jala, Swarasa, Kwatha, etc.

AIM AND OBJECTIVE

- 1. To review Sneha Kalpana.
- 2. To review the shelf life of Sneha Kalpana.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Types of Sneha Dravya

According to Ashtang Hruday Samhita, Sharagdhar Samhita there are four types of Sneha - Taila, Ghruta, Majja and Vasa.[1],[2] Among them, Taila and Ghruta are most commonly used to preparing Sneha Paka ISSN: 2456-3110

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Kalpana. When this Sneha Dravya is heated with herbal drugs, the Guna of herbal drugs comes in that Sneha, so after intake or application on the body, the action of that drug occurs. Acharya Vaghbhat is quoted as "Sahastra Virya Vidhibhi Ghrutam Karma Sahastrakruta" which means when Ghruta is heated with different types of herbal drugs having different Viryas, it forms Siddha Ghrita, which cure several diseases.^[3] Also Taila is "Sansakarat Sarva Rogajit" means when Sanskara of various herbal drugs are done on Taila, it cures all types of diseases.^[4]

Method of preparation

According to *Sharagadhar Samhita, Sneha Paka Kalpana* is preparing, when 4 parts of *Sneha* is heated with one part of *Kalka* and 16 parts of *Drava-Dravya* till *Siddhi Lakshana* appear.^[5]

Sneha Murchhana^[6]

According to *Bhaishajya Ratanavali* for *Murcchit Sneha* the *Sneha* is heated on mild flame till bubble start appearing, switch off the gas add *Kalka Dravya*. Switch on the gas and add *Drava-Dravya*. Continue stirring done on mild flame till *Siddhi Lakshana* appears.^[2]

Use of Murcchit Sneha

Sneha Murchhana is a process for removing the Aama Dosha and Gandha Nasha of Sneha. [6] This Murchhit Sneha is used for the preparation of Sneha Kalpana.

Sneha Siddhi Lakshana^[7]

- 1. *Kalka* in *Sneha* when rubbed with the fingers, it forms *Varti* like structure.
- 2. When the above *Varti* kept on fire, it burns without any sound.
- 3. Ghruta Siddha Lakshana occurs when bubbles stop coming out (Phena Shanti). Taila Siddha Lakshana occurs when bubbles come out (Phenudgam).
- 4. Rasa, Gandha, Varna of ingredients appears in Sneha.

Rules for the preparation of Snehapaka Kalpana^{[8],[9]}

- 1. When four *Drava Dravya* is given, then each should be taken four times the quantity of *Sneha*.
- If five or more *Drava Dravya* that is Jala, Swarasa, Kwatha, Dugdha, Gomutra, etc. are given, then each *Drava Dravya* should be taken in an equal quantity of *Sneha Dravya*.
- If Drava Dravya is not mentioned, then water is used. It should be four times the quantity of oil used.
- 4. If only *Kwatha Dravya* is given, then make *Kalka* of *Kwatha Dravya* and add ¼ part of *Sneha*.
- 5. *Kwatha* preparations depending on the drug's nature.

Table 1: Amount of water according to the nature of *Dravya*.

SN	Nature of <i>Dravya</i>	Amount of water
1.	Mrudu (Soft drugs)	4 times
2.	Madhyam (Medium drugs)	8 times
3.	Kathina (Hard drugs)	8 times
4.	Atyanta Kathina (Very hard)	16 times

6. *Kwatha* preparation depending on the quantity of the *Dravya*

Table 2: Amount of water according to the quantity of *Dravya*

SN	Quantity of the <i>Dravya</i>	Amount of water
1.	1 Karsha to 1 Pala	16 times
2.	1 Prasuti to 1 Kudava	8 times
3.	1 Prastha to 1 Khari	4 times

- 7. If the quantity of the ingredients is not mentioned, then the *Kalka, Sneha*, and *Drava Dravya* should be collected in the proportion of 1:4:16 respectively.
- 8. According to *Drava Dravya* the ratio of *Kalka* and *Sneha* was explained by *Acharya Sharangadhar*.

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Table 3: Amount of *Kalka* and *Sneha* according to *Drava Dravya*

SN	Drava Dravya	Kalka	Sneha
1.	Ambu	¼ part	1 part
2.	Kwath	1/6 part	1 part
3.	Swaras	1/8 part	1 part
4.	Dugdha	1/8 part	1 part
5.	Dadhi	1/8 part	1 part
6.	Mansa Rasa	1/8 part	1 part
7.	Takra	1/8 part	1 part

Time for Sneha Kalpana preparation

According to *Sharagdhar Samhita*, we should not prepare *Taila*, *Ghruta*, *Avaleha* and *Guda Kalpanas* in one day, because it increases the *Guna* in that *Kalpana*.^[10] *Sneha Sadhan* din maryada is explained in Vaidhyakiya Paribhasha Pradeep.

Table 4: According to *Drava Dravya* the duration of preparation

SN	Drava Dravya	Duration
1.	Mansa Rasa	1 day
2.	Dugdha	2 days
3.	Swarasa	3 days
4.	Takra and Arnala	5 days
5.	Mula and Valli	12 days

Types of *Sneha Paka kalpana* according to Sharagdhar Samhita^[11]

- Mrudu Paka In Mrudu Paka, Varti of Kalka is not form. Also contains slightly moisture, which is tested by putting the Kalka on fire. It produces sound.
- Madhyam Paka In Madhyam Paka, Varti of Kalka is formed, which is not sticking to the spoon (Darvi). Kalka does not contain any moisture.

- 3. *Khara Paka* In this *Kalka* is hard and rough in touch. It does not contain any moisture.
- **4.** Aam Paka In this Paka, Kalka contain more amount of water. It is Guru and Agnimandhykar.
- Dagdha Paka When continuing heat given after Khara Paka, then Dagdha Paka appears which is Dahakar, so it should not be used in treatment.

Matra^[5]- One Pala

Uses of Sneha Pakas^{[12],[13],[14]}

Table 5: Uses of Sneha Paka

SN	Paka	Ch.Sa.	Su.Sa.	Va.Sa.	Sh.Sa.
1.	Mrudu Paka	Nasya	Panarth	Nasya	Nasya
2.	Madhyam Paka	Panarth, Basti	Abhyanga, Nasya	Panarth, Basti	Panarth, Basti
3.	Khara Paka	Abhyang	Basti, Karnapuran	Abhyang	Abhyang

Ch.Sa.-Charaka Samhita, Su.Sa.-Sushruta Samhita, Va.Sa.-Vagbhata Samhita, Sh.Sa.-Sharagdhara Samhita

Because Aam Paka Sneha becomes Nirvirya, Agnimadhyakar, Guru and also Dagdha Paka are Dahakrut and it is not used for treatment.

Shelf life (Saviryata Avadhi)

Saviryta Avadhi term is mentioned in the context of the period in which the Virya of any drug remains unaffected due to the environment/ microbial deterioration, whereas in the contemporary system, the Shelf life is used to indicate the period during which an API (Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients) is expected to remain within the approved stability specifications, provide that it is stored under the condition defined on the container.

Table 6: According to *Acharya Sharagdhara Saviryata Avadhi* of Ayurvedic preparations are as follows^[15]

SN	Kalpana	Saviryata Avadhi
1.	Churna	2 <i>Masa</i> [months]
2.	Gutika, Avaleha	1 Savantsar [year]
3.	SnehaKalpana	4 Masa

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4. Asava, Arishtha, Rasa Dhatu Kalpa

Potency increases with time

According to various Acharya's Saviryata Avadhi of Sneha Kalpana

- 1. According to Sharagdhar Samhita 4 Masa
- 2. According to Vangasen Samhita 6 Masa
- 3. According to Yogratnakar Samhita 12 Masa
- 4. According to Ayurvedic Formulary of India 3 years
- 5. Rule no. 161 B the D & C Act *Taila Paka* 3 years, *Ghruta Paka* - 2 years

DISCUSSION

Before 5000 years, there was no storage method developed for Kwatha, Swarasa Kalpana. Everytime it has to be prepared fresh as shelf life is only a day. So Acharyas processed Taila and Ghruta with Swarasa, Kwatha, Kalka Kalpana to increase its shelf life and enhance the qualities of Dravya. The Sneha Kalpana is prepared by using 1/4 part of Kalka and four-part of Drava is heated with one part of Sneha Dravya leads to an increase in the potency of Dravya also Saviryataavadhi increases. During preparation the Madhyam Paka should happen, because Mrudupaka contains moisture leads to it get deteriorate. Also because of excessive heat Khara Paka and Dagdha paka are not used in treatment. According to Sharagdhara samhita, vangasen, Yogratnakar, Ayurvedic Formulary of India, Rule no.161 B the D & C Act the Saviryataavadhi of Sneha Kalpana is 4 Masa, 6 Masa, 12 Masa, 3 years, Taila Paka 3 years and Ghruta Paka 2 years respectively.

CONCLUSION

The *Sneha Kalpana* is prepared by using 1/4 part of *Kalka* and four-part of *Dravya* are heated with one part of *Sneha Dravya*. *Madhyam Paka* should be done to avoid deterioration and its efficacy remains constant up to its shelf life. *Sneha Kalpana* is remaining stable for up to according to *Sharangdhar Samhita*, *Vangasen*, *Yogratnakar*, Ayurvedic Formulary of India, Rule no.161 B the D & C Act the

Saviryataavadhi of Sneha Kalpana is 4 Masa, 6 Masa, 12 Masa, 3 years, Taila Paka 3 years and Ghruta Paka 2 years respectively.

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