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## Ayurveda and Integrated Medical Sciences

**CASE REPORT** 

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# Open randomised clinical study of Arjuna (Terminalia arjuna roxb.) Kaand Twak Churna on Madhumeha: A Pilot Study

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#### ABSTRACT

A clinical study was conducted on patients of *Madhumeha* resembling condition with Diabetes Mellitus, to evaluate the efficacy of *Arjuna* (*Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.) *Kaand Twak Churna* which is mentioned in traditional *Bhavaprakash Nighantu* as *Madhumehahar*. The present study was designed on newly diagnosed cases of Type II Diabetes Mellitus. The Aim and Objective of this study was to evaluate the efficacy of *Arjuna* (*Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.) *Kaand Twak Churna* on *Madhumeha*. This study was planned on 40 newly diagnosed cases of Diabetes Mellitus who were orally administered with *Arjuna* (*Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.) *Kaand Twak Churna*. Result obtained from study revealed that *Kaand Twak Churna* of *Arjuna* (*Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.) shows good effect in relieving the subjective criteria's viz, *Prabhutamutrata, Pippasa Vriddhi, Avila Mutrata, Swedaadhikya, Nidradhikya.* It has also shown significant result in Objective criteria viz. FBS, PPBS, HBA<sub>1</sub>C.

Key words: Arjuna, Kaand Twak Churna, Madhumeha, Diabetes Mellitus.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Madhumeha has emerged as a global health hazard having tremendous socio-economic impact to the individual as well as society as a whole. In spite of tremendous advances in modern medical sciences, today Madhumeha (Diabetes Mellitus) is one of the most common non-communicable diseases.<sup>[1]</sup> Diabetes Mellitus is the most severe metabolic pandemic of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, affecting essential biochemical activities in almost every cell in the body

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and increasing the risk of cardiac problems. It is estimated that in the year 2000, 171 million people had diabetes and this is expected to double by the year 2030. Though there are variety of Hypoglycaemic drugs available along with the use of insulin, there is an increase in demand of natural drugs producing hypoglycaemic effect. Few researches have analysed the efficacy of various *Dravyas* mentioned in Ayurvedic classics for *Madhumeha*. Here an attempt was made to analyse the effect of "Arjuna Kaand Twak Choorna" (Bark powder) of Terminalia arjuna Roxb." which is used by many traditional practitioners as *Hrudya Dravya*. There is reference of use of *Arjuna* in *Madhumeha* in Bhavprakash Nighantu. Here

The analysis of *Arjuna Kaand Twak Choorna* indicated the presence of tannins, cardenolide, triterpenoid saponins (arjunic acid, arjunolic acid, arjungenin, glycosides), flavonoids, gallic acid, ellagic acid, phytosterols, calcium, magnesium, zinc, and copper. The present article here by is done to show the efficacy of *Arjuna Kaand Twak Choorna* in *Madhumeha*.<sup>[5]</sup>

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#### **AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

To evaluate the efficacy of *Arjuna Kaand Twak Choorna* (*Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.) in the management of *Madhumeha*.

#### MATERIALS AND METHODS

#### **Source of Data**

Botanically identified *Arjuna* (*Terminalia arjuna* Roxb.) belonging to Combretaceae<sup>[6]</sup> family was procured from Smt. K. G. Mittal Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Garden, Kalina, Santacruz, and identified by Department of Dravyaguana Smt. K. G. Mittal Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Charni road, Mumbai, India. Authentified and Standardised by Alarsin Pharmaceuticals, Andheri, Mumbai, India. Finger printing analysis (HPTLC) was done at NFB, Khalsa College, Mumbai, India.

#### **Source of the Patients**

Patients were selected after subjecting them through clinical examination from OPD of Dravyaguna Department of Smt. K. G. Mittal Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Charni road, Mumbai, India.

#### **Preparation of Medicine**

A well identified bark of *Arjuna* was procured, the bark was cut in flat sawn, washed in running tap water then powdered and filtered in #60-85 (*Puta Churna*) sieve mesh. The sieve powder was stored in air tight container tillfurther clinical use.

Shelf life of Churna Kalpana is- 2-3 month.[7]

#### **Place of Work**

Medicine was prepared at Rasashatra Department of Smt. K. G. Mittal Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Charni road, Mumbai, India. Clinical trial was conducted at Dravyaguna Department of Smt. K. G. Mittal Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Charni road, Mumbai, India.

#### **Method of Collection of Data**

Written and informed consent was taken of the enrolled patients based on the classical signs and symptoms of *Madhumeha*, the patients screening for inclusive criteria irrespective of sexes between the

age group 18-60 years were selected from the OPD of Dravyaguna Department of Smt. K. G. Mittal Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Charni road, Mumbai, India. Totally 40 patients were randomly selected for study according to inclusion and exclusion criteria.

#### **Drug Administration Details**

1)	Drug	Arjuna Kanda Twak
2)	Kalpana	Churna
3)	Dose	6 gm for 3 month
4)	Sevan Kaal	Pragbhakta
5)	Anupana	Koshna Jala
6)	Mode of Administration	Oral

#### **Pathyapathya**

Without proper diet and lifestyle any medicine will not cure the disease.<sup>[8]</sup> Patient were advised to take standard diabetic diet according to Ayurvedic texts and modern medical science.<sup>[9]</sup>

## Clinical study based on inclusion and exclusion criteria

#### **Inclusion criteria**

- 1. Age- 18 to 60yrs
- 2. Sex- Either
- 3. Race- No Barrier
- 4. Religion- No Barrier
- 5. Economic Status- No Barrier
- 6. If yes in any of the 2
  - a) Blood Sugar Level- Fasting >126 & =<200mg/dL or Post Prandial >200mg/dL &<=300mg/dL or</li>
  - b) Glycated Hb > 7% &< 10%

#### **Exclusion criteria**

- 1. Patient below 18yrs and above 60yrs
- 2. Malignant and accelerated hypertensive

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- 3. Pregnant women or planning to be pregnant within 6month
- 4. Lactating Mother
- 5. Diabetes with known complications

#### Follow-up

- Patient will be accessed clinically before and after
   days of the clinical study trial
- 2. BSL will be accessed after 45 days before and after study.
- 3. HbA1C will be accessed before and after study.

#### Withdrawal criteria

- 1. Patient not on regular follow-up.
- 2. Aggravation of Symptoms
- 3. Development of complications due to presenting illness or otherwise
- 4. Any adverse drug effects.

#### **Assessment Criteria**

#### **Subjective Parameters**

#### **Gradation of symptoms**<sup>[10]</sup>

To access the change in the subjective symptoms of *Madhumeha* the clinical symptomology was graded into four (0-3).

Study of changes in gradation of each symptom was done between, before and after treatment. Gradation done according to Clinical Research Protocol for Traditional Health Science. (Table 1)

SN	Criteria	Detail	Score
1.	<i>Pippasa</i> (Polydipsia)	Daily normal quantity of water to quench thirst (<=2lit) With no Mukhasushkata	0
		Requires additional water more than normal (2- 2.5lit) Still Mukhasushkata.	1
		Requires additional water than normal (2.5 – 3lit) Still Mukhasushkata.	2

		Requires additional water > 3lit. than normal Still <i>Mukhasushkata</i> .	3
2.	Prabhut Mutrata	3 to 6 times per day, rarely at night.	0
	(polyuria)	6 to 9 times per day, 0 to 2 times at night.	1
		9 to 12 times per day, 2 to 4 times at night.	2
		More than 12 times per day, more than 4 times per night.	3
3.	Avila Mutrata (turbidity)	Crystal clear fluid.	0
		Faintly cloudy, smoky or hazy with turbidity barely visible.	1
		Turbidity clearly visible but newsprint easily read through test tube.	2
		newsprint cannot be read through test tube.	3
4.	Nidradhikya	Normal sleep, 6-8hours/24hours.	0
	(sleep)	Sleep upto 8hours/24hours with Angagaurava.	1
		Sleep upto 8hours/24hours with Angagaurava and Jhrimba.	2
		Sleep upto 10 hours/24hours with Tandra	3
		Sleep upto>10hours/24hours with tandra and klama.	4
5.	Swedadhikya (perspiration)	Sweating after heavy work and fast movement or in hot Weather.	0
		Profuse sweating after moderate work and movement.	1
		Sweating after little work and movement.	2
		Profuse sweating after little work and movement.	3

Sweating even at rest and/or in	4
cold weather.	

#### Statistical evaluation of treatment and result

Clinical data obtained from patients was analysed statistically in terms of Mean score, Percentage of relief, Standard Deviation (S.D.), Standard Error (S.E.) by following tests.<sup>[11]</sup>

- Wilcoxon matched pairs signed ranks test:
   Comparison of symptoms grade score before and
   after treatment within Group is a qualitative data,
   so Wilcoxon matched pairs signed ranks test was
   applied for assessment of effect of treatment on
   symptom grade within Trial group and within
   Control group.
- Paired 't' test: For assessment of effect of treatment on objective parameters before and after treatment within Group is a quantitative data, 'Paired 't' test' was applied.

#### Results were interpreted as;

P<0.05 - Improvement, Significant

**Table 2: Subjective Criteria.** 

Variable	Treatment	Mean	S.D.	Wilcoxo n matche d pair Sign Rank	P-Value		
Pipasa Vriddhi	ВТ	1.85	0.97 5	561.00	< 0.0001		
	AT	0.7	0.56 3				
	Diff (BT- AT)	1.15	0.41 2				
Prabhuta Mutrata	ВТ	2.125	0.88 2	630.00	< 0.0001		
	AT	1	0.78 4				
	Diff (BT- AT)	1.125	0.09 8				

Avila Mutrata	ВТ	0.9	0.87 1	210.00	< 0.0001	
	AT	0.275	0.45 2			
	Diff (BT- AT)	0.625	0.41 9			
Nidradhikya	ВТ	1.475	0.93 3	480.00		< 0.0001
	AT	0.55	0.59 7			
	Diff (BT- AT)	0.925	0.33 6			
Swedadhikya	ВТ	1.35	0.86 3	406.00	< 0.0001	
	AT	0.525	0.50 5			
	Diff (BT- AT)	0.825	0.35 8			

There was significant difference found in all symptoms. The P value is <0.05 which means the Trial drug in *Madhumeha* was effective with respect to above symptoms.

**Table 3: Objective Criteria.** 

Variable	Treatment	Mean	S.D.	Paired t Test t value	P- Value
BSL – F	ВТ	141.45	10.028	19.36	< 0.0001
	AT	115.175	5.324		0.0001
	Diff (BT- AT)	26.3	8.584		
BSL – PP	ВТ	229.3	19.252	11.473	< 0.0001
	AT	189.125	13.156		0.0001
	Diff (BT- AT)	40.175	6.096		

HbA <sub>1</sub> C	ВТ	7.475	0.274	15.452	< 0.0001
	AT	6.41	0.403		0.0001
	Diff (BT- AT)	1.065	0.435		

# Statistical Analysis of the effect of therapy on Objective parameters of 40 patients of *Madhumeha* by paired 't' test:

- BSL Fasting Mean of difference was 26.3± 8.584, paired t was19.36; P <0.05 significant, which suggests that difference of mean exhibited by Trial Drug was significant.
- BSL Post Prandial Mean of difference was 40.175±6.096, paired t was11.473; P <0.05 significant, which suggests that difference of mean exhibited by Trial Drug was significant.
- HbA<sub>1</sub>C Mean of difference was 1.065± 0.0435, paired t was15.452; P <0.05 significant, which suggests that difference of mean exhibited by Trial Drug was significant.

Comparison of Numerical Data before and After Within the groups was statistically evaluated by "paired-t test". The value of 't' is 19.36, 11.47, and 15.45, while P-value is less than 0.05, which was statistically significant suggestive of significant difference with respect to effect of therapy on Objective Criteria. Hence null hypothesis is rejected.

#### **Total effects of treatment**

In the present study, 40 patients of *Madhumeha* were registered and treated with Trial Drug i.e. *Arjuna Kaand Twak Churna*.

Table 4: Showing effect on symptoms score of 40 patients of *Madhumeha*.

SN	Subjective Parameter	Total Score - BT	Total Score - AT	Difference	Percentage Relief
1.	Pipasa- Vriddhi	74	28	46	62.16%
2.	Prabhuta-	85	40	45	52.94%

	Mutrata				
3.	Avila- Mutrata	36	11	25	69.44%
4.	Nidradhikya	59	22	37	62.71%
5.	Swedadhikya	54	21	33	61.11%

#### Effect of therapy on symptom score

It was observed that overall percentage of relief was more by Trial drug (60.38%). The symptoms such as *Pipasa-vriddhi, Prabhuta-Mutrata, Avila-Mutrata, Nidradhikya*, and *Swedadhikya* were studied in this trial as described here before in table. Percentage of relief for all the symptoms is more by Trial Drug.

Table 5: Showing effect on Objective Parameters of 40 Patients of *Madhumeha*.

SN	Objective Parameter	Total Score - BT	Total Score - AT	Difference	Percentage Relief
1.	BSL- F	141.45	115.175	26.275	18.691%
2.	BSL- PP	229.3	189.125	40.175	17.52%
3.	HbA₁C	7.475	6.41	1.065	14.745%

#### **Effect of therapy on Objective parameters**

It was observed that overall percentage of relief was more by Trial drug i.e. 18.69%(BSL-F), 17.52%(BSL-PP), and 14.74% (HbA<sub>1</sub>C). Percentage of relief for all the Objectivess is more by Trial Drug.

#### **DISCUSSION**

#### **Selection of Problem**

Diet and lifestyle are major factors to influence susceptibility to many diseases. Man has adapted himself to the fast-paced life by modifying dietary and lifestyle preferences to suit this modern era. This has resulted in a state of discrepancy between the external environment and internal mechanism causing many diseases which are popularly referred as 'lifestyle-diseases' and "Diabetes" is one of them.

#### Plan of study

After the permission from Ethical Committee approved by University, we randomly selected 40 patients of Madhumeha having their written consent and were administered Arjuna Kaand Twak Churna 6gms twice a day Pragbhakta (before meal) because any Disease that has affects Vrukka, the Drug is given in Apaan Kaal<sup>[12]</sup> for 14 weeks. All the patients were strictly examined according to the criteria of diagnosis and included in the study. Blood Sugar level (Fasting and Post Prandial) was done before treatment and at an interval of 4th, 8th weeks as well as HbA1C was done before and after treatment to observe the For the purpose of symptomatic improvement, a follow-up of two weeks was kept. All concerned symptoms and investigations, detailed history and Rugna-Pariksha were recorded in the CRF.

#### Discussion on mode of action of Arjuna

As Ayurveda *Samprapti* and *Samprapti Bhanga* both depends on *Panchbhuta Sanghatana*. i.e. *Dosha, Dushya, Strotasa, Agni, Ama*. So, hereby put forth the probable mode of action.

#### Samprapti Bhanga of Madhumeha by Arjuna<sup>[13-15]</sup>

**Rasa -** Kashaya - Kleda, Meda Shoshak; Lekhana, Shoshana

Virya - Sheeta

Vipaka - Katu, Ruksha, Laghu (Reduces Meda)

**Guna -** Laghu- Kaphaghna, Lekhana, Ruksha- Meda Shoshana

Karma - Medohara- Kleda, Medahara

#### Discussion on total effect of therapy

#### Effect of therapy on symptom score

It was observed that overall percentage of relief was more by Trial drug (61.67%). The symptoms such as *Pipasa-vriddhi, Prabhuta-Mutrata, Avila-Mutrata, Nidradhikya,* and *Swedadhikya* were studied in this trial as described here before in table. Percentage of relief for all the symptoms is more by Trial Drug.

#### **Effect of therapy on Objective parameters**

It was observed that overall percentage of relief was more by Trial drug i.e. 18.69% (BSL-F), 17.52%(BSL-PP), and 14.74% (HbA<sub>1</sub>C). Percentage of relief for all the Objectives is more by Trial Drug.

#### Adverse drug effect

Amongst 40 patients, it was observed that 3 patients had symptom of Sore throat. Age limit of these 3 patients was 45-55 years and *Prakriti Vata-Kaphaja*.

#### **CONCLUSION**

Madhumeha known as silent killer needs to be treated asearly as possible to stop onset of further Diabetic complication. Arjuna (Terminalia arjuna Roxb.) a very easily available drug can be used to heal Madhumeha. Arjuna has improved quality of life to all the patients who have undergone clinical trial. Ekal Dravya (Single drug) treatment like Arjuna Kaand Twak Churna can prove boon to the world wide. Majority of Population suffering from Diabetes mellitus comprising of sedentary lifestyle. The change in their lifestyle i.e. Pathyakara Aahara-Vihara followed by regular practice of Yogasanas will help in treatment of Madhumeha. This pilot study proves that Arjuna Kaand Twak Choorna is an efficient as well as an ideal drug for its Madhumehahara property.

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