



ISSN 2456-3110

Vol 9 · Issue 6

June 2024

Journal of  
**Ayurveda and Integrated  
Medical Sciences**

*www.jaims.in*

**JAIMS**

An International Journal for Researches in Ayurveda and Allied Sciences



**Maharshi Charaka**  
Ayurveda

**Indexed**

# Ayurvedic intervention in the management of *Keeta Visha* (Wasp Bite) : A Case Report

Mitali Verma<sup>1</sup>, Urmila Shukla<sup>2</sup>, Kirti Sisodiya<sup>3</sup>, Shreya Sahu<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1,3,4</sup>Post Graduate Scholar, Department of Agad tantra Evum Vidhi Vaidyaka, Pt. Khushilal Sharma Government Ayurveda College and Hospital, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India.

<sup>2</sup>Professor and HOD, Department of Agad Tantra Evum Vidhi Vaidyaka, Pt. Khushilal Sharma Government Ayurveda College and Hospital, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India.

## ABSTRACT

Wasp stings are common, especially in populations living in vicinity to forested areas all over the world. Wasp is insects related to bees and ants. There are more than 20000 species or types of Wasps. *Acharya Sushruta* has explained *Keeta Visha* under *Jangama Visha* (Animate poison) and categorized 67 different types of *Keeta* under mainly 4 groups i.e., *Vayavya Keeta*, *Agneya Keeta*, *Saumya Keeta*, *Sannipataka Keeta*. viz, one each possessing the qualities of individual *Doshas* separately and one with the qualities of all the doses together. The main characteristics of insect bite are itching, burning sensation, erythema at the site of bite. Reaction to stings vary depending on the numbers of stings delivered & body's reaction to venom in the sting. This is a case report of 27 years old female (student) residing in Bhopal, visited the OPD with the complaining of wasp bite on lateral aspect of arm just before 30 minutes prior to her visit. She had sharp pain, itching, redness, burning sensation at bite site. She was treated with *Dushivishari Agad* (500mg), *Guduchiyadi Kashayam* (500mg) and *Yograja Guggul* (250mg) and *Lepa of Dushivishari Agad* and *Shatdhaut Ghrith* for local application. The interventions controlled the poisoning, inferring that such cases can be successfully manage with *Ayurvedic* medicines.

**Key words:** *Keeta Visha*, *Wasp bite*, *Dushivishari Agad*, *Kanabha*.

## INTRODUCTION

The term *Keeta* refers to all living creatures which are small in size but visible, having two or more legs, with or without wings, some living in soil, some moving in air, some in water, some in crevices of buildings, roofs, walls etc. some on trees, possessing different shapes, colours; some crawl, some fly, some swim, some hop etc. As per *Acharaya Sushruta*, *Keeta* born from semen,

excreta, urine, foul smelling (decomposed) carcass and eggs of snakes only; they are of four kinds *Vayavya Keeta*, *Agneya Keeta*, *Saumya Keeta*, *Sannipataka Keeta*. viz, one each possessing the qualities of individual *Dosas* separately and one with the qualities of all the doses together.<sup>[1]</sup> *Acharya Charaka* also said that *Keeta* born from excreta, they are of two kinds *Dushivisha Keeta* & *Pranahar Keeta*.<sup>[2]</sup> *Keeta* has the properties of aggravating all the *Dosas* by their effect finally; though small in size these are dreadful. As per *Acharya Sushruta*, among 24 *Agneya Keeta* only 14 have poison in mouth bite. *Acharya Sushruta* described *Kanabha* (wasp) under *Agneya Keeta*<sup>[3]</sup> while *Acharya Charak* described *Kanabha* under *Kaphaj Keeta*. *Kanabha* has four types - *Trikanta*, *Karini*, *Hastikaksa* & *Aparajita*, all severely painful.<sup>[4]</sup> All these *Kanabhas* are quadruped insects & their poison is curable.<sup>[4]</sup> *Acharya Sushruta* mentioned the symptoms when bitten by *Agneya Keeta* as there is slight exudation, severe burning sensation, redness and swelling resembling a ripe fruit of *Pilu* or *Khajura* and spreading out. *Acharya*

### Address for correspondence:

Dr. Mitali Verma

Post Graduate Scholar, Department of Agad tantra Evum Vidhi Vaidyaka, Pt. Khushilal Sharma Government Ayurveda College and Hospital, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh, India.

E-mail: mitaliverma143@gmail.com

Submission Date: 14/04/2024 Accepted Date: 25/05/2024

Access this article online

Quick Response Code



Website: [www.jaims.in](http://www.jaims.in)

DOI: 10.21760/jaims.9.6.51

*Sushruta* described the symptom of bite by *Kanabha* (wasp) gives rise to swelling, herpes, vomiting, fever, the site develops a circular ring, oozes bluish blood, heaviness in body appear & the site become black.<sup>[4]</sup> Wasps are insects related to bees and ants. There are more than 20000 species or types of wasps. Yellow jacket and hornet are common names for several wasp species. Wasps belonging to the family vespidae is one of the dangerous hymenopteran when disturbed in its habitat either accidentally or purposely. Wasp stings are common, especially in populations living in vicinity to forested areas all over the world. Wasp does not leave their stinger in, but they can sting repeatedly as a result. Wasp stings are quite similar to bee sting. The main difference is that there is no stinger left in the sting site, & the reaction tends to be worse. Wasps are social creatures that typically sting to protect their colony, nest, or hive. Most stings are incited by proximity to the colony. Noisy or vigorous activity, bright or dark colour, & perfumes also may incite stings. Reaction to stings vary depending on the numbers of stings delivered & body's reaction to venom in the sting. Normal reaction is characterised by a painful, reddened swollen area that may also itch, but dissipates within minutes. More serious local reactions last for days. The pain, swelling, & itching will be more intense in the area directly surrounding the sting site. The most serious reaction is a systemic allergic reaction known as anaphylaxis. This type of reaction generally occurs rapidly after the sting & affects the whole body. A person may feel dizzy, nauseated & weak, experience stomach cramps & diarrhoea. Also coughing, itching, around the eyes, hives, wheezing, difficulty breathing or swallowing, vomiting, low blood pressure, shock, unconsciousness, darkened skin & death can occur in highly sensitive people. This can occur in 5-30 minute.<sup>[5]</sup> Chemically, wasp venom possesses a wide variety of enzymes, proteins, peptides, volatile compounds, and bioactive constituents, which include phospholipase A2, antigen 5, mastoparan, and decoralin.

## CASE REPORT

A 27 years old female (student) residing in Bhopal, visited the OPD with the complaining of wasp bite on

lateral aspect of arm just before 30 minutes prior to her visit. She had sharp pain, itching, redness, burning sensation at bite site. Later she noticed swelling and tingling sensation from shoulder to finger tips. She applied iron rust from the iron utensil but did not find any relief.

### Clinical findings

On local examination, one circular small pale wheal about 3-4mm in diameter with a reddish depression in centre observed on the posterior aspect on upper 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the arm. The surrounding skin was inflamed, oedematous and warm to touch.

On general examination, the patient was having no fever and was apparently normal during the examination. No lymph node enlargement noted.

On systemic examination, Blood pressure- 110/70 mmHg, Pulse- 74/min, Heart rate-74/min were found normal. The patient was having normal bowel habits with no other abnormalities.

### Ashtavidha Pariksha

- *Nadi* (pulse): *Kaphapitta*
- *Mala* (stool): *Niram*
- *Mutra* (urine): *Prakrut*
- *Jivha* (tongue): *Niram*
- *Shabda* (Speech): *Spashta*
- *Sparsha* (Touch): *Warm*
- *Drik* (Eyes): *Prakrut*
- *Akriti* (Appearance): *Madhyam*

### Diagnosis

The patient present with *Tivara Ruja* (sharp pain), *Jhunjhuhata* (tingling sensation) indicating the symptoms of *Vataja Keeta*, *Daha* (burning sensation) and *Rakthabha* (red discoloration), which is symptoms of *Pittaj Keeta*. It was associated with *Kandu* (Itching), which are symptoms of *Kaphaj Keeta*. Considering this, the bite was diagnosed as *Tridoshaj Damsha*.

### Therapeutic intervention

For 0-3 days

1. *Dushivishari Agad* 2 tablet (500mg) TDS with honey after food.

2. *Guduchiyadi Kashayam* tablet 2 tablet BD with warm water empty stomach.
3. *Yograjaguggul* 2 tablet (250mg) BD with lukewarm water after food.
4. *Dushivishari Agad Lepa* mix with water for 15 min (till it dry) at affected area twice a day.
5. *Shatdhaut Ghrit* for local application.

For next 4-8 days

1. *Dushivishari Agad* 2 tablet (500mg) BD with honey.
2. *Guduchiyadi Kashayam* tablet 2 tablet BD with water.
3. *Yograjaguggul* 2 tablet (250mg) BD with water.
4. *Dushivishari Agad Lepa* mix with water for 15 min (till it dry) at affected area twice a day.
5. *Shatdhaut Ghrit* for local application.

For next 8-15 days

1. *Dushivishari Agad* 1 tablet (500mg) OD with honey.

Progress of the treatment - Follow up was taken for 0, 4, 8 and 15 days.

Observation	Day 0	Day 4	Day 8	Day 15
Itching	+	+	+	-
Burning sensation	+	-	-	-
Tenderness	+	+	+	-
Redness	+	+	-	-
Tingling sensation	+	-	-	-
Swelling	+	+	-	-

#### **Pathya-Apathya**

Sour, spicy, salty, *Abhishyandi* food such as curd, were strictly prohibited. The patient was advised to take rest and do not scratch at bite site.

#### **Follow-up and outcome**

On 4<sup>th</sup> day, there was complete reduction of swelling and tingling sensation, pain and redness were reduced during morning hours, and however, it was increased in afternoon hour. On 8<sup>th</sup> day all the symptoms subside.

To remove all remaining toxin 1 tablet of *Dushivishari Agad* given for next 7 days. Throughout the treatment, no adverse reaction was noted.

#### **DISCUSSION**

*Keetas* are generally accepted as type of *Krimi*, which can be visualized by naked eye (*Sthoola*).<sup>[6]</sup> *Acharya's* have described *Keeta Visha* under *Jangama Visha* and classified under four groups and elucidated 67 different types of *Keetda*. Their formation is alleged as putrefaction of '*Shukra-Vid-Mutra-Pooti-Und-Sambhava*'. In this present case, on the bite site one circular small puncture pen prickle with sharp pain, itching, burning sensation and swelling. After applying *Dushivishari Agad* externally swelling was decreased within 15 minutes but pain and burning sensation remain the same. After 4-5 hours pain and burning sensation brought down. For the first 3 days swelling, tingling sensation and redness uphold. According to modern medicine firstly tourniquet is applied. And area is cleaned with water, soap and antihistamine cream is locally applied. Tetanus immunization is recommended. Glucocorticoids are useful for urticaria and for combat systemic reaction adrenaline is given. Currently *Damsha* was showing *Tridoshaja Keeta Damsha*. *Dushivishari Agad* is given orally along with honey helps in fever, burning sensation, *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Srotoshodhana*, *Raktaprasadana* and *Rasayana*.<sup>[7]</sup> It is also *Tridosha shamak* in property. Anti-inflammatory action of honey soothes and promotes healing by reducing pain and swelling.<sup>[8]</sup> Honey has been described as having the ability to promote phagocytosis, detoxification and proteolysis all of which assist in cleaning wound. And *Lepa* of the same mix with water is applied for itching, swelling and burning sensation.

*Yograj Guggulu* flushes out the poison that is prepared in blood vessels.

*Guduchyadi Kashayam* is given for fever and burning sensation.<sup>[9]</sup>

*Shatdhaut Ghrita Lepa* has *Shothahara*, *Dahahara*, *Vedanasthapana*, *Vishaghna* properties. So, it helps in reducing inflammation caused due to insect bite.

## CONCLUSION

*Keeta Visha* causes local symptoms to severe systemic manifestation like *Shopha*, *Granthi*, *Visarpa*, *Karnika*, *Kitibha* in the human being even death. *Tridosha Shaman* and *Vishahara* treatment were given with internal and external application of *Ayurvedic* formulation. The interventions controlled the poisoning only to the site of the bite, inferring that such cases can be successfully manage with *Ayurvedic* medicines by giving utmost care for wasp bite.

## REFERENCES

1. Sushruta Samhita Part-1, Kalpasthana 8/3, Page-80 Dr.Ambikadatta Shastri,2015
2. Charaka Samhita Part-2, Chikitsa Sthana 23/140, Page-588, Kashinatha Pandey, Dr. Gorkhanatha Chaturvedi, 2020
3. Sushruta Samhita. Vol.3, Kalpasthana, Chapter 8/8, page-79, P.V. Sharma, 2014, Chaukhambha Visvabharati, oriental publishers & distributors.
4. Sushruta Samhita. Vol.3, Kalpasthana, Chapter 8/25-27, page-81, P.V. Sharma, 2014, Chaukhambha Visvabharati, oriental publishers & distributors.
5. Susruta Samhita of Maharsi Susruta Vol.3, Kalpasthana, Chapter 8, page-60, Prof. Dr. Vasant C. Patil, Dr. Rajeshwari N.M.
6. Nitin Urmaliya Text Book Of Agad Tantra Chaukhambha Orientalia Varanasi, Edition 1st, 2011; p.161
7. Vasant C. Patil, Susruta Samhita with English translation of text and Dalhana's commentary with critical notes vol. 3 Kalpa Sthana and Uttara tantra Ch. 02, Chaukhambha Publication; 2022 p. 18
8. Vijaya Kumari K, K. Nishteswar, Wound healing activity of honey: A pilot study. AYU/2012/33/3, [cited 2015 August 18], <http://www.ayujournal.org>
9. Sreekumar T, editor. Astanga Hridayam of Vagbhata, Sutra Sthana; Ch 15, Ver. 16. 2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Thrissur: Publication Department Harisree Hospital; 2008. p.380.

**How to cite this article:** Mitali Verma, Urmila Shukla, Kirti Sisodiya, Shreya Sahu. Ayurvedic intervention in the management of Keeta Visha (Wasp Bite) : A Case Report. J Ayurveda Integr Med Sci 2024;6:314-317. <http://dx.doi.org/10.21760/jaims.9.6.51>

**Source of Support:** Nil, **Conflict of Interest:** None declared.



Changes in the Wasp Bite Lesions during the course of management (A) 0 day of bite (B) 8<sup>th</sup> day of bite (C) 15<sup>th</sup> day of bite