Pharmaceutical study & preliminary analysis of Sheetala Parpati

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ABSTRACT

The Parpati kalpana is a thin flake form of mercurial preparation which is unique in the field of Rasashastra. It is one among the Chaturvidha Rasayan and Agnisthayi Murchita Parada Bandha i.e., Pota Bandha of Parada. Sheetala parpati is an Ayurvedic medicine that comes under Parpati kalpana, used in the treatment of difficulty in urination, urinary calculi, dyspepsia, etc. There are two different references of Sheetala Parpati where the ingredients and method of preparation are different. In the present work an attempt has been made to prepare both the varieties of Sheetala parpati along with its analytical study. It is mainly indicated in Mutakrikchra (Dysurea) and other diseases like Amlapitta (Hyperacidity), Udarashoola (Abdominal pain), Ajernu (Indigestion), Yakritivakara (Hepatic disorder), etc.

Keywords: Parpati kalpana, Chaturvidha Rasayana, Sheetala Parpati, Mutakrikchra (Dysurea)

INTRODUCTION

Rasashastra is an important branch of Ayurveda, specializing in formulations involving herbs, metals and minerals known as Rasaushadhis. One of the most popular forms is Parpati kalpana. It is one among the Chaturvidha Rasayahana and Agnisthayi Murchita Parada Bandha i.e., Pota Bandha of Parada.

Parpati is a thin flake preparation consisting of Mercury and Sulphur in most of the parpati formulations. Parpati is such a preparation which is prepared by following various specialized processing techniques like Shodhana Samskara and Murchana. Parpati rasayanas have high therapeutic value, potency and less toxicity. In the procedure of Parpati kalpana, Agni Samskara is adopted therefore the heat energy enhances its therapeutic efficacy in treating many disorders.

Preparation of Sheetala parpati:

According to Rasatantra Sara Siddha Prayoga (RTSSP)

Materials and Methods

Chullika yantra (Gas stove), Loha Darvi (Iron pan), Spoon, Khalwa yantra, Plate, Vastra (Cloth), Match box

Ingredients

Suryakshara (Potassium nitrate) – 10g
Method of preparation

Ten gram of Suryakshara and 1 ml of Gandhakamla were taken in khalla yantra. They were subjected to mardana. During mardana fume was coming out of khalla. Mardana was continued till the fume stopped. After it turned into a homogeneous mixture, some amount of mixture was taken in the darvi and heated in madyamagni with continuous stirring by spoon till it turned liquid. After liquefaction it was poured on the smooth marble and pressed gently with plate.

Observation

Before Paka: Suryakshara was white, crystalline form. It was easily pounded into churna. Gandhakamla was viscous in consistency. During mardana of mixture, appearance of fumes was observed.

During Paka: During heating, first the mixture became dry and fumes were observed. After some time it started to melt. During stirring some amount of liquefied mixture adhered to spoon and became solid. The liquid was colourless.

After Paka: The shweta parpati was white in colour. It was brittle on breaking. On taste tingling and cooling sensation was felt. On touch it was snigdha and mrudu.

Total amount: 23.49g

Obtained amount: 16.96g

Dosage: 6-12 ratti

Anupana: Jeeraka churna with sheetala jala (cold water)

Indications: Mutrakrichra, Mutravarodha, Amlapitta, Udarashoola, Ajeerna, Yakritvikara
Analytical Study

Organoleptic characters:

| Characters | RTSSPS | SBM |
|------------|--------|-----|
| Colour     | Shweta | Shweta |
| Sound      | Breaking sound as of wafer | Breaking sound as of wafer |
| Taste      | Amla, Kashaya | Amla, Kashaya |
| Odour      | Odourless | Odourless |
| Touch      | Mruda, Snigdha | Mruda, Snigdha |

Physico-chemical Analysis:

|                     | RTSSPS | SBM |
|---------------------|--------|-----|
| pH                  | 2.50   | 8.32 |
| Ash value           | 99.93% | 99.95% |
| Loss on drying      | 0.14   | 0.07 |

DISCUSSION

Parpati kalpana is one amongst the four murchita parada yogas that are unique and highly evolved pharmaceutical preparations with a wide range in therapeutics. Parpati is sagandha/nirgandha, sagni, pota bandha. Agni samskara plays an important role in Parpati preparation. It helps in altering the physico-chemical properties. Parpati is a popular and successfully used preparation for the management of Grahani, Mutraghata, Mutrakricchra, Rajayakshma, Gulma, Kusta, etc. diseases.

Sheetala parpati is one among Parpati kalpana which is unique as the ingredient of Sheetala parpati are Suryakshara and Gandhakamla it is a mixture of alkali and acid. This preparation is not explained in any classical texts of Ayurveda. Sheetala Parpati has two references, the ingredients vary in both, common ingredient being Suryakshara. The reference in Rasatantra soara va siddhaprayoga sangrah has Suryakshara and Gandhakamla, as ingredients. The other reference of Siddha Bhesajya Manimala has two ingredients namely Suryakshara and Gandhaka.

Sheetala parpati prepared was white in colour as the ingredient is also white in colour with Amla-kashaya rasa and mrudu-snigdha sparsha. Sheetala parpati which was prepared according to RTSSP is more acidic than other one, it is due to the ratio of suryakshara is less compared to other method. Due to its kshariya guna it is mainly indicated in Mutrakricchra and other diseases like Amlapitta, Udarashoola, Vrikshashe, Ajeerna, Yaktivikara, etc. Suryakshara is Atishna, Tiksha, Agni dipaka, Dahaka, Shoshaka, Vatanashaka and Pittakarakara. It is helpful in Pleeha, Mutrakricchra, Netraroga, Vatarakta, Kumbakamala, Swasa, Shoola, Adhmana, etc. as per RTSSPS but according to SBM, Sheetala parpati is indicated only in Mutrakricchra.

CONCLUSION

Sheetala parpati is one of the unique parpati yoga, which does not contain parada in it. The method of preparation of Sheetala parpati is different than the other parpati kalpanas. Among these two references, the method of preparation mentioned in SBM was felt easier. Usually most of the parapti kalpanas are indicated in grahami and related rogas. But this is specially indicated in mutrakricchra and mutravarodha. Since suryakshara is atishna, tiksha, dahaka, shoshaka, vatanashaka, pittakarakara one should not use in large dose and for long time.

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