



**SLESHMAKASAM (KABHA-DOMINANT KAASAM): CLASSICAL SIDDHA
DESCRIPTION AND CORRELATION WITH MODERN INFLAMMATORY AIRWAY
DISORDERS ALIGNS TRADITIONAL SIDDHA CONCEPTS WITH CONTEMPORARY
PULMONOLOGY**

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ABSTRACT

Background: Sleshmakasam, a Kabam-predominant Kaasam subtype in Siddha medicine, features productive cough, thick white sputum, chest heaviness, and dyspnea.^[1] **Objective:** Review classical descriptions and correlate with modern mucus-dominant airway diseases like chronic bronchitis and asthma. **Methods:** Analyzed Yugi Vaidhya Chinthamani, Agasthiyar 2000, and peer-reviewed journals via PubMed and Siddha databases. **Results:** Kabam obstruction parallels goblet cell hyperplasia, Type-2 inflammation, and mucus hyperconcentration.^[1,2] **Conclusion:** Supports translational research for Siddha therapeutics.

KEYWORDS: Sleshmakasam, Kabam, Siddha, chronic bronchitis, airway inflammation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Chronic respiratory diseases like COPD and asthma affect over 500 million globally, driven by inflammation and mucus excess.^[3] Siddha medicine classifies cough (Kaasam) into Vatha-, Pitha-, and Slesma (Kabha)-dominant types, with Sleshmakasam emphasizing Kabam vitiation in Urasam (chest).^[1] This paper bridges humoral pathology with modern mechanisms for integrative insights.

2. Classical Siddha Description of Sleshmakasam

Etiology

Sleshmakasam stems from Kabam aggravation via sweet/cold diets, sedentary life, and weak Agni.^[1] Avalambaka Kabam accumulates in lungs, as per Yugi Vaidhya Chinthamani.^[3,4]

Pathogenesis

Kabam → Urasam stasis → Srotas blockage → Vatha disruption → thick sputum cough.^[1,5]

Symptoms

Thick white sputum, morning cough.^[1]
Chest heaviness, lethargy, anorexia.^[6]

Kabam derangement also causes chills, hypersalivation.^[1]

3. Modern Pathophysiological Correlation

Mucus Hypersecretion

Goblet hyperplasia upregulates MUC5AC, mimicking Kabam viscosity.^[7]

Inflammation

IL-4/IL-5, TNF- α drive Type-2 responses in asthma/COPD.^[8,9]

Remodeling & Stress

Fibrosis, smooth muscle hypertrophy; ROS via NF- κ B.^[10,11]

Hyperconcentration

Compressed periciliary layer parallels Srotas block.^[12]

4. Integrative Correlation

Siddha Concept	Modern Equivalent
Kabam excess	Mucus hypersecretion
Kabam ataippu	Airway blockage
Vatha disturbance	Impaired airflow dynamics
Chronic stagnation	Airway remodeling

5. Pharmacological Interpretation

Siddha drugs use pungent/bitter tastes, hot potency (e.g., Swasakudori Mathirai: *Vitis trifoliata*, *Piper nigrum*) for liquefaction.^[13] Pilot studies show efficacy in asthma (improved FEV1, symptom relief) and COVID respiratory issues.^[2,15] Parallels mucolytics like NAC, bronchodilators.^[5]

6. DISCUSSION

Conceptual overlap validates Siddha's observational accuracy; Kabam symptoms match bronchitis phenotypes¹COVID trials highlight Siddha's role in mucus clearance.^[2,17] Future RCTs needed for validation.

7. Limitations

Textual variations exist; molecular links unproven; few Kaasam-specific trials.^[1]

8. CONCLUSION

Sleshmakasam mirrors mucus-inflammatory airway pathology, paving for evidence-based Siddha integration.^[1]

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