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VARIOUS TRADITIONAL PRACTICES OF MEDICATED WATER IN SUTIKA-PARICHARIYA WSR TO POSTNATAL CARE

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ABSTRACT

In Ayurveda and traditional ways of treatment, medicines as well as naturally occurring substances are being used since ancient time. The medicated water is being practiced in post-natal phase of women's life since years ago. Postnatal period is an important phase of transition in women's life. It is the period after delivery of conceptus when maternal physiological and anatomical changes return to the nonpregnant state. Ayurveda and various traditional texts have described in details about the postnatal period and care for this period under the title Sutika Paricharya. There is need to summarize commonly used formulations in one place for proper use. In this article six different formulations are documented with drugs like dashmoola, lavanga, kamarkash, Khadira etc.

KEYWORDS: Post natal care, medicated water, Sutika, Dashmoola and Kamarkash.

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda gives importance to care of women at every phase of life especially in antenatal as well as postnatal care (Sutika). A Postnatal period according to various acharyas is up to 45 days. [1] after expulsion of placenta. According to ayurveda the changes occur in women after delivery are- i) weakened Agni (digestive power), ii) Vaat Dushti, iii) Dourbalya (Generalized Debility), iv) Psychological changes, v) Anatomical and physiological changes of Reproductive system, vi) Rakta kshaya (Blood loss). [2]

With the help of medicated water Acharyas are targeted i) To facilitate uterine involution, ii) To improve the physiological function of Uterus, Ovary, and Pituitary, iii) To stop excessive bleeding, iv) To improve Agni and manage Vata. In Indian Tradition various kind of medicated water (Siddha Jala/ Aushadhi Yukta Udak) are practicing in different regions of Indian sub-continent.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

According to various Ayurvedic References and information collected from telephonic conversation with various practitioner of ayurveda and traditionally trained old aged women practicing in the field of obstetrics are mentioned below:

- i) Sutika Dashmool
- ii) Dashmool Kwath Dravya Siddha Udaka
- iii) Palash Tvak (Kamarkash), Sunthi, Babul Tvak, Khadir Saar Saadhit Jala
- iv) Lavang, Jeeraka, Aajmoda, Poogphalam Saadhit Jala
- v) Jeerakodak
- vi) Sunthi Siddha Jala

1. Decoction of SUTIKA DASHMOOL^[3]

This combination is mentioned in Bhaishajya Ratnavali Sutikarog Chikitsa Prakarna. The decoction is prepared from coarse powder of these drugs by adding 64 times water and boiling it until the quantity is reduced to one-half, which is used while thirst occurred.

Ingredients:

| Sanskrit name | | Scientific name | Quantity |
|---------------|--------------|------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Prishnaparni | Root of Uraria picta | One part |
| 2. | Bruhati | Root of solanum indicum | One part |
| 3. | Kantkari | Root of Solanum xanthocarpum | One part |
| 4. | Gokshur | Root of Tribulus terestris | One part |
| 5. | Shalparni | Root of Desmodium gangeticum | One part |
| 6. | Prasarni | Root of Paederia foetida | One part |

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| 7. | Sunthi | Rhizome of Zingiber officinalis | One part |
|-----|----------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 8. | Guduchi | Root of Tenospora cordifolia | One part |
| 9. | Sahachar | Root of Barleria prionitis | One part |
| 10. | Musta | Rhizome of Cyprus rotundus | One part |

This yoga is commonly practised among Ayurvedic Physician in Sutika Charya which helps to correct vitiated Vata, improve digestive fire and stop vaginal bleeding.^[4]

2. Decoction of Dashmool Kwath^[5]

This combination is mentioned in Bhaishajya Ratnavali Sutikarog Chikitsa Prakarna. The decoction is prepared from coarse powder of these drugs by adding 64 times water and boiling it until the quantity is reduced to one-half, which is used while thirst occurred.

Ingredients:

| Sanskrit name | | Scientific name | Quantity |
|---------------|--------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| 1. | Prishnaparni | Root of Uraria picta | One part |
| 2. | Bruhati | Root of solanum indicum | One part |
| 3. | Kantkari | Root of Solanum xanthocarpum | One part |
| 4. | Gokshu | Root of Tribulus terestris | One part |
| 5. | Shalparni | Root of Desmodium gangeticum | One part |
| 6. | Patla | Root of Stereospermum suaveolens | One part |
| 7. | Gambhari | Root of Gmelina arborea | One part |
| 8. | Shyonak | Root of Oroxylum indicum | One part |
| 9. | Bilwa | Root of Aegle marmelos | One part |
| 10. | Agnimanth | Root of Clerodendrum phlomidis | One part |

This formulation is commonly practised among Ayurvedic Physician in Sutika Charya which helps to correct vitiated Vata, improve digestive fire and manage inflammation of reproductive system as well as relieve lower back pain associated during post-Natal period. [6]

3. Palash Tvak (Kamarkash), Sunthi, Babul Tvak, Khadir Saar Saadhit Jala

The Decoction of this combination is commonly practised in Northern region (Rajasthan, Uttarpradesh, Madhyapradesh etc.). The decoction is prepared from coarse powder of these drugs by adding 64 times water and boiling it until the quantity is reduced to one-half, which is used while thirst occurred.

| Sanskrit name | Scientific name | Quantity |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Palash (kamarkash) | Bark of Butea monosperma | One part |
| Sunthi | Rhizome of Zingiber officinale | One part |
| Babul | Bark of Acacia nilotica | One part |
| Khadir Saar | Heartwood of Acacia catechu | One part |

This decoction can help to promote healing of uterus and facilitate uterine involution, reduces Inflammation, reduces pain in Lower Abdomen, stop excessive bleeding and improve digestion.^[7]

4. Lavang, Jeeraka, Aajmoda, Poogphalam, Khadir Saadhit Jala

The Decoction of this combination is commonly practised in Eastern region (Bihar, U.P, M.P Assam, etc.) The decoction is prepared from coarse powder of these drugs by adding 64 times water and boiling it until the quantity is reduced to one-half, which is used while thirst occurred.

| Sanskrit name | Scientific name | Quantity |
|---------------|----------------------------------|----------|
| Lavang | Flowerbud of Syzygium aromaticum | One part |
| Jeerak | Seeds of Cuminum cyminum | One part |
| Aajmoda | Seed of Apium graveolens | One part |
| Poogphalam | Fruit of Areca catechu | One part |
| Khadir Saar | Heartwood of Acacia catechu | One part |

This decoction can help to facilitate uterine involution, reduces Inflammation, reduces pain in Lower Abdomen,

stop excessive bleeding, improve digestion and regulate vata which help in reducing lower back pain.

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5. Jeerakodak

The Decoction of this combination is commonly practised in Various Regions of India. The decoction is

prepared from coarse powder of these drugs by adding 64 times water and boiling it until the quantity is reduced to one-half, which is used while thirst occurred.

| Sanskrit Name | Scientific name | Quantity |
|---------------|-------------------------|----------|
| Jeerak | Seed of Cuminum cyminum | One part |

This decoction can help to facilitate uterine involution, reduces Inflammation, reduces pain in Lower Abdomen, improve digestion and regulate vata which help in reducing lower back pain.

6. Sunthi Siddha Jala

The Decoction of this combination is commonly practised in Southern region. The decoction is prepared from coarse powder of these drugs by adding 64 times water and boiling it until the quantity is reduced to one-half, which is used while thirst occurred.

| Sanskrit Name | Scientific name | Quantity |
|---------------|--------------------------------|----------|
| Sunthi | Rhizome of Zingiber officinale | One part |

This decoction can help to facilitate uterine involution, reduces Inflammation, reduces pain in Lower Abdomen, improve digestion and regulate vata which help in reducing lower back pain.^[8]

CONCLUSION

There are numerus popular practices of medicated water used by ayurveda physician and traditional practitioners for Post natal care. Some popular formulations are included in this article. These formulations are commonly used for management of hazards related to post-natal period i.e. to improve immunity, to reduce inflammation, to reduce body pain, to support body natural healing process, to improve psychological support, to stop excessive bleeding, to improve digestion, to promote lactation, and to regulate vata. It also addresses both physical recovery and emotional well-being, helping, particularly after a cesarean section.

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