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A COMPARATIVE CLINICAL STUDY TO EVALUATE THE EFFICACY OF VISHWADYA GUGGULU WITH RASNA SAPTAKA KASHAYA AND TRAYODASHANGA GUGGULU WITH RASNA SAPTAKA KASHAYA IN THE MANAGEMENT OF GRIDRASI W.S.R TO SCIATICA

Dr. Bhargavi P.1*, Dr. Vijayalakshmi² and Dr. Muralidhara³

¹PG Scholar, Department of Kayachikitsa SKAMCH & RC, Bengaluru. ²Associate Professor, Department of Kayachikitsa SKAMCH & RC, Bengaluru. ³Professor, Department of Kayachikitsa SKAMCH & RC, Bengaluru.

*Corresponding Author: Dr. Bhargavi P.

PG Scholar, Department of Kayachikitsa SKAMCH & RC, Bengaluru.

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ABSTRACT

Gridhrasi is one of Vataja Nanatmaja vyadhi, it is classified as Vataja and Vatakaphaja based on the involvement of Dosha. Ruk, Toda, Sthambha, Sakti Kshepa Nigrahana along with Aruchi, Gourava and Tandra are the cardinal symptoms. It is said to be Krichrasadhya and is a growing global problem because of the lifetime prevalence of the condition. It can be co-related with Sciatica also known as Lumbar Radiculopathy. The aim of the present study was to find out efficacy of Vishwadya Guggulu mentioned in Bruhat Nighantu Ratnakara and Trayodashanga Guggulu mentioned in Bhaishajya Ratnavali along with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya mentioned in Chakradatta as common drug in both the groups. Total of 40 patients diagnosed with Gridhrasi were assigned into two groups with each comprising of 20 subjects. Group A- Was given with 24ml of Rasna Saptaka Kashaya twice daily before food with hot water as Anupana along with Vishwadya Guggulu 2tablets (500mg each) twice daily after food for 14days. Group B- Was given with 24ml of Rasna Saptaka Kashaya twice daily before food with hot water as Anupana along with Trayodashanga Guggulu 2tablets (500mg each) twice daily after food for 14 days. The statistical analysis after intervention showed statistically highly significant (p<0.001) results, when compared between group and within the group before Treatment to After Treatment and after treatment to at Follow up on all the parameters in both groups.

KEYWORDS: Vishwadya Guggulu, Trayodashanga Guggulu, Rasna Saptaka Kashaya, Gridhrasi, Sciatica.

Gridhrasi is included under 80 Nanatmaja Vatavyadhi^[1] where there is vitiation of Vatadosha or Vatakaphadosha. The signs and symptoms of the disease are Sthamba, Ruk, Toda and Muhu Spandana along with Tandra, Arochaka and Gourava. Patient may also present with Sakthi Utkshepa Nigraha and Dehasya Pravakratha. In Gridhrasi, Sthanasamshraya of Dosha happens in Sphik, Kati, Prishta, Janu, Jangha and Pada thus affecting the Kandara of leg. Apana Vata and Vyana Vata are involved in this condition.

Low back ache is the most common disorder which affects particularly in the most productive period of life i.e. 30 to 60 yrs. 40% of cases comes under sciatica otherwise known as lumbar radiculopathy, a painful condition chiefly affecting the low back area which radiates downwards to one leg or both legs. Sciatica is a syndrome characterized by pain starting in the lumbar region and spreading down the legs up to the foot which is intensified by coughing or sneezing. In severe conditions there may be numbness, muscular weakness,

pins and needles or tingling and difficulty in moving or controlling the leg. More than 10 million cases of sciatica have been reported in India per year. [3]

According to the National Institute of Arthritis, Musculoskeletal and Skin diseases; 8 out of 10 people have some type of back ache. ^[4] In about 90% of cases sciatica is caused by a herniated disc with nerve root compression, but lumbar stenosis and less often tumours are possible causes. ^[5] In general an estimated 5% - 10% of patients with low back pain have sciatica, whereas the reported lifetime prevalence of low back pain ranges from 49% to 70%. ^[5] The annual prevalence of disc related sciatica in the general population is estimated at 2.2%. ^[5]

Since *Gridhrasi* is a *Shoola Pradhana Vatavyadhi* intervening with the functional ability of low back and lower limbs, effective medications is important that soothe the severity of the pain and improve functional ability. Sequential administration of *Snehana*, *Swedana*, *Basti Karma*, *Siravyadha*, *Agnikarma* and

Shamanoushadis are the lines of treatment of Gridhrasi Vyadhi as expounded in the Ayurveda literature. The treatment principle is to treat the Vata Dosha. ^[6] There are various Shamanoushadis explained in our classics, Vishwadya Guggulu and Rasna Saptaka Kashaya is one among them.

CTRI Registration was CTRI/2019/01/016833. Duration of the study was 14 days. Assessment was done before and after the study period.

Inclusion criteria: Patients with *Pratyathma Lakshanas* of *Gridhrasi*, Patients with the signs and symptoms of Sciatica and Patients of 18-70 years of either sex.

Exclusion criteria: Patients with Carcinoma of spine, Tuberculosis of spine and spinal fractures, Cauda equina syndrome, Any systemic disorder which might interfere with the course of treatment, Pregnant and lactating women and Sacralisation of spine.

Aims and Objectives

- To evaluate the efficacy of Vishwadhya Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya in Gridhrasi w.s.r to Sciatica.
- To evaluate the efficacy of Trayodashanga Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya in Gridhrasi w.s.r to Sciatica.
- To compare and evaluate the therapeutic efficacy of both the group.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The subjects of either gender diagnosed with *Gridhrasi* who fulfilled the inclusion and exclusion criteria were assigned with random allocation, complying with the informed Consent (IC). A case proforma containing all necessary details pertaining to study was prepared. The parameters considered for the study were graded as mentioned in the case proforma.

Ruk (Pain)

Ruk was graded based on Visual Analogue Scale.

Scoring pattern for *Ruk*.

Criteria	Score
No Pain	0
Mild	1
Moderate	2
Severe/Unbearable	3

Toda (Pricking sensation) Scoring pattern for Toda.

Criteria	Score
No Pricking sensation	0
Occasionally in a day	1
Persists for few hours a day	2
Persistent throughout the day	3

Stambha (Stiffness)

Scoring pattern for Stambha.

Criteria	Score
No Stiffness	0
Occasionally in a day	1
Persists for few hours a day	2
Persistent throughout the day	3

Grhnatha (Spasm)

Scoring pattern for Grhnatha.

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Criteria	Score
No spasm	0
Occasionally in a day	1
Persists for few hours a day	2
Persistent throughout the day	3

Muhu Spandana (Throbbing pain)

Scoring pattern for Spandana.

Criteria	Score
No throbbing pain	0
Occasionally in a day	1
Persists for few hours a day	2
Persistent throughout the day	3

Aruchi (Anorexia)

Scoring pattern for Aruchi.

Criteria	Score
Normal desire for food	0
Eating timely without much desire	1
Eating food a little longer than regular intervals	2
Aversion to the sight of food	3

Tandra (Paraesthesia)

Scoring pattern for Tandra.

Criteria	Score
No Paraesthesia	0
Occasionally in a day	1
Persists for few hours a day	2
Persistent throughout the day	3

Gaurava (Heaviness)

Scoring pattern for Gaurava.

Criteria	Score
No Heaviness	0
Occasional heaviness	1
Persistent for few hours a day	2
Persistent throughout the day	3

Lasegue's sign

Scoring pattern for Lasegue's sign.

Lacagua's sign	Present
Lasegue's sign	Absent

Assessment Criteria

Subjective criteria: *Ruk* (Pain), *Toda* (Pricking sensation), *Sthambha* (Stiffness), *Grhnatha* (Catch),

Spandana (Twitching), Tandra (Drowsiness), Aruchi (Anorexia), Gourava (Heaviness)

Objective criteria: SLR Test and Lasegue's sign.

Diagnostic criteria: Patients presenting with *Pratyatma Lakshanas* of *Gridhrasi*, Patients presenting with signs and symptoms of Sciatica and SLR test positive in affected leg (Ranging between 30° to 70°).

Statistical Analysis: Statistical analysis was done using SPSS VER 2.0. Subjective parameters such as *Ruk*, *Toda*, *Sthamba*, *Ghranata*, *Spandana*, *Aruchi*, *Tandra* and *Gourava* were subjected to Wilcoxon Signed rank test to compare the Mean values within the groups. The objective parameter SLR was subjected to Student's to compare the Mean values within the groups. Chi-square test was applied for assessment of Lasegue's Sign within the groups. These tests were applied at different time points like before treatment (BT), after treatment (AT) and at follow-up (AF).

Investigation: X-ray of the lumbo sacral spine in anteroposterior and lateral view, Blood for Hb%, Total Count, Differential Count, Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate and RBS.

Observation

Gender- 22(55%) were female, Age- 16(40%) were between 29-38 years, Habitat- 38(95%) were from Sadharana Desha, Occupation- 20 (50%) were homemakers, Low back ache: All 40(100%) had low back ache, Radiation of pain- 21(52.5%) had Radiation to both the lower limb, SLR Test and Lasegue's sign-40(100%) had positive SLR and Lasegue's test, Nidra-21 (40%) had disturbed sleep. **Prakruthi-** 18 (45%) subjects belonged to Vata kaphaja Prakruti, Agni- 29 (72.5%) subjects were having Vishamagni, Ahara- 20 (50%) subjects were indulging in Akalabhojana and 18 (45%) subjects were indulging in Vishamashana, Vyayama- 29 (72.5%) subjects had Avara Vyayama Shakti, Type of Gridhrasi- 28 (70%) subjects were of Vata-kaphaja, Chronicity- 24(60%) had more than 1 vear.

RESULTS Effect of Treatment on Ruk.

	Gro	oup A	Gro	oup B	Mann-	Z	_	
Ruk	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks
BT	21.00	420.00	20.00	400.00	190.00	-0.593	0.553	NS
AT	18.40	368.00	22.60	452.00	158.000	-1.374	0.170	NS
AF	17.50	350.00	23.50	470.00	140.000	-2.071	0.038	S

Effect of Treatment on Toda.

	Group A		Group B						
Toda	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks	
BT	20.08	401.50	20.92	418.50	191.5	-0.25	0.799	NS	
AT	18.95	379.00	22.05	441.00	169	-0.95	0.339	NS	
AF	18.05	361.00	22.95	459.00	151	-1.49	0.134	NS	

Effect of Treatment on Sthamba.

	Gre	Group A		Group B Monn		Monn 7		
Sthamba	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mann- Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks
BT	21.30	426.00	19.70	394.00	184.00	-0.46	0.642	NS
AT	19.08	381.50	21.92	438.50	171.50	-0.87	0.385	NS
AF	18.28	365.50	22.72	454.50	155.50	-1.3	0.165	NS

Effect of Treatment on Grhnatha.

	Group A		Group B		Mann-	Z	n	
Grhnatha	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks
BT	22.15	443.00	18.85	377.00	167.000	-0.99	0.319	NS
AT	17.48	349.50	23.52	470.50	139.500	-1.840	0.066	NS
AF	17.48	349.50	23.52	470.50	139.500	-1.840	0.066	NS

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Effect of Treatment on Muhu Spandana.

Muhu	Group A		Group B		Mann-	Z			
Spandana	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks	
BT	22.68	453.50	18.32	366.50	156.500	-1.503	0.133	NS	
AT	21.18	423.50	19.82	396.50	186.500	417	0.677	NS	
AF	20.50	410.00	20.50	410.00	200.000	0.000	1.000	NS	

Effect of Treatment on Aruchi.

	Group A		Group B		Mann-	Z		
Aruchi	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks
BT	19.28	385.50	21.72	434.50	175.50	-0.750	0.453	NS
AT	19.30	386.00	21.70	434.00	176.00	-0.860	0.390	NS
AF	18.92	370.00	22.80	441.50	168.50	-1.174	0.240	NS

Effect of Treatment on Tandra.

	Group A		Group B		Monn	7		
Tandra	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mann- Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks
BT	19.72	394.50	21.28	425.50	184.50	-0.465	0.642	NS
AT	21.45	429.00	19.55	391.00	181.00	-0.615	0.539	NS
AF	21.32	426.00	19.68	393.50	183.50	-0.559	0.576	NS

Effect of Treatment on Gourava.

	Group A		Group B		Mann-	Z			
Gourava	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Mean rank	Sum of ranks	Whitney U	value	p- value	Remarks	
BT	20.45	409.00	20.55	411.50	199.00	-0.32	0.974	NS	
AT	18.22	364.50	22.78	455.50	154.50	-1.508	0.131	NS	
AF	19.00	380.00	22.00	440.00	170.00	-1.049	0.294	NS	

Effect of treatment on objective parameter SLR

Effect of treatment on SLR.

SLR		Mean	SD	SE	MD	PSE	t	p value	Re
BT	Group A	48.25	10.548	2.358	1.500	3.260	-0.460	0.648	NS
DI	Group B	49.75	10.062	2.250	-1.500	3.200		0.048	1/1/2
AT	Group A	69.50	12.866	2.877	13.250		3.471	0.001	HS
AI	Group B	56.25	11.224	2.510		3.818	3.4/1	0.001	пэ
AF	Group A	68.50	13.964	3.122	13.250	4.065	3.260	0.002	HS
АГ	Group B	55.25	11.639	2.603			3.200	0.002	пэ

Lasegue's sign.

Effect of	Effect of treatment on lasegue's sign in between the groups										
Before treatment – after treatment											
Group Present Absent Chi square value p – value Remarks											
A	18	2	0.52	>0.05	NS						
В	20	0	0.32	>0.03	1/10						
After tre	eatment –	After foll	ow up								
Group	Present	Absent	Chi square value	p– value	Remarks						
A	4	16	0.17	>0.05	NS						
В	3	17	0.17	>0.03	1/1/2						

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DISCUSSION ON OBSERVATION

Gender- In the present study majority were females. Females are frequently involved in postural stress like bending, lifting, sitting and sustained non-neutral postures in routine household works. Men tend to carry heavy weight, ride for longer distance on uneven roads. These can be considered as pre-disposal factors to sciatica.

Age- Majority i.e. 16 (40%) subjects belonged to the age group of 29-38 years.

According to Sushruta 41-70years is Parihani avastha. Here there will be Vata prakopa resulting in decline of Shareera Bala and Dhatus. The highest prevalence of herniated lumbar disc is among people aged 30-50 years and in older age group it is majorly due to disc degeneration. Hence, prevalence of sciatica is high in middle and old aged people, which is supported in this study.

Habitat- Majority of the subjects were from *Sadharana Desha*. In Urban area majority of the population travel for longer duration in motor vehicles, indulge in irregular diet and will have bad postural habits due to prolonged working hours; these are the predisposing factors for *Gridhrasi*.

Occupation- In the present study majority were homemakers. Strenuous work, lifting heavy weights, day sleep and stress are usually seen in home makers. Improper posture, prolonged work hours and *Vegadharana* is observed in other profession such as engineers and drivers, these are the *Nidanas* responsible for *Gridhrasi*.

Low back ache- All the subjects had experienced low back ache due to *Prakupitha Vata* which takes *Sthana Samshraya* in *Kati Pradesha*.

Radiation of pain- 21 subjects were having Radiation of pain to Both Lower Limbs, the typical characteristic feature of *Gridhrasi* is pain traversing from *Kati Pradesha* progressing towards subjects *Paada*.

SLR test and Lasegue's test- It was positive in all the subjects, the diagnostic feature of sciatica is positive SLR and lasegue's sign, the same has been reflected in the study.

Nidra- Majority of the patients had *Nidranasha*, the character of pain in this disease will lead to disturbed sleep. *Nidranasha* is one of the consequences of *Vikara* as stated by *Acharya Charaka*.

Prakruthi- In this study, most of the subjects belonged to *Vata kaphaja Prakruti*, from this observation, we can say that there is dominance of *Vata Dosha* in majority of the

patients which maybe a predisposing factor for the *Vata Vyadhi*. The observed findings are in the support of this principle as per the classical description.

Agni- Most of the subjects had *Vishamagni*, it is due to the vitiation of *Vata*, and this signifies the importance of *Vata Dosha* in the pathogenesis.

Aharaja Nidana- Akalabhojana, Vishamashana and Adhyashana was observed in majority of the subjects like consuming food untimely, having little quantity of food and having dry food articles which is responsible for vitiation of Vata Dosha.

Viharaja Nidana- Atiyaana and Bharaharana were the common Nidanas found in the subjects. Riding on uneven roads and lifting heavy weights leads to disc herniation and disc bulge leading to Sciatica.

Vyayama Shakti: Avara Vyayama Shakti was observed in majority of the subjects this could be due to intensity of pain and restricted movements in *Gridhrasi*.

Type of *Gridrasi-* As majority of the patients were of *Vata-kaphaja prakruthi*, this could be the reason for observing *Vata-kaphaja Gridhrasi* dominantly.

Chronicity-Majority had chronicity for more than a year. This signifies the *Sadhyaasadhyatha* of the *Vyadhi*, early recovery can be favoured in the subjects with less chronicity.

Discussion on disease

Gridhrasi is a condition of Vata characterized by Sthamba, Ruk, Toda, Grhnatha and Spandana beginning from Sphik Pradesha, Kati, Prishta radiating down to the posterior of Uru, Janu, Jangha, Pada and Angulis which shows the involvement of Asthi Dhatu. Radiating nature of pain is suggestive of Snayu Upadhatu Sankocha. Disability to walk is suggestive of involvement of Mamsa Dhatu. In Vata-Kaphaja Gridhrasi along with these symptoms Aruchi, Tandra and Gourava are seen, which is due to vitiation of Rasa Dhatu. These Lakshanas are seen in Sciatica which shows similar presentation.

The prevalence of sciatica symptoms reported in the literature varies considerably ranging from 1.6% in the general population to 43% in a selected working population. Although the prognosis is good in most patients, a substantial proportion continues to have pain for 1 year or longer.

Discussion on drug

Vishwadya Guggulu^[7]- It is mentioned in Bruhat Nighantu Ratnakara. The contents of it are Shunti, Pippali, Pippalimula, Vidanga, Devadaru, Saindhava, Chitraka, Yavani, Maricha, Vacha, Abhaya and

Guggulu. In Gridhrasi, main Dosha are Vata and Kapha. A brief insight into Doshagnatha action of this combination shows main action against Kapha Vata Dosha by virtue of its Ushna Veerya and Tikshna Guna. Predominant Rasa in this combination are Katu, Tiktha, Kashaya which posess Deepana Pachana properties which help in Ama Pachana and pacifies Kapha. Abhaya is Rasayana and has Vatanulomana property, it helps to pacify Vata. Thus, it controls both Kapha and Vata together and minimizes the process of pathogenesis.

Rasna Saptaka Kashaya^[8]- It is mentioned in Chakradatta, indicated for Shula in Jangha, Uru, Prishta, Trika and Parshva. The ingredients of it are Rasna, Guduchi, Aragvadha, Devadaru, Gokshura, Eranda and Punarnava. Eranda and Rasna have Amapachana and Kapha-Vatahara properties, Guduchi having Tikta, Kashaya property does Deepana and it is also Balya. Punarnava is having Tikta Kashaya Rasa, Katu Vipaka and Ushna Veerya helps to relieve Sthamba. Rasna Saptaka Kashaya does Ama Pachana and acts as Agnivardaka. Ama due to Agnimandya causes obstruction, which in turn leads to Vata Prakopa. By doing Ama Pachana it helps to relieve Vata and thereby reduces the Ruk which is one of the cardinal symptoms of Gridhrasi.

Trayodashanga Guggulu^[9]

It is mentioned in *Bhaishajya Ratnavali*, the ingredients of it are Abha, Ashwagandha, Hapusha, Guduchi, Shatavari, Gokshura, Vriddhadaruka, Rasna, Shatapushpa, Shati, Yavani, Shunti, Guggulu and Goghrita. Ashwagandha, Guggulu and Abha have Balya, Brihmana and Rasayana property, Ashwagandha is Vedana Sthapana Vatashamaka. and Shoola prashamana. Shunti has Amapachaka property. Vriddhadaru, Hapusha and Rasna do Amapachana and thereby pacify Kapha. Ghrita is Jeevaniya, Rasayana and Balya brings Mardatva of Vata and due to its properties Trayodashanga Guggulu helps in reducing symptoms of Gridhrasi.

Probable mode of action of drugs-

Vishwadya Guggulu due to its Katu, Tiktarasa and Ushna Veerya causes Agnideepana, acts as Srotoshodhana and Kaphashamaka which reduces the symptoms like Stambha, Gaurava, Tandra and Aruchi by to its Laghuguna. Due to Madhura Vipaka and Ushna Veerya does Vatanulomana and Bruhmana, thereby reduces the symptoms of Gridhrasi.

Ushna Virya, *Tikta* and *Katu Rasa* of drugs in *Trayodashanga Guggulu* help in *Ama pachana* and pacify *Kapha* due to its *Snigdha Guna* it helps to reduce *Vata*. It had significant result on *Ruk*.

Another reason behind the effectiveness of this therapy might be that both the combination was administered with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya, it removes Avarana by its Ushna Veerya, Tikta Kashaya Rasa and Katu Vipaka.

Eranda is one of the ingredients and it mitigates Rukshatva of Vata by its Snigdha Guna.

CONCLUSION

Gridrasi is one among Vataja Nanatmaja Vyadhi. The study reveals that the disease is more prevelant in the age group of 29-38 years, which signifies that Gridhrasi is commonly seen in middle age due to long working hours, improper posture and traveling for longer distance. It reveals that both the trial drugs were safe without any adverse effect. The results were found to be statistically highly significant (p<0.001) before treatment to after treatment and statistically significant after follow-up on all parameters. From the study, it is established that the combination Vishwadya Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya act as Vata-Kaphahara, Deepana, Pachana, Vedanasthapana, Rasayana and give considerable relief from Gridhrasi. Thus, it can be concluded that these medicines are effective in the management of Gridhrasi especially on Vata Kaphaja Gridhrasi.

Based on the observation and results the following hypotheses were accepted.

- Vishwadya Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya is effective in Gridhrasi w.s.r to Sciatica.
- > Trayodashanga Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya is effective in Gridhrasi w.s.r to Sciatica.
- Vishwadya Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya is effective than Trayodashanga Guggulu with Rasna Saptaka Kashaya in Gridhrasi w.s.r to Sciatica.

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