

INTERNATIONAL AYURVEDIC MEDICAL JOURNAL







Research Article ISSN: 2320 5091 Impact Factor: 5.344

STANDARDIZATION OF DARVYADI EYE OINTMENT: AN AYURVEDIC FORMULATION

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https://doi.org/10.46607/iamj1408092020

(Published online: September 2020)

Open Access

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Article Received: 26/08/2020 - Peer Reviewed: 08/09/2020 - Accepted for Publication: 08/09/2020



ABSTRACT

Darvyadi Raskriya is a combination of herbal drugs mentioned in Ayurvedic classic Sharangdhar Samhita. The formulation is believed to cure ocular complaints like Netra Daha, Ashru, raag and Ruja if prepared following appropriate methods. Material and Methods: For making the application of drug more convenient present study has been undertaken with the aim to modify Darvyadi Raskriya into ointment form and to develop the physicochemical profile of the final product. This form was designed in two steps viz. preparation of Ghana Satva from decoction of herbal drugs and mixing powdered Satva with Goghrit and paraffin wax used as a base for attaining the final product. The prepared drug was evaluated for organoleptic study, physicochemical study, pH value and also the product was subjected for microbial contamination test. It was tested in analytical laboratory and results were documented. Result and Discussion: The result shows the organoleptic character and sterility of the product. Conclusion: Darvyadi Raskriya ointment was prepared by following the method described in Sharangdhar Samhita. This paper presents the analytical study of the formulation.

Keywords: Darvyadi Raskriya, analytical, organoleptic, sterility

INTRODUCTION

Anjana is a procedure of applying medicinal pastes or powders to the internal surface of lower lid margin from Kaneenika to Apanga sandhi either by using fingertip or the applicator called anjana shalaka. It has been classified into Churnanjana (fine powder), Gutikanjana (tablet rubbed in appropriate solution) and Raskriva (semisolid form) according to the swaroop or nature of drug.1 Raskriya is semi solid aqueous extraction of drug which is prepared by reducing decoction till it becomes thicker. It is considered to contain all the active principles as that of the whole drug.² Darvyadi Raskriya is a formulation prepared of Daruharidra, Yashtimadhu, Nimb, Padmak, Utpal, Prapaundrik all in equal amounts and is indicated in Daha (burning sensation in eyes), Ashru (watering from eyes), Raag (redness in eyes) and *Ruja* (pain or irritation in eyes).³ Almost all the drugs in the formulation have chakshushya properties i.e. they are beneficial for eyes and improves eyesight. Daruharidra, the chief component of the formulation has been quoted as "netrakarnaasyaroganut" i.e. pacifies disease of eyes,

ear and mouth.4 Yashtimadhu is also a content of the formulation which apart from having rasayan properties has also been called chakshushya by acharya bhavprakash.⁵ This paper presents the analytical study of the formulation, which may serve as supporting literature for future studies and to maintain standard quality of the formulation.

Aim and Objectives

- A) To prepare Darvyadi Raskriya in the form of eye ointment.
- B) To find out the sterility test and physicochemical tests of Darvyadi ointment prepared by classical and modified methods.
- C) To analyze the physical or organoleptic character of the prepared drug.

Material and Methods

Collection of raw materials

The raw drugs for the study were procured from the Hansa Pharmacy Premnagar Ashram, Haridwar Uttarakhand. (Figure 1-6). The final product was prepared in the Hansa Pharmacy Premnagar Ashram, Haridwar Uttarakhand.



Figure 1: Barberis aristata



Figure 2: Glycrhizza glabra



Figure 3: *Prunis prudium*

doi: 10.46607/iamj.1408092020



Figure 4: Nelumbo nucifera





Figure 5: Trichosanthes dioca

Figure 6: Azadirachta indica

Table 1: Contents of *Darvyadi Raskriya*

| Sr. No. | Drug Name | Botanical Name | Family | Part Used | Ratio |
|---------|---|-----------------------|---------------|-----------|---------|
| 1. | Darvi | Berberis aristata | Berberidaceae | Root | 1500gms |
| 2. | Patol | Trichosanthes dioica | Cucurbitaceae | Leaf | 1500gm |
| 3. | Yashtimadhu | Glycyrrhiza glabra | Fabaceae | Root | 1500gms |
| 4. | Utpal (substituted with Kamal Pushpa) | Nelumbo nucifera | Nymphaeaceae | Flower | 1500gms |
| 5. | Prapaundrik (substituted with Kamal Pushpa) | Nelumbo nucifera | Nymphaeaceae | Flower | 1500gms |
| 6. | Padmak | Prunus cerasoides | Rosaceae | Stem | 1500gms |
| 7. | Nimb | Azadirachta indica | Meliaceae | Stem bark | 1500gms |

Method of preparation of *Darvyadi* ointment

The Darvyadi ointment was prepared by classical method of Ghana satva. For the preparation of Ghana satva yavkoot of all the raw herbal drugs i.e. Daruharidra, Patol, Yashtimadhu, Nimb, Padmak, Utpal (substituted with kamal pushpa), Prapaundrik (substituted with kamal pushpa) were taken in equal amount (1500gms each) in dry form and was kept in 4 times of water (42 liters) for overnight (approx. 8 hours) and then decoction was prepared till it reduced to ½ of total quantity. This part of decoction was

filtered and subjected to boil again till it became thicker⁶. After obtaining the Ghana satva it was kept into tray drier at 35-40 degree Celsius until completely dry and then was powdered. Obtained powdered was sieved through mesh no. 120 and then mixed with base of ointment prepared by mixing Goghrit and paraffin wax mixed in ratio 2:1. Drug to base ratio was kept as 3:2 for obtaining desired semi solid consistency. Final product was then packed in sterile ointment tubes of 5ml each.



Fig. 7. Procedure of preparing Darvyadi Ointment

Analytical Study: Observations

Prepared final product (*Darvyadi* Ointment) was analyzed by employing various analytical parameters.

Physical Characterization Description or Organoleptic study

Oraganoleptic characteristics for various sensory characters like appearance, color, taste, odour etc. were carefully noted down (table no. II).

Table 2: Physical characterization Description

| Appearance | A Blackish coloured semisolid mass | |
|------------|------------------------------------|--|
| Colour | Dark brown | |
| Odour | Characteristic | |
| Taste | Characteristic | |

pH value: pH was determined by using Digital pH meter. One gram of ointment was dissolved in 100 ml of distilled water and stored for 2 hours and the measurement of pH came out to be 5.0 which is weakly acidic.

Physicochremical Analysis: Sample was subjected for physicochemical analysis such as Loss on drying

doi: 10.46607/iamj.1408092020

at 105-degree Celsius, Total fatty matter present and spreadability test. Loss on drying was calculated after placing the 10g of sample in the tared evaporating dish, drying at 105 C for 5 hours. Fat content present in the ointment was found to be of normal range and spreadability also complied (table no. III)

Table 3: Physicochemical properties

| Loss on drying at 105 (%w/w) | 10.02 |
|------------------------------|----------|
| Total fatty matter (%w/w) | 24.44 |
| Spreadability | Complies |

Sterility Test: Sterility test was done by the method mentioned under IP 2007, Vol-2, which shows that the drug was tested, was sterile.

Heavy Metal Test: Spectrometry of the sample was also carried out for the presence of heavy metals such

as cadmium (Cd), lead (Pb), mercury (Hg), arsenic (As). All the metals were present in the ointment in safe range (table no. IV).

Table 4: Heavy Metals

| Lead (Pb) ppm | 3.5 |
|------------------|------|
| Arsenic (As) ppm | 0.65 |
| Cadmium (Cd) ppm | 0.06 |
| Mercury (Hg) ppm | 0.22 |

Microbial Analysis: Darvyadi anjana was evaluated for total bacterial count and total fungal count count. Total bacterial count was carried out by plate count method, which is mentioned in A.P.I, Part II, Vol-I, Appendices-2.4 (table no. V)

Table 5: Microbiological Analysis

| Total bacterial count (cfu/g)* | <10 |
|--------------------------------|--------|
| Total fungal count | <10 |
| E.coli | Absent |
| Salmonella sp. | Absent |
| P.aeruginosa | Absent |
| S. aureus | Absent |

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

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Pharmacognostical Analysis organoleptic evaluation of the final product was performed. The *Darvyadi raskriya* has been prepared in ointment form for the first time for making the application easy and accessible. The final product obtained appeared blackish brown in colour with bitter taste. The obtained value of pH, microbial count limits and heavy metal limits all were found within normal limits in the ointment and sterility also complied. As the product is prepared to be used directly on eyes these are major factors that will ensure safety while applying the product. The product was found to be weakly acidic so it would not cause any harm as tears rapidly neutralizes excess hydrogen ions. Low microbial count and sterility will ensure that using the

product on eyes would not be responsible for any secondary infections. Ointment was also tested for fat content, spreadability and how much loss occurs while drying the product. All the readings of the product came out to be within normal range. Spreadability will ensure that product is easy to drag without causing any greater fiction or rubbing. As the product has been prepared using cow ghee, and Ghana satva extract it will be having more contact time with the eye and will be absorbed more rapidly by the epithelial cells. This indicates good quality of the product and may be responsible for its pharmacological and clinical actions.

CONCLUSION

Pharmacognostical evaluation of *Daryvyadi* ointment illustrated the specific characters of this preparation. The microscopic features, physio-chemical parameters, sterility, heavy metal testing and microbiological analysis are essential parameters for ensuring safety and quality of the drug. All parameters of *Darvyadi* ointment were found within normal range and may be used for standardization and quality evaluation of the drug for future scholars.

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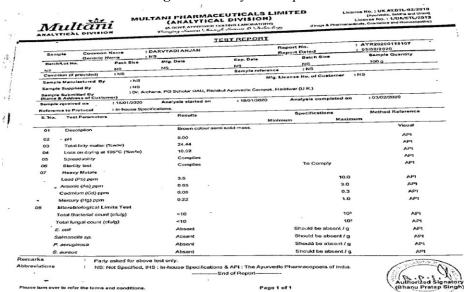


Figure 8: Analytical Report

Source of Support: Nil

Conflict of Interest: None Declared

How to cite this URL: Archana Gairola et al: Standardization Of Darvyadi Eye Ointment: An Ayurvedic Formulation. International Ayurvedic Medical Journal {online} 2020 {cited September, 2020} Available from: http://www.iamj.in/posts/images/upload/4385 4390.pdf