STANDARDIZATION OF VANGABHASMA
(PREPARED BY DIFFERENT SHODHANA PROCESS)
WITH REFERENCE TO ANCIENT AND MODERN PARAMETERS

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ABSTRACT

Background: Rasashastra is a specialized branch of Ayurveda which deals with the pharmaceutics of its unique and potent preparations. Bhasmas (calx) are one among such preparations which are prepared after various Samskaras (processings) such as Shodhana (purification), Jarana (roasting), Marana (incineration), Amrutiukarana (nectarization) etc. They are said to be good if properly prepared and pass certain bhasma tests enlisted in classical Rasashastra texts. But in this era, only ancient bhasma parikshas are not enough to satisfy the modern scientific world.

Objective: Hence the present study was carried out to evaluate an Ayurvedic bhasma with both modern and ancient parameters.

Materials and methods: Vanga bhasma, a Tin based Ayurvedic metallic preparation, was prepared as per Rasa text and it was tested with both ancient and modern analytical parameters to know how the basic metal was transformed into bio-absorbable bhasma form and also to know its physical nature as to in which form the final product is.

Results: The ancient bhasma parikshas revealed that the bhasma prepared with Shodhana process passed all the tests and thus ascertaining it was properly formed and modern analytical techniques like XRD (X Ray Diffraction) identified the final product as Tin oxide (SnO₂). SEM (Scanning Electron Microscopy) revealed the amorphous nature of the bhasma with particle size range 5-20 µm. ICPAES (Inductively Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectroscopy) showed the presence of Tin in major portion and other elements like Pb and As <0.5 ppm in the final product.

Conclusion: Hence it can be concluded that ancient tests are handy in the qualitative aspect where as modern tests are useful for quantitative aspect and both of them are practically suited to test the proper formation of bhasma.

KEYWORDS: Vanga Bhasma, X ray diffraction; Shodhana; Jarana; Marana.

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