

STANSARDISATION OF SRINGA BHASMA

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ABSTRACT: *Sringa Bhasma is an Ayurvedic medicine prescribed mainly for asthma. Physico chemical studies and thin layer chromatography for this medicine was worked out to laydown standards. The evolved parameters can be used for prescribing dependable standards to this medicine.*

INTRODUCTION

Ayurvedic system is one of the ancient Dravidian systems of medicine practiced predominantly in south India. Since these systems of traditional medicines involves the use of several plant drugs, minerals, metals and animal products, the chance of adulteration is more therefore it is essential to standardize these medicinal preparations. This deals with standardization of sringa Bhasma, a compound preparation of Sringa and usnodaka. This compound is used in Ayurvedic medicine for treating hikka (Hiccup), Kaso(cough), svasa (difficult breathing including asthma), hrtsula (cardiac colic), urastoya and pars' vas'ual(abdominal distension and intensinal rumbling)^{1,2}. Physico chemical evaluation and TLC of this medicine was carried out to fix the standards.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sringa Bhasma was procured from the Indian Medical practioners Co-operative pharmacy and –stores Ltd (IMPCOPS), Chennai. Qualitative analysis of the Bhasma was carried out by semimicro analysis⁴ and the results of the findings are reported in Table– 1

ANALYTICAL METHODS

Loss on drying at 110oC, loss on ignition, water soluble ash, acid insoluble ash, water soluble extractive value, alcohol soluble extractive value, specific gravity, pH and acidity were analysed (Table -1) as per the procedure detailed in CCRAS³.

CHROMATOGRAPHY

Thin layer chromatography (TLC) over silicagel was carried out in a solvent system comprising of water and ammonia in the ratio of 100:1:5. The spots in the chromatograms were detected by keeping it in iodine chamber. The Rf value was found to be 0.89.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sringa Bhasma is a odourless dull white powder with chalk like taste. Qualitative inorganic analysis showed the presence of carbonates, sulphates, chlorides, potassium, calcium and magnesium. The organic contents like tannins and proteins were also identified, the analytical and chromatographic data obtained can be taken

as preliminary parameters to laydown the standards.

Table – 1
Physico – Chemical parameters Of Sringa Bhasma

Parameters	Value
Organoleptic Characters	
Color	Dull white
Odour	Odourless
Taste	Chalk Like
Appearance	Coarse powder to fine powder
Analytical Data	
Loss on drying at 110oC	0.44%
Loss on ignition	0.3%
Acid insoluble ash	12.68%
Water soluble ash	18%
Water soluble extractive value	63.53%
Alcohol soluble extractive value	2.31%
Specific gravity	0.7767
pH	10
Acidity/Alkalinity	Aqueous solution is basic in nature 3.5ml of 0.1 NHCl neutralizes 50ml of 1% solution of Bhasma.
Rf value (by using TLC)	0.8984
Qualitative Analysis	
a) Carbonates	+ve
b) Sulphates	+ve
c) Chlorides	+ve
d) Potassium	+ve
e) Iron	-ve
f) Calcium	+ve
g) Magnesium	+ve
h) Alkaloid	-ve
i) Sugar	-ve
j) Tannins	+ve
k) Proteins	+ve

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