IMPORTANCE AND RELEVANCE OF GHRITHA MURCHANA WITH A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF MURCHITHA AND AMURCHITHA GHRITHA

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Abstract

Sneha Murchana is the first and foremost step of Sneha Kalpana which helps to enhance the medicinal qualities of Sneha. Like how Sneha Kalpana is divided into Ghritha and Taila Kalpana, like wise Sneha Murchana also mainly divided into Ghritha Murchana and Taila Murchana. From literature review it is evident that the Sneha Murchana got its importance from the Laghtrayi period (From 13th century AD) and detailed descriptions can be observed in Bhaishajya Ratnakara which is famous as a famous treaty of Bhaishajya Kalpana. In Kerala Sneha Murchana is not widely practiced now a days. This work mainly aims to identify the importance and relevance of Ghritha Murchana along with a comparative analysis of Murchitha and Amurchitha Ghritha. Ghritha Murchana carried out using classical reference. From analytical study conducted it is observed, the analytical parameters of both the Murchitha and Amurchitha Ghritha are comes under normal limit mentioned by standard. But the parametric values of Raw or Amurchitha ghritha tends to the border line values. Murchitha ghritha shows better qualities than Raw or Amurchitha ghritha even though it comes under normal limit.

Key words: Sneha Murchana, Ghritha

INTRODUCTION

Bhaishajya Kalpana deals with the formulations and its pharmaceutical applications. In Classics Acharyas were mentioned Primary Formulations and Secondary Formulations, modified from Primary Formulations. Sneha kalpana is one among the Secondary Kalpana. Murchana is the term which meant increasing potency. While explaining different Kalpanas in classics Brihat trayees doesn’t mentioned Sneha Murchana. Murchana got its relevance and importance from the period of Laghtrayees. References are obtained from Sarangadhara Samhita and Bhaishajya Ratnavali.

Benefits of Sneha Murchana include it relieves Amadosha and Durungadh, along with this it improve the potency of the medicine and also it gives Sukshyadaya. Need of Ghritha murchana is said to be, getting water content in the raw Ghritha are having many chance and by this it causes early rancidity. Fungal growth, loss of odor and colour which affects the quality and absorbability of the Ghritha. Murchitha Ghritha is also said to best to prevent early rancidity of ghee, prevent fungal growth and oxidation of ghee. Impart colour and odor to the ghee which gives aesthetic and aromatic property to the ghee. From the survey conducted among the pharmacies of the local area, it is not widely practiced.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Literature review were done from Brihat trayee and Laghu trayee. In Brihat trayee there is no evident observation regarding Sneha Murchana can be seen. Sneha Murchana got its importance and its gets popularized during the period of Laghu trayees. In Bhaishajya Ratnakara Jwara Chikitsa, Govidasen has explained different methods of Sneha Murchana. In Sarangadhara samhita also mentioned about Sneha Murchana using Pancha pallava kalka. According to these Acharyas Sneha Murchana mainly divided into Ghritha and Taila Murchana. From the survey conducted among the the pharmacies of local area, Murchana process is not widely practiced. Some of the Practitioners use just boiling of the raw Ghritha for removing the excess water contents in the Ghritha.

For analyzing the relevance of Ghritha Murchana, comparative study of Murchitha and Amurchitha Ghritha were conducted and for this murchitha ghritha were prepared using Bhaishajya kalpana reference.

100ml of Murchitha ghritha was prepared using ghritha. 1/4th quantity of Ghritha added Pathya, Dhatri, Vibheetaki, Musta, Haridra made into Kalka using Mathulunga Swaras. Added 400ml of water and boiled in Mandagni until it attain Madhayama paka lakshana. Then taken from fire and filtered through cloth.

Prepared Murchitha Ghritha and raw Ghritha were analysed for comparative analysis. Colour, pH, Acid value, Refractive index, Moisture, Iodine value, Specific gravity were conducted.
RESULT

Table 1: Showing physio-chemical standards of Raw Ghritha and Murchitha Ghritha

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sample</th>
<th>Colour</th>
<th>Refractive Index</th>
<th>Acid Value</th>
<th>pH Value</th>
<th>Specific Gravity</th>
<th>Moisture</th>
<th>Iodine Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ghritha</td>
<td>Yellowish</td>
<td>1.465</td>
<td>1.2085</td>
<td>4.5</td>
<td>0.91</td>
<td>0.50%</td>
<td>34.991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murchitha Ghritha</td>
<td>Dark Yellow to brown</td>
<td>1.461</td>
<td>0.3926</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.92</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>32.124</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Murchitha ghritha and Amurchitha Ghritha differs in appearance with their colour and Aroma. Refractive indices, Acid value, pH value, Specific gravity, Moisture, Iodine value of Amurchitha and Murchitha Ghritha are within the specified limit. Iodine value of Amurchitha ghritha tends to the upper border limit of the normal limit.⁵

DISCUSSION

Saponification value indicate the number of milligrams of potassium hydroxide required to saponify one gram of fat under the specific condition. Saponification value of the Sneha kalpana directly proportional to fatty matter content of the same. More the fatty matter content more chance to get rancid of the same. Acid value is the milligram of potassium hydroxide required to neutralize the free fatty acid in one gram of fat. Hence the Acid value is directly proportional to the decomposition of the Sneha Kalpana. Greater the Refractive index facilitates early rancidification of the Ghritha. The more iodine is attached, the higher is the iodine value. Meaning the more reactive, less stable and more susceptible it is to oxidation and rancidification. Thus Murchana process reduces degree of saturation & enhances degree of unsaturation which is healthier compared to the saturated fatty acid.¹

CONCLUSION

Both Murchitha and Amurchitha Ghritha shows physio-chemical parameters within normal limit. But the analytical values of the Amurchitha ghritha tends to Border line values. Murchitha ghritha shows better qualities than Raw or Amurchitha ghritha even though it comes under normal limit. Murchana process prevent from rancidity to an extend and impart good aroma and colour. Apart from improving the qualities murchana may contributing in augmenting the therapeutic efficacy of the snehana.

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