

Management of Dushta Vrana (Infected Wounds) through External Application of Patoladi Kwath and Kampillak Taila: A Clinical Review

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Abstract: Chronic infected wounds remain a major concern in healthcare because of delayed healing, recurrent infection, and increasing resistance to antimicrobial drugs. In Ayurveda, such wounds are described under the concept of Dushta Vrana. The present review explores the therapeutic role of two Ayurvedic topical formulations—Patoladi Kwath and Kampillak Taila—in the management of infected wounds. In this protocol, Patoladi Kwath is employed externally for wound cleansing, while Kampillak Taila is applied locally as a healing dressing. Both preparations exhibit antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, cleansing, and tissue-repairing activities. Their combined use supports wound purification as well as healthy tissue regeneration, making this approach a promising and non-invasive option for chronic wound care.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Healing of wounds involves a coordinated biological process that restores damaged tissue. However, contamination by microorganisms may interfere with this process and convert a simple wound into a chronic infected ulcer. Ayurveda describes such pathological wounds as Dushta Vrana, which are associated with symptoms like foul smell, excessive discharge, pain, discoloration, and delayed healing.

Contemporary wound management commonly depends on antibiotics, antiseptics, and surgical debridement. Although effective in many situations, these methods may produce complications such as antimicrobial resistance, tissue irritation, and high treatment costs. Due to these concerns, interest in traditional herbal therapies has increased. This review focuses on the topical use of Patoladi Kwath for wound irrigation and Kampillak Taila for local dressing in the treatment of infected wounds.

II. AYURVEDIC PERSPECTIVE OF DUSHTA VRANA

According to Ayurvedic classics, particularly the teachings of Sushruta, a wound becomes Dushta when there is vitiation of Doshas along with contamination by pathogenic organisms. Disturbance of Vata, Pitta, and Kapha affects normal tissue healing and leads to chronicity.

Clinical Correlation of Dushta Vrana

Ayurvedic Features	Modern Interpretation	Dominant Dosha
Ati Puti Gandha	Offensive odor with necrosis	Kapha–Pitta
Ati Srava	Excessive pus or discharge	Kapha–Pitta
Ruja / Shoola	Pain and tenderness	Vata
Dirghakala Anubandhi	Delayed wound healing	Vata–Kapha



III. PHARMACOLOGICAL PROFILE OF THE TOPICAL FORMULATIONS

A. Patoladi Kwath as External Wound Wash

Patoladi Kwath is traditionally prepared as a herbal decoction. When used externally for wound cleansing (Vrana Prakshalana), it acts as a natural cleansing and antimicrobial agent.

Main Ingredients

- Patola (*Trichosanthes dioica*)
- Nimba (*Azadirachta indica*)
- Guduchi (*Tinospora cordifolia*)
- Triphala (Amalaki, Bibhitaki, and Haritaki)

Therapeutic Actions

- The bitter and astringent properties help reduce excessive moisture and discharge from the wound.
- The formulation possesses Krimighna and Kandughna actions, which help control microbial growth and itching.
- It aids in removing slough and unhealthy tissue from the wound surface.
- The decoction promotes local cleanliness and creates an unfavorable environment for pathogenic organisms.

B. Kampillak Taila as Topical Dressing

Kampillak Taila is applied directly over the wound or through medicated gauze dressing. It mainly supports tissue repair and wound healing.

Main Ingredient

- Kampillaka (*Mallotus philippensis*) processed in Tila Taila (sesame oil)

Therapeutic Actions

- The active constituents exhibit antibacterial and antifungal properties.
- The oil base maintains adequate moisture in the wound bed and prevents dryness.
- It promotes healthy granulation tissue formation and epithelial regeneration.
- The Snigdha property of the oil helps reduce pain and irritation caused by aggravated Vata.

IV. COMBINED MECHANISM OF ACTION

The combined topical use of Patoladi Kwath and Kampillak Taila addresses two essential stages of wound management: cleansing (Shodhana) and healing (Ropana).

Stepwise Therapeutic Action

Step 1 – Cleansing with Patoladi Kwath

- Removes debris, slough, and purulent discharge
- Reduces microbial contamination
- Helps maintain local hygiene

Step 2 – Dressing with Kampillak Taila

- Reduces inflammation and pain
- Encourages granulation and tissue repair
- Supports faster healing and scar formation

This sequential approach first purifies the wound and then enhances regeneration of healthy tissue.



V. DISCUSSION AND CLINICAL IMPORTANCE

Clinical observations suggest that the external application of these formulations provides beneficial outcomes in infected wound management. Compared with certain chemical antiseptics, herbal preparations may be less harmful to newly forming tissue while still controlling infection.

Important Clinical Benefits

- Reduction in foul smell and wound discharge
- Faster development of healthy granulation tissue
- Relief from pain and local inflammation
- Economical and easily accessible treatment option
- Minimal risk of systemic adverse effects due to topical use

The wound-cleansing effect of Patoladi Kwath combined with the healing potential of Kampillak Taila creates a balanced therapeutic approach suitable for chronic wounds and ulcers.

VI. CONCLUSION

The topical use of Patoladi Kwath and Kampillak Taila represents an effective Ayurvedic strategy for the management of Dushta Vrana or infected wounds. Patoladi Kwath acts primarily as a cleansing and antimicrobial wash, while Kampillak Taila promotes tissue healing and regeneration. Together, these formulations help convert an infected chronic wound into a healthy healing wound. Further scientific studies and large-scale clinical trials are required to validate their efficacy and establish standardized treatment protocols.

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