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ABSTRACT :

Phalatrikadi kwath is an extensively used Ayurvedic formulation described in the context of *Prameha* by ancient Ayurvedic seers. In the present study the evaluation on analytic parameters were done on *Phalatrikadi kwath*. The organoleptic, physiochemical characteristics and quantitative estimation of functional group for the *kwatha* done and analytically the study reveals that the *Phalatrikadi kwath* can be effectively used in *Prameha*.

Key words: *Phalatrikadi kwath*, pH, TLC, florescent test.

INTRODUCTION: *Phalatrikadi kwath* is a unique contribution of our ancient Ayurvedic seers. It is indeed an excellent combination of six drugs with a multi-dimensional action. This formulation has been mentioned in the context of *Prameha Chikitsa* in *Charak Samhita*^{1,2}. All the drugs present in it are having *Pramehaghna* properties as well as having *Kaphahara*, *Pittahara* & *Medohara* properties². Hence helpful in *Samprapti Vighatan* of the disease. The *kwatha* contains *Triphala* (*Haritaki*, *Bibhitaki*, *Amalaki*), *Daruharidra*, *Indrayaan mula* & *Musta* and was prescribed along with honey and turmeric powder to get relief from *Prameha*³. *Kwatha kalpana* is widely accepted for therapeutic purposes due to feasibility in preparation and convenience of administration. Therefore for establishing the rationality of its usage, present work has been carried out. Evaluation of *Phalatrikadi kwath* was done on the basis of pharmaceutical and analytical.

MATERIALS AND METHODS:

Pharmaceutical study: Drugs for the preparation of *Phalatrikadi kwath* was collected from the local drug house. The raw samples were collected separately, packed in the polythene bags and labeled with name, part, place and date of collection. Samples of the raw drugs were shaded dried and subjected to pharmacognostical study for confirmation of the genuineness. *Phalatrikadi kwath* was prepared as per the reference of *Charak Samhita*, *Prameha Chikitsa* (37/17)¹. The ratio of the ingredients has been shown in (Table no.1). The drugs were powdered individually in disintegrator and passed through mess no.8. Then required amount of potable drinking water was mixed with coarse powder in a stainless steel vessel and kept for overnight soaking (12hr). Next day, *kwatha* was prepared by applying constant mild heat until the volume reduced to 1/8th of the initial quantity. After desirable reduction of the volume, the *kwatha* was filtered through four folded cotton cloth and collected in a separate vessel. The residue remained above cloth was discarded.

(Table no. 1) Ingredients of Phalatrikadi Kwatha

Sr.No	Drugs	Latin Name	Part used	Ratio
1	Haritaki	<i>Terminalia chebula</i>	Bark	1
2	Bibhitaki	<i>Terminalia Bellarica</i>	Bark	1
3	Amalaki	<i>Emblica officinalis</i>	Bark	1
4	Daruharidra	<i>Berberis aristata</i>	Bark	1
5	Visala/indrayaan mula	<i>Citrullus colocynthis/Tricosanthes palmate</i>	Bark	1
6	Musta	<i>Cyper rotundus</i>	Bark	1

Crude Drugs



Daruharidra



Indravaruni



Mustha



Amalaki



Haritaki



Bibhitaki

Analytical Study: The *Phalatrikadi kwatha* was analyzed by adopting various related analytical parameters like

(Table No. 2)

Colour	Greenish Dark Brown
Odour	Characteristic
Taste	Sour- astringent

B. Physiochemical Analysis: Loss on drying at 110°C ⁴, ash value⁵, water soluble ash, acid insoluble ash⁶, pH value⁷, specific gravity at 40°C ⁸. Total solid content⁹, total

A. Organoleptic Characteristics: Colour, odour, taste and appearance of *kwatha* were observed and mentioned in (Table no.2)

(Table No.3)

Total ash	4.12%
Water soluble ash	0.98%
Acid insoluble ash	2.10%
Total solid content	9.08%
Total dissolved solid	5.18%
Suspended solid	3.9%
Specific gravity	1.0412
pH	4.40 ± 0.01

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C. Quantitative Test: Tannin 32.54%

D. Qualitative Test: For various functional groups^{10, 11} were done and observation and result of the *kwatha* was asserted in (Table no.4).

(Table no.4)

	Present/Absent (+/-)	Remarks (based on inference)
Carbohydrate	+	Moderate
Protein	+	Traces
Alkaloid	+	Less
Cardiac glycoside	+	Traces
Flavonoids	+	Moderate
Tannins	+	Abundant
Anthraquinone glycoside	+	Moderate
Steroids	+	Abundant
Triterpenoides	+	Abundant

Quantitative analysis of some phytochemicals of crude drugs of Phalatrikadi Kwath.

Result:

Daruharidra

Total Tannin: 1.52%

Total Alkaloids: 4.44%

Indravaruni

Total Tannin: 0.62%

Total flavonoids: 0.53%

Musta

Total Tannin: 2.85%

Amalaki

Total Tannin: 4.20%

Haritaki

Total Tannin: 63.75%

Bibhitaki

Total Tannin: 58.50%

TLC PROFILE: Methanolic extracts⁹ of *Phalatrikadi kwath*.

Chloroform: ethyl acetate: formic acid (2:5:2:0.8) was selected as solvent system. The developed plate was visualized under visible light and ultra violet. After spraying ferric chloride solution agent the R_f value are recorded in (Table no. 5 & Diagram1).

Solvent System: Chloroform: Ethyl acetate: formic acid: 2.5: 2: 0.8

Spraying Agent: Ferric chloride solute

Thin Layer Chromatography of Phalatrikadi Kwath



Under Visible Light



Under Long UV

Before Derivatization



Under Visible Light



Under Long UV

Before Derivatization

(Table no.5) Before spray

Rf	Visible Light.	UV
0.06	Pale yellowish-brown	Pale fluorescent green
0.13	Creamish-brown	Pale blue
0.17	Pale yellow	Pale blue
0.21	Yellow	Purple blue
0.31	Lemon yellow	Blue
0.33	Pale yellow	Bright fluorescent yellow
0.38	Pale purple	Pale yellow

After spray

Rf	Visible Light	UV
0.06	Creamish-green	Pale fluorescent green
0.13	Pale yellow	Pale blue
0.17	Pale yellow	Pale blue
0.21	Mud brown	Gray blue
0.31	Pale greenish blue	Pale greenish blue
0.33	Pale blue	Fluorescent greenish yellow

Fluorescent Tests

	Under Visible Light	Under Long UV
Sample	Greenish brown	Dark brown
Sample + water	Yellow Pale	greenish-white
Sample + MeOH	Lemon yellow	Bright lemon yellow
Sample + NaOH	Dark brown	Greenish yellow
Sample + HCl	Brown	Yellow
Sample + HNO ₃	ReddishBrown	Yellowish brown
Sample + H ₂ SO ₄	Reddish brown	Yellowish brown
Sample + NH ₃	Yellowish brown	Bright yellow

DISCUSSION: *Kwatha* is an aqueous solution containing the properties of substance or substances that have been processed in it¹². The purpose of herbal decoction is to extract the water soluble constituents of herbs by boiling. Quantum of heat and duration of heating are prime concern for preparation of decoction¹³. Soaking of raw materials results in the softening of drug due to diffusion of liquid in to the raw materials because of osmosis¹³. Due to the presence of hydroxyl

group, the raw materials swell, which results in the increased diffusion pressure inside the cell wall¹⁴. There by ultimately blurring of the cell wall. Continuous heating and agitation during the preparation of decoction enhances the extraction process by weakening the bonds and there by separating the hydrophobic substances from hydrophilic substances¹³. The water diffuses into the raw material, dissolves the water soluble constituents & discharges it to the liquid media due to collapse of the cell wall.

Thus transfer of water soluble principal into the solvent (water) is achieved.

Total Ash value of the *kwatha* was 4.12% shows the presence of inorganic matter in the drugs. Water soluble ash was very less that is 0.98% which shows that drugs were well good for preparation of the *kwatha*. Total solid content was 9.08% in which 5.18% was dissolved and 3.9% was suspended which reveals that the *kwatha* was well prepared. Specific gravity was 1.0412 and pH was 4.40 ± 0.01 which is favorable for early absorption in the stomach as it remains acidic.

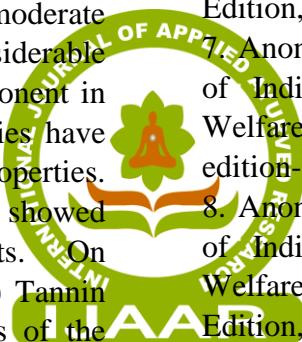
Qualitative analysis reveals that Tannins, Steroids, Triterpenoids were found abundantly. Whereas flavonoid & carbohydrates were found in moderate amount, which have received considerable attention as health promoting component in various plants food & several studies have responded on its nutriceutical properties. The condensed tannin extracts showed promising anti diabetic effects. On quantitative test abundant (32.54%) Tannin was found .Organoleptic characters of the *Phalatrikadi kwatha* reveals that the colour of the *kwatha* was greenish dark brown, odour was characteristic and taste was sour astringent which was palliable for internal use.TLC shows presence of more chemical moieties and functional components in the *kwatha*.

CONCLUSION: On account of analytical study it can be concluded that the *Phaltrkadi Kwath* is rich in functional component. More amount of tannin was also found. Thus it can be concluded that the *Phalatrikadi Kwath* is a good antidiabetic drug.

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Declared

