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**Case Study** 

# A CASE REPORT ON *GUGGULU* BASED *KSHARSUTRA* ALONG WITH *SAPTAVINSHATI GUGGULU* IN TREATMENT OF *BHAGANDARA* (FISTULA-IN-ANO)

# Suman Yadav<sup>1\*</sup>, Ashutosh Kumar Yadav<sup>2</sup>, Anand puri<sup>3</sup>

\*<sup>1</sup>Associate Professor & H.O.D., <sup>3</sup>P.G. Scholar, Department of Shalya Tantra, Government PG Ayurvedic College, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi, UP, India.

<sup>2</sup>Associate Professor, Department of Rachana Sharir, Government PG Ayurvedic College, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi, UP, India.

<b>KEYWORDS:</b> Bhagandar,	ABSTRACT
Bhaga, Basti, Guda, Kshar sutra, Pidika, Saptavinshati gugglu.	<i>Bhagandara</i> is one of the commonest diseases which occur in anorectal region. <i>Acharya Sushruta</i> had described this disease in <i>Ashtamahagada</i> that means disease difficult to cure. It starts as deep rooted <i>Pidika</i> around the <i>Guda</i> within two <i>Angula</i> or finger circumference and form into a track with an external opening in the skin of perianal region and an internal opening in the mucosa of anal canal or rectum lined by unhealthy granulation tissue and fibrous tissue which in modern science can be correlated to Fistula-in-ano. As the recurrence rate of fistula in ano is high after modern treatment. To overcome these difficulties, the concept of <i>Ksharsutra</i> mentioned in the classics is very beneficial from the treatment point of view. So, the <i>Guggulu (Commiphora mukul)</i> based <i>Ksharsutra</i> therapy along with oral Ayurvedic formulations is taken to prove its efficacy in treating <i>Bhagandara</i> . Here a case report of a 32 year old, male patient having history of <i>Bhagandara</i> (Fistula-in-ano) since last 2 years is discussed. He had complaints of left gluteal swelling, pain, pus
*Address for correspondence Dr. Suman Yadav Associate Professor & H.O.D., P G Department of Shalya Tantra, Government Ayurvedic College, Sampurnanand Sanskrit University, Varanasi, UP, India Email: <u>vadavsuman2073@rediffmail.com</u> Phone: 09451965767	discharge from perianal region and itching around anal region. For which he took allopathic treatment and got no relief, finally patient came to our hospital for better Ayurvedic management. He was treated with <i>Guggulu</i> based <i>Ksharsutra</i> therapy along with oral medication of <i>Saptavinshati</i> <i>Gugglu vati</i> 500 mg with water twice daily. Lastly, he got treated in 60 days and follow up of the patient was maintained up to 6 months where no complication was reported. It was proved that <i>Ksharsutra</i> application in combination with oral Ayurvedic medication worked effectively. This case report will help and enlighten the budding young scholars working in this area.

#### INTRODUCTION

Acharya Sushruta had described this disease in Ashtamahagada.<sup>[1]</sup> The disease Bhagandara is defined as deep rooted Pidika<sup>[2]</sup> around the Guda within two Angula/finger circumference. Bhagandara (Fistula-in-ano) is a condition which has been recognized as a difficult surgical disease in the ancient and modern medical sciences of the world. It is the recurrent nature of this disease which makes it more and more difficult for treatment. It has been categorized as a surgical condition and almost all the surgeons starting from

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*Sushruta* (about 1500 B.C- India) to Hippocrates (450 B.C.) and also by the present day modern surgeon face challenges due to its notorious nature, which increases the level of difficulty.

The literally meaning of *Bhagandara* is *daran*- tear/ split around the *Bhaga*, *Guda* and *Basti*. When there is *Pidika* around the *Guda pradesh* then it is called *Bhagandara pidika* and when this *Pidika* get suppurates and burst then it is called *Bhagandara* In modern medical science the *Bhagandara* resemble with Fistula in ano.

*Bhagandara*<sup>[3]</sup> is not a life threatening disease but disturbing the quality of life significantly because it causes discomfort along with pain and pus Treatment of from anal region. discharge Bhagandara is scientifically described in Samhita; also Acharva's instructed to avoid the causative factors of disease. This is the region which is more prone to infection having direct contact with stool and thus any disease originated from this take more time to heal. The techniques for treatment of fistula in ano generally used by modern surgeons are fistulectomy, fistulotomy, Video Assessed Anal Fistula Treatment, Ligation of inter sphincteric fistula treatment etc, which causes incontinence by damaging anal sphincter. So there is strong need of a treatment which does not cause incontinence and will not hamper the daily routine of the patient. The *Ksharsutra*<sup>[4]</sup> application along with oral medicine is better treatment for such fistula in ano and to prove this, a case report is discussed here in which the *Saptavinshati Guggulu*<sup>[5]</sup> is advised orally along with Ksharsutra therapy to see its combined effect.

### **Case Report**

A 32 year old male patient who is policeman came to our hospital with chief complaints of

- 1. Left gluteal swelling which is prominent around perianal region since 1 month
- 2. Local pain since 20 days
- 3. Pus discharge since 20 days
- 4. Itching since 20 days
- 5. H/o- Fistula in ano since last 2 years

**History of present illness:** According to the patient he was well before 2 years and after that since 1 month, he developed swelling on left gluteal fold which is more prominent around peri-anal region for which he took modern medicine and got no relief. He is complaining of local pain since 20 days and peri anal swelling which spontaneously burst open with pus discharge oozing. Also, the pus discharge is coming off and on from the wound which is wetting his undergarments. So since last 20 days he is suffering from pus discharge along with itching in that region, for which he finally came to our hospital for better Ayurvedic management.

**History of past illness -** No H/o D.M, T.B, Asthma, Epilepsy, HTN.

# **Personal History**

Appetite- Average Food- Mixed (spicy) Bowel- constipated Addiction- Tobacco, Pan chewing

Micturation – Frequency 7-8 times in 24 hrs, flownormal

Sleep- Improper, 6-7 hrs/day (disturbed at the time of pain)

#### **MATERIAL AND METHOD**

This is a single case report in which patient reported to Shalya Tantra OPD of Govt. P.G. Ayurvedic College & Hospital, Chaukaghat, Varanasi, UP. Informed consent of the patient was taken. Then the patient was planned for treatment with *Guggulu* based *Ksharsutra* therapy along with *Saptavinshati Guggulu* oral administration. The *Guggulu* based *Ksharsutra* was prepared in our departmental laboratory.

#### **OPERATIVE PROCEDURE**

Operative procedure was performed under local anesthesia using aseptic measures. After assessment of the tract manually using copious amount of 2% xylocaine jelly followed by probing through metallic malleable probe and finally primary threading was done by ligation of both ends of *Ksharsutra* tied together. Latter on *Guggulu* based *Ksharsutra* was changed once on weekly basis till the end of the treatment.

### Management

Patient was treated with *Saptavinshati Guggulu* 500mg BD orally with water. During this treatment he was taking *Saptavinshati Guggulu vati* daily orally as advised until got completely treated. He was instructed for hot sitz bath up to 10 minutes after defecation. Patient was also advocated regarding *Pathya Apathya* (Do's and Dont's).

#### Assessment criteria

- 1. Pain- assessment was done depending on use of oral medicine.
- 2. Itching- assessment was done depending on use of medicine.
- 3. Pus discharge- depending on number of gauge used.

#### OBSERVATION

The patient was observed on regular basis before, during and after treatment. All the observation about the progress of treatment was recorded. The fistulous tract healed completely in 8 week of treatment. The patient can do all his routine work; also no recurrence of symptom was noted up to 6 months of follow up. Suman Yadav et al. Guggulu Based Ksharsutra Along With Saptavinshati Guggulu In Treatment of Bhagandara (Fistula-In-Ano)



Fig 1 During treatment Fig 2 After treatment Table 1: Observations of Pain during the treatment

r	Table 1: Observations of Pain during the treatment							
Day	No pain	Mild pain (+) rarely	Moderate pain (++) needs	Severe pain (+++) needs				
	(-)	needs oral medicine	less frequent oral medicine	very frequent oral medicine				
Day 1	-	-	-	+ + +				
Day 2	-	-	-	+ + +				
Day 3	-	-	-	+ + +				
Day 7	-	-	+ +	-				
Day 14	-	+	-	-				
Day 28	+	-		-				
Day 60	-	-		-				

Table 2: Observations of Itching during the treatment						
Day	No itching (-)	Mild itching (+) rarely needs medicine	Moderate itching (++) relief with medicine	Severe itching (+++) no relief with medicine		
Day 1	-	- 5 8.00		+ + +		
Day 2	-	- 1 220	J + +	-		
Day 3	-	- 770	++	-		
Day 7	-	++	HUN	-		
Day 14	+	-	-	-		
Day 28	+	-	-	-		
Day 60	-	-	-	-		

Table 3: Observations of Discharge during the treatment

Day	No discharge (-)	Mild discharge(+) used 1/2 gauze of 2cm × 2 cm	Moderate discharge (++) used 3/4 gauze of 2cm × 2cm	Severe discharge (+++) used more than 4 gauze of 2 cm× 2 cm
Day 1	-	-	-	+ + +
Day 2	-	-	-	+ + +
Day 3	-	-	-	+ + +
Day 7	-	-	++	-
Day 14	-	+		-
Day 28	+		-	-
Day 60	-	-	-	-

#### DISCUSSION

The reference of *Ksharsutra* is mentioned in the ancient classics. For *Bhagandara* (fistula-in ano) treatment, the *Ksharsutra* therapy is the best popular method till now. In this treatment *Guggulu* based *Ksharsutra* was inserted through the external opening passing through the tract and ending at internal opening, now both ends of the thread are tied outside.<sup>[6]</sup> This medicated thread performs function of cutting of fistulous tract, debridement of unhealthy tissue and healing of fistulous tract leaving behind scar formation.

On other hand the *Saptavinshati Guggulu* which is taken orally also enhances the healing, as this oral medication has Anti-inflammatory, Antibacterial, Analgesic and Antioxidant property.

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Patient walks and sits smoothly after 2 weeks of treatment and also resumed his routine duty. The whole course of treatment took 60 days for full recovery.

The Saptavinshati Guggulu have 28 contents in which maximum content are herbs such as Amalaki, Vibhitak, Haritaki, Daruharidra, Vidang, Shunthi, Pippali, Maricha, and Guggulu etc. All these herbs are used in India medicinally for the treatment of variety of diseases. The mechanism of action of Saptavinshati Guggulu is based on the presence of alkaloids, active principles and other chemical constituents. Some of the important constituents which promote the wound cleaning and healing properties of this oral medication are discussed here.

*Amalaki* having Tannins, Phyllembin performs Anti-bacterial and Anti-viral activity and also works as to restore a healthy endothelial lining, whereas Embelin has Anti-oxidant, Antiinflammatory and tissue rejuvenating property.

*Vibhitak* having Ellagic acid, Gallic acid, Manitol which has Anti-secretory, Analgesic, Antispasmodic, Anti-microbial, Wound healing, Antipyretic and Immunological property.

Haritaki having hydrolysable tannins like Gallic acid and Ellagic acid. Haritaki has wound healing, Anti-microbial, Anti-bacterial, Anti-fungal and Anti-oxidant property.

*Guduchi* having Berberin, Palmatine, Magnoflorine, Tinosporin which act as Immunomodulator, NSAID and Anti-oxidant property.

*Vidang* having Embelic, Tannin, Sitosterol and Benzofuron which works as Anti-biotic, Antibacterial and Anti-oxidant.

*Haridra* having Curcumin, Phytophenol works as Anti-inflammatory, Anti-oxidant, Wound healing and Anti-microbial property.

*Daruharidra* having Berberin which possesses Anti-bacterial, Anti-fungal, Anti-oxidant and Anti-inflammatory property.

*Guggulu* contains diterpenoids, triterpenoids, steroids, ligans, and Allylcembrol which has Fibrinolytic activity, Anti-inflammatory, Anti-oxidant, Cytotoxic, Antimicrobial, Antiseptic and Wound healing property. Because of having all these properties *Saptavinshati Guggulu* is widely used in postoperative period for the management of pain and promotes faster wound healing.

# CONCLUSION

The most scientific description of Bhagandara is given in Sushruta samhita. For treatment of Bhagandara, Ksharsutra is the best treatment modality till now. In this case report, when we used Guggulu based *Ksharsutra* application along with *Saptavinshati Guggulu* orally, it was observed that the time taken for complete healing of the fistulous tract was reduced. This Avurvedic, parasurgical procedure along with oral medicine has an advantage over other modalities of treating *Bhagandara*. This scientific approach in the management of *Bhagandara* will provide great help to the patients.

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