

Compliance Level of Textual Therapeutic Usage of *Kshirakakoli* Containing Formulations with a Serial Ethnomedicinal Survey and Modern System of Medicine

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Manuscript received: 19 November, 2020. Revision accepted: 28 June, 2021. Published: 01 July, 2021.

Abstract

Fritillaria roylei (Kshirakakoli) is a primal plant used in ancient times. But nowadays, due to biotic and abiotic stress the plant has entered in the list of threatened medicinal plant. In ancient texts effective uses of formulations containing kshirakakoli are well mentioned but the information is not written in simple language due to which the therapeutic value of the plant is not well understood by scientific fraternity. So, there is a major need to perform ethno medicinal survey for the formulations containing kshirakakoli and compare their therapeutic uses as mentioned in text with the modern system of medicine. In this study, a field survey was performed in 4 states i.e., Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh where the conversation regarding usage of this plant or formulation was done with 24 local medical practitioners, 18 shopkeepers and 4 traditional healers. The information thus obtained were recorded and then compared. Results showed that the usage of kshirakakoli containing formulations was highest in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. Only few clinical studies have been done on these formulations. The effectiveness of the formulations against remedies alluded by the trado-medical practitioners claimed was found accurate as per ayurvedic textual literature. Hence, the ethno medicinal survey provides a precise guidance to scientists for future research on these kshirakakoli containing formulations that are useful in plethora of disorders.

Keywords: Ethnomedicinal survey; Kshirakakoli; Formulations; Ayurveda; *Fritillaria roylei*.

INTRODUCTION

Today, plant products, animal products, minerals and metals are used by pharmaceutical industries for production of majority of the Ayurvedic as well as allopathic medicines. On the basis of information obtained from the traditional healers nearly 121 pharmaceutical products have been discovered (Anesini and Perez, 1993; Kshiti, 2012). The knowledge of medicinal plants started fading away with the desertion of Gurukul system of ancient teaching, as written details of most of the medicinal plants are not available (Sharma and Balkrishna, 2005). This also happened with eight plants of Ashtawarga that are considered as very good *rasayana* with rejuvenating and health promoting properties that strengthens the immune system. Due to high therapeutic properties, these plants are used in various Ayurvedic formulations like *taila* (medicated oil), *Ghritam* (medicated clarified butter), *churana* (powder) and other formulations of traditional medicinal system including *chywanprash* and other disease

preventive tonics (Dhyani et al., 2010). 'Ashtawarga' a significant constituent of a variety of classical Ayurvedic formulations has been assigned a variety of medicinal properties by ancient *Materia Medica* dealing with *Ayurveda* and a subject of rigorous botanical research.

Kshirakakoli known as *Fritillaria roylei* (one out of group of eight Ashtawarga plants) come under the category of threatened species (Saha et al., 2015). Due to limited distribution in their natural habitat, today substitutes of Ashtawarga plants are commonly used in Ayurvedic formulations to meet the market demand. Department of AYUSH, Govt. of India has suggested use of substitutes in formulations in absence of original plants however this option is being exploited by manufacturers rendering such an important and precious plant in ignored condition (Sagar, 2014; Tewari, 1991). Hence it becomes important to highlight the therapeutic potentials of this plant in front of scientists so that a justified research shall be carried out on an important but ignored plant. *Fritillaria roylei* contain various

active compounds like peimine, peiminine, peimisine, peimiphine, peimidine, peimitidine, propeimin, sterol and these active compounds possess galactogogue, haemostatic, ophthalmic and cytotoxic properties (Chi et al., 1940; Wu, 1944; Chou, 1947; Chatterjee et al., 1976; Jiang et al., 2006). Due to the lack of authentic species in natural habitats, systemized studies/clinical studies have not been carried out on this group of plants. A very few clinical studies related to its therapeutic potentials have been carried out. Moreover, the information available is also highly scattered that is not organized in proper manner due to which it cannot be used by scientist groups working on such important plants. This plant is being used in a number of formulations of high therapeutic value as mentioned in ancient texts however a very limited data with scientific evidences is available in modern literature as well as on internet sources. Ancient texts claim very potent uses of these formulations but as the information is available in regional languages or in Sanskrit, so the real uses of the plant are not well understood by scientific fraternity. Hence it becomes important to know the real status of the mentioned therapeutic potentials as well as practiced potentials by trado-medical practitioners (TMPs) and put it in front of scientists so as to give a thrust to clinical studies on therapeutic effects as well as pharmacological actions of the plant.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

In India, particularly in the rural and remote areas, there are number of trado-medical practitioners (TMPs) and various kshirakakoli containing ayurvedic formulations are used by these practitioners as a traditional medicine for the treatment of a variety of ailments. So, a folklore survey was taken in 2019 to recognize the therapeutic importance of available kshirakakoli containing formulations mainly in four states of northern India. A field survey was conducted around and in district headquarters and discussion was done with the 24 local

medical practitioners, 18 shopkeepers and 4 traditional healers and the information related to these ayurvedic formulations was recorded. The information procured was validated by comparing the information given by at least four TMPs. The medicinal uses of these formulations were recorded from the folklore claims and the standard literature of the Indian systems of medicine. An effort has been made to highlight the traditional use of these formulations so as to enable the scientists to explore these formulations for further research studies.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The folklore survey was done in various districts in Himachal Pradesh (Shimla, Dharamshala, Kangra, Mandi, Kullu and Manali), Punjab (Sangrur, Barnala, Ludhiana, Bhatinda, Patiala, Ferozepur, Faridkot), Uttarakhand (Dehradun, Haridwar, Pauri Garhwal, Rudraprayag) and in Uttar Pradesh (Agra, Meerut, Moradabad, Mathura). It was observed that usages of 20 formulations containing kshirakakoli were maximum in Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand followed by Uttar Pradesh and least in Punjab. The excerpts of ayurvedic formulations containing kshirakakoli as one of the ingredients are listed in Table 1. The compliance level of therapeutic uses of kshirakakoli containing formulations as per ancient literature with trado-medical practitioners (TMPs) and Pre-clinical/clinical trials/case studies as per modern system of medicine are enumerated as in Table 2. These formulations have been indicated in a plethora of reproductive disorders, loss of digestion, insanity, depression, depletion of body tissue, emaciation, phthisis, cures gout arthritis pervading the whole body, heart disease, facial paralysis, diseases of the head/neck and epilepsy. Similar type of ethno-medicinal survey was conducted by the authors for Kakoli containing formulations (Kaur et al., 2019). So, there is a need of hour to explore Kakoli and Kshirakakoli containing important formulations for further trials.

Table 1. Excerpts of ayurvedic formulations containing Kshirakakoli.

S. No.	Formulation	Shloka's	References
1.	Jeevaneeya Gana	तद्यथा – जीवकर्षभकौ मेदा महामेदा काकोली क्षीरकाकोली मुदपपर्णमाषपर्ण्यो जीवन्ती मधुकमिति दशेमानि जीवनीयानि भवन्ति	Hebbar, 2015a
2.	Shukrala / Kamdev ghrita	शुक्रलैर्जीवनीयैश्च बृंहणैर्बलवधनेः। क्षीरसज्जननैश्चैव पयः सिद्धं पृथक् पृथक्॥६॥ युक्तं गोधूमचूर्णेन सघृतक्षौद्रं शर्करम्। पर्यायेण प्रयोक्तव्यमिच्छता शुक्रमक्षयम्॥७॥	Hebbar, 2015a
3.	Khuddaka Taila/ khuddaka padmaka tailam	पद्मकोशीरं यष्ट्याह्वं रजनीं काथं साधितम्। स्यात् पिष्टैः सर्जं मञ्जिष्ठा वीरा काकोलि चन्दनैः॥११४॥ खुड्वाकं पद्मकमिदं तैलं वातास्रं दाहनुत्॥११५॥ इति खुड्वाकं पद्मकं तैलम्।	Hebbar, 2016a

4.	Madhuparnyadi Taila	मधुकस्य शतं द्राक्षा खर्जुराणि पररूषकम् मधुकौदनपाक्यौ च प्रस्थं मुञ्जातकस्य च॥९६॥ काशमर्याढकमित्येतच्चतुर्द्रोणे पचेदपाम् शेषेऽष्टभागे पूते च तस्मिंस्तैलाढकं पचेत्॥९७॥ तथाऽऽमलकं काशमर्यं विदारीक्षु रसैः समैः चतुर्द्रोणेन पयसा कल्कं दत्त्वा पलोन्मितम्॥९८॥ कदम्बामलकाक्षीट पद्म बीज कशेरुकम्	Hebbar, 2016a
5.	Mahasneham ghrita	जीवकर्षभकौ मेदामृष्यप्रोक्तां शतावरीम् मधुकं मधुपर्णी च काकोलीद्वयमेव च॥७२॥ मुद्ग माषाख्यपर्णिन्यौ दशमूलं पुनर्नवाम् बलामृता विदारीक्षु साश्वगन्धाश्वभेदकाः॥७३॥ एषां कषाय कल्काभ्यां सर्पिस्तैलं च साधयेत् लाभतश्च वसा मज्ज धान्व प्रातुद वैष्किरम्॥७४॥ चतुर्गुणेन पयसा तत् सिद्धं वात शोणितम्	Hebbar, 2016a
6.	Paste prepared of drugs belonging to Jivaniya group, cow-milk and muscle fat/ Dhanwantharam Thailam	समूलाग्रच्छदैरण्डकाथे द्वि प्रास्थिकं पृथक् घृतं तैलं वसा मज्जा चानूप मृग पक्षिणाम्॥१४१॥ कल्कार्थं जीवनीयानि गव्यं क्षीरमथाजकम् हरिद्रोत्पल कुष्ठैला शताह्वश्वहनच्छदान् ॥१४२॥ बिल्व मात्रान् पृथक् पुष्पं काकुभं चापि साधयेत् मधूच्छिष्ट पलान्यष्टौ दद्याच्छीतेऽवतारिते॥१४३॥	Hebbar, 2016a
7.	Sneha Parisheka	स्नेहै र्मधुर सिद्धैर्वा चतुर्भिः परिषेचयेत् स्तम्भाक्षपक शूलार्तं कोष्णेदहि तु शीतलैः॥१२५॥	Hebbar, 2016a
8.	Parushaka Ghrita	त्रायन्तिका तामलकी द्विकाकोली शतावरी कशेरुका कषायेण कल्केरेभिः पचेद्धृतम्॥५८॥ दत्त्वा पररूषका द्राक्षा काशमर्यंक्षुरसान् समान् पृथग्विदार्याः स्वरसं तथा क्षीरं चतुर्गुणम्॥५९॥ एतत् प्रायोगिकं सर्पिः पाररूषकमिति स्मृतम् वातरक्ते क्षते क्षीणे वीसर्पे पैतिके ज्वरे॥६०॥ इति पाररूषकं घृतम्	Hebbar, 2016a
9.	Bala Ghrita/Taila	बलामतिबलां मेदामात्मगुप्तां शतावरीम् काकोलीं क्षीरकाकोलीं रास्नामृद्धिं च पेषयेत्॥५६॥ घृतं चतुर्गुणं क्षीरं तैः सिद्धं वातरक्तनुत् हृत्पाण्डुरोग वीसर्प कामला ज्वर नाशनम्॥५७॥	Hebbar, 2016a
10.	Sukumara taila/ Sukumara kashaya	मधुकस्य शतं द्राक्षा खर्जुराणि पररूषकम् मधुकौदनपाक्यौ च प्रस्थं मुञ्जातकस्य च॥९६॥ काशमर्याढकमित्येतच्चतुर्द्रोणे पचेदपाम् शेषेऽष्टभागे पूते च तस्मिंस्तैलाढकं पचेत्॥९७॥ तथामलकं काशमर्यं विदारीक्षुरसैः समैः चतुर्द्रोणेन पयसा कल्कं दत्त्वा पलोन्मितम्॥९८॥ कदम्बामलकाक्षीट पद्म बीज कशेरुकम् शृङ्गाटकं शृङ्गवेरं लवाणं पिप्पलीं सिताम्॥९९॥	Hebbar, 2016a
11.	Snehopaga gana/ (Adjuvants of Snehana/oleation treatment)	मृद्वीका मधुक मधुपर्णी मेदाविदारी काकोली क्षीरकाकोली जीवक जीवन्ती शालपर्ण्य इति दशेमानि स्नेहोपगानि भवन्ति	Hebbar, 2016a
12.	Shukrala Shukrajanana/ Shukra-Shodhana-Janana Granules	जीवकर्षभक काकोली क्षीरकाकोली मुदपर्णी माषपर्णी मेदावृद्धरूहा जटिला कुलिङ्गा इति दशेमानि शुकजनानि भवन्ति	Hebbar, 2016a
13.	Jivaniya Mahakashaya	तैलप्रस्थं घृतप्रस्थं जीवनीयैः पलोन्मितैः क्षीरद्रोणे पचेत् सिद्धमपस्मारविनाशनम्॥२८॥	Hebbar, 2016a
14.	Amruta Prasha Ghrita/ Amritaprasha Ghrita	जीवकर्षभकौ वीरं जीवन्तीं नागरं शटीम् चतस्रः पर्णिनीर्मेदे काकोल्यो द्वे निदिग्धिके॥३५॥ पुनर्नवे द्वे मधुकमात्मगुप्तां शतावरीम् ऋद्धिं पररूषकं भार्गी मृद्वीकां बृहतीं तथा॥३६॥ शृङ्गाटकं तामलकीं पयस्यां पिप्पलीं बलाम् बदराक्षीट खर्जूर वातामाभिषुकाण्यपि॥३७॥	Hebbar, 2015b

15.	Phalakalyan grita/ Taila Uttara Basti	कर्णिन्य चरणाशुष्कयोनि प्राक्चरणासु च॥१०२॥ कफवाते च दातव्यं तैलमुत्तर बस्तिना॥	Hebbar, 2016b
16.	Siva Gutika/Shiva gritham	मेदां पयस्यां जीवन्तीं विदारीं कण्टकारिकाम् श्वदंष्ट्रां क्षीरिकां माषान् गोधूमाञ्छालिषष्टिकान्॥८॥ पयस्यर्धोदके पक्त्वा कार्षिकानाढकोन्मिते विवर्जयेत् पयःशेषं तत् पूतं क्षौद्रसर्पिषा॥९॥ युक्तं सशर्करं पीत्वा वृद्धः सप्ततिकोऽपि वा विपुलं लभतेऽपत्यं युवेव च स हृष्यति॥१०॥	Hebbar, 2016b
17.	Vrishya Pooplika	फलानां जीवनीयानो स्त्रिग्धानां रूचिकारिणाम् । कुडवक्षूर्णितानां स्यात् स्वयङ्गुमाफलस्य च ॥ १५ ॥ कुडवश्चैव माषाणां द्वौ च तिलमुद्योः । गोधूमशालिचूर्णानां कुडवः कुडवो भवेत् ॥ १६ ॥	Hebbar, 1998
18.	Upatyakari Shashtikadi Gutika	आसिक्त क्षीरमापूर्णमशुष्कं शुद्ध षष्टिकम् उदूखले समापोथ्य पीडयेत् क्षीरमर्दितम्॥३॥ गृहीत्वा तं रसं पूतं गव्येन पयसा सह बीजानामात्मगुप्ताया धान्य माष रसेन च॥४॥	Hebbar, 2016c
19.	Mahamayura Ghrita/ Mahanarayan Tailm	एतेनैव कषायेण घृतं प्रस्थं विपाचयेत् चतुर्गुणेन पयसा कल्कैरेभिश्च कार्षिकैः॥१६६॥ जीवन्ती त्रिफला मेदा मृद्वीकर्धि परूषकैः समङ्गा चविका भार्गी काश्मरी सुरदारुभिः॥१६७॥ आत्मगुप्ता महामेदा ताल खर्जूर मस्तकैः	Hebbar, 2015c
20.	Jivantyadi Ghrita	एवमेव क्षीर सर्पि जीवनीयोपसाधितम्॥६९॥ गर्भदं पित्तलानां च योनीनां स्याद्विषग्जितम्॥७०॥	Hebbar, 2015c

Table 2. Compliance level of therapeutic uses of kshirakakoli containing formulations as per ancient literature with trado-medical practitioners (TMPs) and Pre-clinical/clinical trials/case studies as per modern system of medicine.

Sr. No.	Formulations	Therapeutic uses as per texts	Therapeutic uses as mentioned by trado-medical practitioners (TMPs)	Pre-clinical/clinical trials/case studies as per modern system of medicine
1.	Amruta Prasha Ghruta/ Amritaprasha Ghruta	1. Cough 2. Hiccup 3. Fever 4. Asthma 5. Burning sensation 6. Morbid thirst 7. An ailment characterized by bleeding from different parts of the body 8. Vomiting 9. Fainting 10. Diseases of heart 11. Female genital tract 12. Urinary tract 13. Procreation of male child 14. Joint problems and other diseases caused by unbalanced vata & pitta doshas.	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes No Yes No Yes Yes	No No No No No No No No No No No No No Yes Improves the nonspecific immunity against rheumatoid arthritis (Lekurwalel et al., 2010).
2.	Jeevaneeya Gana	1. Enlivening 2. Anti-aging 3. Antioxidant	Yes Yes Yes	No No No
3.	Jivantyadi Ghrita	1. Cure Female infertility 2. Cure Cataract and Glaucoma	Yes Yes	No Yes Effective in treatment and controlling of Computer Vision Syndrome and helpful in curing myopia (Vinaik et al., 2013; Shukla et al., 2011).

4.	Khuddaka Taila/ khuddaka padmaka tailam	1. Gout 2. Burning sensation	Yes Yes	No No
5.	Madhuparnyadi Taila	1. Cures Vatarakta 2. Pain in limbs 3. Affliction of the whole body 4. It also promotes strength and complexion.	Yes Yes Yes Yes	No No No No
6.	Mahamayura Ghrita/ Mahanarayan Tailm	1. Neuro-muscular disorders 2. Cough 3. Asthma 4. Inflammation 5. Diseases of the female genital tract 6. Menstrual disorders	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes	Yes No No Yes Yes Used to treat inflammation, pain and arthritis, Useful in treatment of chronic back pain, Useful in treatment of female infertility, provide strength to the local soft tissues, thus play significant role in the management of cervical spondylosis or osteoarthritis of cervical spine (Pawar et al., 2011; Panda and Debnath, 2011; Kaushik et al., 2017; Kunjibettu et al., 2017).
7.	Mahasneham ghrita	1. Gout 2. Serious diseases caused by the aggravated Vata 3. Arthritis	Yes Yes	No No
8.	Paste prepared of drugs belonging to Jivaniya group, cow-milk and muscle fat/ Dhanwantharam Thailam	1. Cures pain 2. Gout 3. Kyphosis (Spinal disorder)	No Yes Yes	No No No
9.	Phalakalyan grita/ Taila Uttara Basti	1. Uterine Tonic 2. Gynecological disorders	Yes Yes	No Yes Useful in treatment of female infertility (Kunjibettu et al., 2017).
10.	Shukrala/ Kamdev Ghrita	1. Improves semen and sperm production	Yes	No
11.	Siva Gutika/Shiva gritham	1. Diabetes mellitus 2. Bronchitis 3. Anemia 4. Cardiac diseases 5. Epilepsy 6. Psychotic diseases 7. Skin diseases 8. Infertility in women/men 9. Liver diseases	No No Yes Yes Yes Yes No Yes Yes	No No No No No No No No Yes Used in treatment of chronic liver and highly effective in treatment of HIV/AIDS and Acute Deep Vein Thrombosis (Wasedar et al., 2017; Rathod et al., 2013; Pusuluri et al., 2017).
12.	Sneha Parisheka	1. Stiffness 2. Convulsion 3. Gout 4. Burning sensation	Yes Yes Yes Yes	No No No No

13. Sukumara taila/ Sukumara kashaya	1. Lower abdominal pain in women	Yes	Yes
	2. Menstrual pain	Yes	Yes
	3. Inflammation	Yes	Yes
	4. Constipation	Yes	Yes
	5. Promotes robustness in body and positive health	Yes	Yes
Helps in improving the quality of the ovum by regularizing the menstrual cycle which enhanced rate of conception and also used in treatment of Complete Rectal Prolapse (Vanishree and Kumari, 2017; Shripathi et al., 2017).			
14. Upatyakari Shashtikadi Gutika	1. Male fertility	Yes	No
15. Vrishya Pooplika	1. Aphrodisiac	Yes	No
16. Bala Ghrita/Taila	1. Gout		No
	2. Enemia		Yes
			Relieves constipation in pregnant women (Sharma et al., 2017).
	3. Jaundice		No
	4. Uterine diseases		Yes
		Helps in improving females reproductive disorders (Patel, 2018).	
	5. Provides strength to children		Yes
			Message contributes positive effects to health of new born child (Sharma et al., 2017).
17. Parushaka Ghrita	1. Menstrual pain		Yes
	2. Menorrhagia		Yes
			Act as good uterine tonic by providing strength to uterus (Vartak and Mehere, 2019)
	3. Anemia		No
	4. Respiratory disorder		No
	5. Jaundice		No
18. Shukrala Shukrajanana/ Shukra- Shodhana- Janana Granules	1. Improves quality and quantity of semen and sperm		Yes
			Provides strength and increases sperm count (Girish, 2017).
19. Snehopaga gana/ (Adjuvants of Snehana/oleation treatment)	1. Dry skin conditions		No
	2. Neuromuscular disorders		No
	3. Muscular dystrophy		No
	4. Wasting disorders		No
20. Jivaniya Mahakashaya	1. Provides strength		No
	2. Immunity booster		No
	3. Improves quality of semen		No
	4. Aphrodisiac		No
	5. Hormonal disturbances in women		No
	6. Nervousness Dizziness		No

CONCLUSION

The analysis of literature reveals that *Fritillaria roylei* is a wonder plant used by Saints/Rishies since ages however due to a number of reasons; plant has been

ignored for its therapeutic uses. This survey clearly indicates that there is a need of deciphering the textual references given in regional languages and use them for new drug development process. As clearly indicated in textual as well as in survey, most of the Kshirakakoli

containing formulations have been recommended for number of disorders in men and women. However, there is lack of such patent formulations as well systemized clinical trials that could prove to be useful in highlighting the real therapeutic potentials of *Kshirakakoli* containing formulations. Hence this survey provides a template for scientists for further screening and research on these formulations that are useful in plethora of disorders.

Financial support: None

Acknowledgment: The authors are thankful to the tradomedical practitioners (TMPs) for sharing their precious traditional knowledge.

Conflict of interest: The authors declares that there are no conflicts of interest concerning the publication of this article.

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