

commonly mixture of chemical compounds; some being extracted from natural sources (i.e. coconut oil), but most of

these are synthetic or artificial [2]. Everyone is beautiful in

their own way-all they need is just a little pure and natural

touch of Ayurveda. The face is one of the prime areas that

everyone needs to take care of because panchendriya (all five

senses) are located here. Avurveda use organic, preservative-

free and potent regenerative herbs which are very beneficial

in treating blemishes, wrinkles and various skin problems and

maintaining healthy skin and a glowing complexion. In India

Ayurvedic cosmetics have been in practice since thousands of

year in India, without any side effect and are well proven and

Importance of Ayurveda Cosmetology in Today's Perspective: A Review

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Review Article

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Abstract

Skin is the largest organ of the human body. Beauty depends on healthy and glowing skin. Skin is that the reflection of what happens within the body. Currently due to pollution, bad eating habits, lack of sleep, pressure of work and stress, our skin is paying the price of the wrong lifestyle. People prefer to cover the damage with makeup and cosmetic applications instead of taking care of skin health. These chemical applications lead to more harm to the skin. In *Ayurveda* there are many relevant and effective natural formulations and herbs for skin care and to maintain beauty of skin. Ayurveda emphasizes on complete health internally as well as externally that's why *acharyas* had mentioned about *vayasthapan mahakashaya, varnya mahakashaya* and *rasayana* etc. and various types of lepa for external application. The tiny details of thickness of *lepa* are also described in *ayurveda* texts. Ayurveda has safe, cost friendly & effective treatment of various dermatological issues i.e. skin care, hair care, fairness and glowing skin, removal of post pregnancy stretch marks, foot care, hair dyes, hair removal or skin problem like acne, acne scars or dandruff.

Keywords: Vayasthapan Mahakashaya, Varnya Mahakashaya, Rasayana

Introduction

Being beautiful is perhaps the desire of every human being on the earth, because it is a lot more than just a visual experience. It is the quality that gives pleasure satisfaction to the senses [1]. It is a characteristic that not only provides a perceptual experience to the eye, ear, and intellect but also gives ultimate confidence to the person. Some are born with natural beauty and some are made beautiful. It is the natural desire of mankind to have a healthy and glowing skin with dashing personality. But very few are blessed with naturally blooming and clear skin. In present era, because of pollution, impurity of things like ghee, oil etc, lack of sleep due to work load, stress, a large number of populations is being suffered from skin problems and dullness. Everybody wants to be presentable at his/her work place so they pick up the cosmetics to hide their skin's dullness. These cosmetics are

of sleep due to ulations is being Everybody wants they pick up the ese cosmetics are documented [3]. *Acharyas* had mentioned many formulation for purpose of beautification just like *varnya mahakashaya*, *krishnakarma pandu karma*, *lom shatan*, *romsanjanan*, *kesh ranjana*, *vipadikahar yoga*, *kikkisa hara* yoga etc.

Aim and Objectives

To provide details about the various formulations of oral medication as well as local application for skin care in ayurveda.

Materials and Methods

References of the various oral medications and local application for skin care have been collected & compiled from various ancient textbooks like *Charak Samhita*, *Susruta Samhita*, *Ashtang Hridayam*, *Sharngdhara Samhita*, *Yogaratnakar* and various research articles published in international journals, search through pubmed, open med, medlar, inmed and google scholar from 1980 to till today.

Varnya Mahakashaya (Complexion Enhancing)

Acharya Charak had mentioned varnya mahakashaya which is a group of ten medicinal herbs and it can be used to obtain glowing complexion of skin [4]. It includes *Shvetachandana* (Santalum album Linn.), nagkeshara (Mesua ferrea Linn.), padmaka (Prunus cerasoides D.Don.), ushira (Vetiveria zizanioides Linn.), madhuka (Glycyrrhiza glabra Linn.), manjistha (Rubia cordifolia Linn.), sariva (Hemidesmus indicus R.Br.), payasya(Ipomoea digitata Linn.), sita and lata (A variety of Cynodon dactylon Pers.). These herbs can be used individually as well as combined. And these can be used externally or can be used internally too. These herbs are grinded and can be applied with addition of milk, water, rose water, or honey according to the skin type as a face pack.

Savarnkar lepa has been mentioned by *Acharya Vagbhatta* in treatment of *switra* (vitiligo) in which mix *bakuchi* (Psoralia corylifolia Linn.) churna-1 part and *harital* (Orpiment) churna-1/4 part churna with *gomutra* and this paste be applied on *switra sthana* i.e. white spots.

Vayasthapan Mahakashaya (Rejuvenating, Antiageing)

According to Acharya Charak, certain herbs including amrita (Tinospoara cordifolia Willd Miers ex Hook f & Thoms), abhaya (Terminalia chebula Retz.), dhatri (Embelica officinals Gaertn), yukta (Rasana) {Pluchea lanceolate C.B.Clarke}, shweta (Clitoria ternatea Linn.), jivanti (Leptadenia reticulate W. &. A.), mandookparni (Centella asiatica Linn.), sthira (Desmodium gangeticum DC.), atirasa(Asparagus recemosus Willd), punarnava(Boerhavia diffusa Linn.) help to make someone look or feel better, younger or more vital [5].

Twaksanhanana Yoga

In Dwivraniyachikitsa chapter Acharya Charak had

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mentioned wound healing powder. It includes *arjuna* (Terminalia arjuna (Roxb.) W. & A.), *udumber* (Ficus glomerata Roxb.), *ashwattha* (Ficus religiosa Linn.), *lodhra* (Symplocos racemosa Roxb.), *jambu* (Syzygium cumini Linn. Skeels), *katphala* (Myrica esculenta Buch-Ham) [6,7]. All the medicinal plants bark given above should be made in powder form and dusting on wound for healing.

Twak-Savarnikaran Yoga

In this yoga *Acharya Charak* had included *kaliyaka* (Coscinium fenestratum (Gaertn) Colebr), *Agaru* (Aquilaria agallocha Roxb.), *aamrasthi, hema, kanta* (Rubia cordifolia Linn.) and *rasottam(Parad)* [8]. All the *dravyas* should be made with cow dung juice and to be applied on skin.This helps getting fairness and glow of the skin.

Romsanjanan (Hair regrowth) Yoga

Rubbing of skin and then applying a four-legged animal's skin, hair, hoof, horn and bone ash on it. This process helps to *romsanjanan*a on that place [9,10]. According to *Acharya Sushruta*, sometimes skin does not show normal hair growth after healing of the wound and development of the scar so he has mentioned some unique formulations for the regrowth of hair in affected part. Combination of ash of *hastidanta* (Elephant's tusk) and *rasanjana* for local application or the quadruped animal's skin (leather), hairs, hoofs, horn and bones ash, mixed with oil and then applied on the skin. This paste may help to grow hairs again or *kasisa*, leaves of *naktamala* (Pongamia pinnata Pierre) grinded in *kapittha* juice and applied locally. It is best for hair regeneration.

Kikkisahara Yoga (Removal of post pregnancy stretch marks)

Acharyas had described few paste-formulations for local application i.e. *chandan* (Santalum album Linn.) and *mrinal* (kamal tantu) or bark of *shirish* (Albizzia lebbeck Benth.), *flower of dhava* (Woodfordia fruticosa Kurz.), yellow *sarsapa* (Brassica campestris Linn.Var.sarson Prain) and *mulethi* (Rubia cordifolia Linn.) or leaves of *neem* (Azadiracta indica A. Juss), *tulsi*(Ocimum sanctum Linn.), *ber* (Zizyphus jujube Lamk.) and *manjishtha* (Rubia cordifolia Linn.). These applications may help remove stretch marks [11].

Herbal Yoga in the Management of Nyachchha, Vyanga(Black spot)and Nilika(Naevus)

This is hyperpigmentated skin and their treatment is mentioned in *Susruta Samhita* that are *siravedha*(Puncturing the vein of forehead) and then rub the skin with *samudra phena* and applied the paste of *kshiri-vriksha* bark or paste of *bala* (Sida cordifolia Linn.), *atibala*(Abutilon indicum Linn.), yastahva (Glycyrrhiza glabra Linn.) and rajani(Curcuma longa Linn.) or payasya (Ipomoea digitata Linn.), agaru (Aquilaria agallocha Roxb.),kaliyaka (Coscinium fenestratum (Gaertn) Colebr) and gairika or Paste of tooth of a pig mixed with honey and ghee or kapittha and rajadana mixture is also beneficial. Acharya Yogaratnakar had mentioned about tribhuvan, vijayapatra (Cannabis sativa Linn.), vidharamool (Argyreia speciosa Sweet) and shisham Root (Dalbergia sissoo Roxb.) paste or vatankura and masur paste or Paste of manjistha(Rubia cordifolia Linn.) with madhu or application of bark of arjuna (Terminalia arjuna (Roxb.)W. & A.), manjistha(Rubia cordifolia Linn.) and adusa (Adhatoda vasica Nees) in equal amount with butter on vyanga area. These applications may help remove hyper pigmented spots on the skin [12,13].

Herbal Yoga in the Management of Arumsika (Eczema of scalp)

According to Achaya Sushruta, after raktamokshana (bloodletting), lesions should be cleaned with nimba (Azadirachta indica A. Juss.) *kwatha* followed by application of hartal, haridra (Curcuma longa Linn.),patolapatra (Trichosanthes dioica Roxb. leaves), or Paste of mulethi neelotpala (Glycyrrhiza glabra Linn.), (Nymphaea nouchali Burm.), errand (Ricinus communis Linn.) and bhringaraj (Eclipta alba Hassk.) paste. According to Achaya Sharangadhara khadiratwak (Acacia catechu Willd.), aristha twak(Azadirachta indica A. Juss.), jambutwak (Syzygium cumini Linn.Skeels) + gomutra or kutajtwak(Holarrhena antidysentrica (Linn.)Wall.) and saindhav + gomutra are beneficial in arumsika. Paste of these dravyas with cow's urine for cures *arumsika*. Mix *puran pinvaka* (til ki khali) and kukkuta purisha and grinded with gomutra for application to treat arumsika [14-16]. In arumsika Acharya Yogartnakar mentioned about application of *nilkamal*(Nymphaea stellata Willd), keshar, amalaki (Emblica officinals Gaertz), *yasthimadhu*(Glycyrrhiza glabra Linn.) in equal part. triphaladi tail which prepared by triphala, jethimadhu, bhringraj(Eclipta alba Hassk), nilkamal, sariva(Hemidesmus indicus R. Br.) and saindhay, tila tail or haridradi tail in which haridra, daruhaldi(Berberis aristata DC.), chiraita(Swertia chirayita (Roxb.ex Flem.) Karst), triphala, bark of nimbi and rakta chandan(Pterocarpus santalinus Linn.f.) mix with oil and prepared a medicated *taila* or *khadira*, *neem* and bark of *jambu* in equal part grinded with *gomutra* and applied it on affected area and application of kutaja tawak and saindha namak paste for arumsika.

Therapy/Yoga in the Management of Yuvana Pidika (Pimples/acne)

Vaman (emesis) as *shodhan chikitsa* is beneficial in *yuvana pidika* along with local application of (i) the paste of

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vacha (Acorus calamus Linn.), lodhra (Symplocos racemosa Roxb.), saindhav and sarshap (Brassica campestris Linn. Var. sarson Prain) or(ii) the paste of *dhanyaka* (Coriandrum sativum Linn.), vacha, lodhra and kuth (Saussurea lappa C. B. Clarke) or (iii)paste of lodhra, dhanyaka, vacha or gorochana and maricha (Piper nigrum Linn.) or (iv) sweta saraso, vacha, lodhra and saindha namak paste or (v) ripened leaves of vata (Ficus Bengalensis Linn.), malati (Myistica fragrans Hout), raktachandan, kushtha, kaliyaka and lodhra or (vi) paste of *jatiphala* (Myristica fragrans Hout), *raktachandan*, *maricha* (Piper nigrum Linn.) or (vii)paste of lodhra, dhanyaka (Coriandrum sativum Linn.), vacha (Acorus calamus Linn.) or (viii) paste of gorochana and maricha or (ix) paste of sweta saraso, vacha, lodhra and saindhav or (x) paste of godugdha with bark of arjuna or manjistha with madhu or semal (Salmalia malabarica Schott & Endl.) spike with milk. Thus emesis and local application of these paste formulations may help remove pimples in face acne, black patches and spots on the face [13,15,17].

Yoga in the Management of Padadari

Shiravedhana (bloodletting) is indicated followed by swedana and abhayanga and then paste of madhuchista (Bees wax), vasa (fat), powder of sarjikakshar, yavakshar be locally applied. Other indicated local paste formulations in Ayurveda textbooks are (i)paste of *gairika* added with ghee on the soles of feet (ii) paste of *ral*(Vateria indica Linn.), saindha namak, madhu, grita in equal part mix with one part of sarshap oil (iii) paste of saindhavadi lepa prepared with Saindhav namak, rakta chandan, ral(Shorea robusta Gaertn.f.), madhu, grita, guggulu, guda and geru mix with equal part (iv) After snehan and swedan of affected foot paste of wax, saindhav, ghee, guda (jaggery) guggulu (Commiphora mukul (Hook ex Stocks) Engl.), gum of shala (Shorea robusta Gaertn) and geru (v) paste of madanaphaladi lepa prepared with madanphala (Randia spinosa Poir), wax and samudra lavana (Sea salt) grinded with butter of buffalo. These may help heal the wound of padadari [18,19].

Pandukarma Yoga

Pandukarma is used on hyper pigmented skin to get normal complexion. The fruit of *rohini* soak in goat's milk for seven days& finely grind with the same goat milk and then be applied on hyper pigmented skin [20].

Krishnakarma Yoga

Krishnakarma is used for the hypo pigmentation of skin [21]. The ash made from burning hoof of tame animals of sloughy regions mixed with *bhallataka* (Semecarpus anacardium Linn.) oil which is disgorge by *patala yantra* and is suggested to apply on skin patches. *Acharya charak*

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had also mentioned about twak-*karshnyakaran yoga* [7]. External application of *hara kasisa* (Green vitriol), *loharaja, triphala kusuma* in lepa presentation on scar tissue helps in *Karshnyakaran* [7] i.e. pigmentation process.

Indralupta Yoga (Loss of hair)

Acharya Susruta has indicated first snehana (massaging), swedana (fomentation) and then bloodletting on the scalp. After that the skin is to be incised and be applied paste of (i) maricha, manashila (realgar), kasisa(green vitriol) and tuttha or(ii) paste of tagar(Valeriana wallichii) and devadaru (Cedrus deodara (Roxb.) Loud.) or (iii) Paste of gunja(Abrus precatorius Linn.) or(iv) oil prepared with malati, karaveer(Nerium indicum Mill.) be locally applied. Agni (Premna mucronata Roxb.) and naktamal are stated to be found best in indralupta for hair regrowth. Application of paste of brihati(Solanum indicum Linn.) swarasa mix with madhu or paste of gunja mool or phala or rubbing of tikta patolipatra swarasa on indralupta or gokshura (Tribulus terrestris Linn.), tilpuspa (Sesamum indicum Linn.), madhu and grita grinded in equal part and be applied this paste on head [22,23]. These are also included among various local paste or oil formulations prescribed by the acharyas.

Lomshatan or Romshatan Yoga (Hair removal)

This procedure has mentioned to help in wound healing [24]. Wound does not get healed properly because of surrounded hairs. So certain formulae have been mentioned in *Susruta Samhita* for hair removal including (i)two parts of ash of *shankh*, one part of *harital* soak in vinegar, grinded and

then be applied on the area or (ii) *bhallataka oil* mixed with milky sap of *snuhi* (Euphorbia neriifolia Linn) or (iii)ash of *kadali* (Musa paradisiacal Linn), *dirghavrinta* (*aralu*), *haratal*, *saindha namak* and seeds of *shami* (Prosopis cineraria Druce) grinded with *shitodak* and be applied for hair removal or (iv) oil of *agargodhika* (House lizard), *rambha* (*kadali*), *aala* (*haratal*) and seeds of *ingudi*(Balanites aegyptiaca (Linn.) Delile)) be burnt together to make ash. This ash mixed with oil & water and cooked in sunlight and then same is to be applied on the area for removal of hairs.

Mukhalepa Yoga

There are three types of mukhlepa for removal of dosha (biotoxins) and functions as varnyakara (complexion promoting). Acharya mentioned mode of application, duration and precaution for local application of paste in detail. There are three types of lepa i.e. doshaghna, vishaghna and varnya. He has mentioned about the mukhkantikarak lepa [15] in which rakta chandan (Pterocarpus santalinus Linn.f.), manjishtha, lodhra, kushtha, priyangu (Callicarpa macrophylla Vahl.), vatankura (Ficus bengalensis Linn.), masura or matulungajata (Citrus medica Linn.), ghrita, manashila, goshakrata rasa and mukhkashrnyahara lepa¹⁵(Pigmentation or wrinkles) which included arkakshira, White horse hoof's ash, haridra, Butter or all 4 things mix and applied this paste on affected area. Masur grinded with milk and applied with ghee, this paste enhancing complexion in seven days or kumkumadi tailam and manjisthadi tailam also mentioned by acharya for the promoting complexion [25] (Table 1).

S. No	Season	Paste For Local Application
1	Hemant	<i>Majja of ber</i> (Ziziphus jujube Lamk.) <i>vasaka root</i> (Adhatoda vasica Linn.) <i>pathani lodhra</i> (symplocos racemosa or paniculata Roxb.) <i>sarshap</i> (Brassica campestris Linn. Var. sarson Prain)
2	Shishir	<i>Vanbhanta root</i> (Solanum surattense Burm.) <i>,black til</i> (Sesamum indicum Linn.), bark of <i>daruhaldi</i> (Berberis aristata DC.), <i>yava</i> (Hordeum vulgare) without husk
3	Basant	Root of <i>darbha</i> (Imperata cylindrical Beau.v), <i>kapoora</i> (Cinnamomum camphora Nees & Eberm), <i>khas</i> (Vetiveria zizanioidis (Linn.) Nash.), seeds of <i>shiris</i> (Albizzia lebbeck Benth), seeds of <i>saunf</i> (Foeniculum vulgare Mill.), <i>chawal</i> (Oriza sativa)
4	Grishma	<i>Kumud</i> (Nymphaea nouchali Burm), <i>utpal</i> (Nymphoea stellata Willd) , <i>khas,durva</i> (Cynodon dactylon Pers), <i>yastimadhu,chandan</i>
5	Varsha	<i>kaliyaka,til,khas, jatamansi</i> (Nardostachys jatamansi DC.) <i>, tagar</i> (Valeriana wallichii D.C.), <i>padmak</i> (Nelumbo nucifera Gaertn)
6	Sharada	<i>Talis</i> (Abies webbiana Lindle), <i>gundra</i> (Sesbania cannabina (Retz.) Baker), <i>pundarik</i> (Nelumbo nucifera Gaertn), <i>Mulethi, kasha</i> (Saccharum spontaneum Linn.), <i>tagar,aguru</i> (Aquilaria agallocha Roxb.).

Table 1: Furthermore application of paste varies according to the season [26].

Kesharanjan Yoga

Triphala, nilikapatra(Indigofera tinctoria Linn.), *bhringaraj*(Eclipta alba (Linn.) Hassk.) and *lohachurna* in

equal part mixed with urine of sheep and be applied it for black hair or *kashmaryadi tailam* prescribed for *kesharanjan* i.e. blackening of hairs [13].

Keshvriddhi Lepa Yoga

Gokshura (Tribulus terrestris Linn.) and *tilpuspa* (Sesamum indicum Linn.) both mixed in equal part & grinded with *ghrita* and *madhu* in similar amount. This paste is to be locally applied for the growth of hairs [15].

Discussion

Avurvedic texts Charak Samhita, Susruta Samhita, Ashtanga Hridyam, Sharangdhar Samhita and Yogratnakar had mentioned many formulations or preparations for skin care which are stated very effective and free from chemicals and their side effects. There are many research studies still under clinical trial. Knowledge of ayurvedic skin care which had been described in classical texts may be very helpful for the development of the new cosmetics products for present and future cosmetics industry. Medicinal herbs included in varnva mahakashava are found effective in blood purification, which brings contour and radiance to the skin. Vayasthapan mahakashaya help function to maintain the age of a person. Twak sanhanana is helpful in healing wound. Twak karshnyakaran yoga replaces the white scar of the skin. Romsanjanan yoga helps regrowth of hair. Kikkisahara yoga may be helpful in removal of post pregnancy stretch marks. In Nyachchha, vyanga and nilika (types of hyperpigmentated skin) may be well treated by using the medicine given by acharyas. Arumsika (eczema of scalp or known as dandruff) and yuvana pidika are effectively treated by indicated herbal preparations. Padadari means cracked heels. Krishnakarma is used for hypo pigmentation of skin and pandukarma is used for hyper pigmented of skin for maintaining the natural complaxion. Indralupta is related to hair loss and lomshatan has described such yogas that remove hair. Mukhlepa can also be called as facepack, they have many properties according to their contents which not only help to eliminate the problem but also help to maintain the skin healthy. In keshranjan, there are descriptions of yoga to darken hair. Yogas related to lengthening hair have been described in keshvriddhi lepa.

Conclusion

Cosmetic industry is a part of every human's life with new advances and technologies, but these cosmetic treatments have some side effects. Chemical cosmetic treatment can cause skin redness, irritation, dryness, burning, stains and change in the skin pigmentation. Laser treatment also has some dangerous side effects such as scars, wounds, purpura, epidural thickness and squamous cell carcinoma [27]. Infections, reactivation of herpes simplex infections are complications of chemical peels. Deep peels usually need intensive local anesthesia and generally general anesthesia that carries their own risks [28]. Hair transplant also has some unwanted side effects such as bleeding, infection, temporary thinning of hairs, itching, scarring, hiccup, pain

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and numbness [28]. Therefore a need arises to search out different alternatives to avoid these facet effects. The world is accepting *Ayurveda* with all the warmth because it does not pose threats like modern chemical cosmetic treatments. *Ayurvedic samhitas* have indicated many formulations for skin and hairs diseases. These formulations need to be studied and experimented to prove their efficacy and to develop a new form of treatment with these formulations available in *ayurvedic* texts. This is the only way to establish *ayurveda*'s contribution to skin care/cosmetology.

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