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Effect of Phaltrikadi Kwatha in the management of Pandu in Children - An Open Clinical Trial

Dr. Vikas Kumar¹, Dr. Pankaja P. Savanur²

¹Final Year Post Graduate Scholar, ²Reader, Department of Kaumarbhritya, KAHER's Shri. B.M.K. Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Shahpur, Belagavi, Karnataka, INDIA.

ABSTRACT

Background: Pandu (Anemia) is one of the commonest and most prevalent diseases in Pediatric population in India. Drugs available in the market used for treating Anemia (Pandu) have untoward effects like constipation, non-palatability, intolerance, loss of appetite etc. It is today's need to safely treat the Pandu (Anemia) in children with herbal preparations which are mentioned in many Ayurvedic Classics which are economical and safe. So Phalatrikadi Kwatha a formulation mentioned to be useful in the management of Pandu Roga was used in the present study. Aim and Objectives: Primary: To evaluate the efficacy of *Phalatrikadi Kwatha* in *Pandu* in children. Secondary: To evaluate the Efficacy of Phalatrikadi Kwatha in different Prakruti in Pandu in children. Methodology: This study was an interventional open labelled clinical trial and conducted on 30 diagnosed Patients of Pandu for a period of 30 days. Follow up was done on 10th, 20th, 30th days of study on the basis of subjective criteria and Hb% before treatment and after treatment. Results: Symptoms of Anemia and Hb% level were statistically analysed for any change before treatment, after treatment and during the follow up. Statistically significant changes (p<0.05) were observed in subjective (Dourbalyata, Aruchi) and objective (Hb%) parameters of Pandu Rogi. No significant difference was observed in different specific Dosha dominant Prakruti. Conclusion: Phalatrikadi Kwatha was found effective in the treatment of Pandu in children, thus showing significant results with respect to symptoms like Dourbalyata, Aruchi and increase in Hb%.

Key words: Pandu Roga, Anemia, Phalatrikadi Kwatha, Hb%.

INTRODUCTION

Pandu Roga can be effectively compared with Anemia on the ground of its similar clinical presentation. Pandu is a Pitta Pradhana Tridhosaja and Varnopalakshita Vyadhi where in paleness is pathognomonic. Anemia is a disease that has similar

Address for correspondence:

Dr. Vikas Kumar

Final Year Post Graduate Scholar, Department of Kaumarbhritya, KAHER's Shri. B.M.K. Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Shahpur, Belagavi, Karnataka, INDIA.

E-mail: vikas.k.mechu@gmail.com

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paleness, constitutional symptoms, pathogenesis and etiology. Symptoms of Pandu are Panduta of Twak, Netra, Nakha, Anana, Daurbalya, Shrama, Bhrama, Swasa, Arohanaayasa, Aruchi, Pindikodvestana and in Pandu line of treatment are Shamana, Shodhana and Pathya.^[1]

According to 3rd National Family Health Survey 79% of Indian children are affected from Anemia including 71% of urban children and 84% of those in rural area.^[2] By observing high prevalence of Anemia, Government of India launched National Nutritional Anemia control Programs.^[2]

Mandagni is the main cause for Pandu Roga. Most of the drugs which are advised in the management of Pandu Roga possess Katu Rasa, Tiksana, Snigdha and Laghu Guna, Kaphavatahara and are having Deepana, Pachana, Rasayana properties. Drugs available in market have their own limitations and adverse effects

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like non-palatability, intolerance, loss of appetite, constipation etc.^[3]

Phalatrikadi *Kwatha* is preparations in the management of Pandu Roga. The pharmacodynamic study of individual constituents of this drug has revealed a wide range of actions in Pandu Roga. It is a herbal combination, containing Triphala, Amruta, Vasa, Tikta, Nimba, Bhunimba, which has properties of Deepana, Pachana and Kaphavata Shamana. This drug was selected because it is economical as well as palatable with good safety profile. A quick overview through the indications clearly reveals that it is an apt formulation for the management of Pandu Roga. Therefore, the present study was an effort made to gather and to study and to document the effect of Phalatrikadi Kwatha in Pandu Roga with respect to reduction in signs and symptoms.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Study Design

An open clinical trial

Selection of cases

Based on the clinical features of *Pandu Roga* the patients were selected for the study.

Inclusion Criteria

- 1. Patients of either sex between the ages 6 -16 years.
- 2. Patients fulfilled diagnostic criteria were selected.
- 3. Hb between 8 gm % to 10 gm %.

Exclusion Criteria

- 1. Haematological disorders like sickle cell Anaemia, haemolytic anaemia etc.
- 2. Anaemia child who requires any form of Emergency management, PICA
- 3. Acute/chronic severe infections like Pneumonia, T.B.
- 4. Children having any known congenital disorders like CHD etc.

Selection of drug

Phalatrikadi Kwatha is mentioned in the context of treatment of *Pandu Roga* in *Cakradatta*.^[4] The formulation was preserved with help of preservatives

for easy administration. Honey mentioned as *Anupana* in original text were giving separately to the patients. *Phalatrikadi Kwatha* was taken as trial drug for the present study.

Approval of institutional ethical committee

Institutional Ethics committee's approval was taken for the open clinical trial.

Procurement of the drug

Trial raw drug was collected from pharmacy. Authentification was done in Central Research Facility, KAHER's Shri. BMK Ayurveda Mahavidyalaya, Belagavi. The trial drug were prepared as per classical method in the attached GMP certified Ayurveda Pharmacy of the institute. After that preservatives (Methyl Paraben, Propyl Paraben, Sodium Benzoate) added as per standard. Packaging was done in bottles as per required dose.

Analytical study of the trial drug

The trial drug was subjected to various physiochemical analytical tests to evaluate the standards of drugs was done in central research facility belagavi. The reports of analytical test of the trial drug *Phalatrikadi Kwatha* are mention below;

Nature of the preparation: Kwatha (liquid)

Organoleptic parameters

- Colour Brown
- Odour Fragrent
- Taste Bitter

Table 1: Physiochemical Properties

Ph	4*
Specific gravity	1.028*
Total solid	7.762*
* These value are mean v samples.	alue of freshly prepared 3

Microbial stability test was done in subsequent month upto 1 year and their finding was in normal limits.

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Qualitative test was also done for organic and inorganic compounds.

Qualitative Analysis

Table 2: Test for Organic Compounds

Calcium	Present
Magnesium	Absent
Sodium	Present
Potassium	Absent
Iron	Present
Chloride	Present
Sulphates	Present
Carbonates	Absent
Nitrates	Present
Phosphate	Present

Laboratory investigations: Hb%

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Subjective Parameters

- 1. Pandutwa (Pallor)
- 2. Daurbalyata (weakness)
- 3. Aruchi (loss of appetite)
- 4. Shrama (Fatique)

Objective Parameters

1. Hb%

Grading of Assessment Crieteria

1. Pandutwa (Pallor)

Table 3: Grading for Pandutwa

Symptoms	Grading
No Pallor	0
Conjunctiva slightly pale, nail and other mucous membrane not pale	1
Conjunctiva slightly pale, nail and other mucous membrane slightly pale	2

Conjunctiva slightly pale, nails, mucous	3
membrane pale	

2. Daurbalyata (weakness)

Table 4: Grading for Daurbalyata

Symptoms	Grading
No daurbalyata	0
Not able to perform strenuous activities (E.g Outdoor games, lifting wt.)	1
Not able to perform moderate activities (E.g. climbing, Running etc.)	2
Cannot perform moderate but can perform mild activities without difficulty (E.g. routine works like bathing, walking, eating food etc.)	3
Even mild activities cannot be performed (Routine work cannot perform	4

3. Aruchi (loss of appetite)

Table 5: Grading for Aruchi

Symptoms	Grading
Take normal diet.	0
Less oral intake compare to routine diet.	1
Sometimes takes food properly, most of time avoid.	2
Patient avoid food.	3

4. Shrama (fatique)

Table 6: Grading for Shrama

Symptoms	Grading
No fatigue	0
Fatigue but not affecting patient daily activities.	1
Fatigue affecting patient daily activities	2
Activity reduced due to fatigue.	3

Analysis of data and use of statistical methods

 Willcoxon matched pairs test: used for comparison between the follow ups.

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- Paired t test: used for Haemoglobin for comparison between before and after treatment.
- Kruskal Wallis ANOVA followed by Mann-Whitney U test: used for comparison between 3 groups (Vata, Pitta, Kapha) in term of assessment criteria at different follow up.

OBSERVATIONS

In demographic data gender wise distribution, 10 (67%) children were male & 20 (33%) children were female. Age wise distribution of 30 children 16 (53%), children belonged to the age group more or equal to 11yrs and 14 (46.67%) children belonged to the age group less or equal to 10 yrs.

In this study 27 (90%) children were from Hindu community and remaining 3 (10%) children were from other communities. 27 (90%) children were having *Mandagni* and 3 (10%) children were having *Samagni*. *Nidra* indicated that 24 (80%) children were having normal *Nidra* and 6 (20%) children having *Atinidra*. 14 (46.67%) children were having *Kapha* dominant *Prakruti*, 12 (40%) children were having *Pitta* dominant *Prakruti* and 4 (13.33%) children were having *Vata* dominant *Prakruti*.

RESULTS

Pandutwa scores have shown statistically nonsignificant results from 0th day to subsequent follow ups (10th, 20th, 30th day) with p value (>0.05) and have shown statistically non-significant results from 10th day to subsequent follow ups (20th, 30th day) with p value (>0.05).

Table 7: Pandutwa scores from 0th day to subsequentfollow ups by Wilcoxon matched pairs.

Treatment time	Median	IQR	Mea n	SD	Z- value	p- value
0 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38		
10 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38		
0 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38		

20 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38	
0 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38	
30 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.80	0.41	
10 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38	
20 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38	
10 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38	
30 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.80	0.41	
20 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.83	0.38	
30 th Day	2.00	0.00	1.80	0.41	

The mean scores decrease of *Pandutwa* was present in all the 3 *Prakruti* (*Vata*, *Pitta*, *Kapha*) but during pairwise comparison between *Kapha* -*Vata*, *Kapha* -*Pitta*, *Pitta-Kapha* it was not statistically significant with p value >0.5.

Table 8: Comparison of Pandutwa mean scores b/w 3groups (Kapha, Pitta, Vata)

Time		KAPH	IA		PITTA			VATA			p-	Pair	wise compa	risons
										value	value value	K vs P	K vs V	Pvs K
	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median					
0th Day										3.9770	0.1370	p=0.6807	p=0.2025	p=0.3320
	1.93	0.27	2.00	1.83	0.39	2.00	1.50	0.58	1.50					
10th Day										3.9770	0.1370	p=0.6807	p=0.2025	p=0.3320
	1.93	0.27	2.00	1.83	0.39	2.00	1.50	0.58	1.50					
20th Day	1.93	0.27	2.00	1.83	0.39	2.00	1.50	0.20	1.50	3.9770	0.1370	p=0.6807	p=0.2025	p=0.3320
30th Day	1.95	0.27	2.00	1.85	0.39	2.00	1.50	0.58	1.50	8.7890	0.0120	p=0.6807	p=0.0436	p=0.0896
											*			
	1.93	0.27	2.00	1.83	0.39	2.00	1.25	0.50	1.00					

Daurbalyata scores have shown statistically nonsignificant results from 0th day to 10th with p value >0.05, followed by statistically significant results b/w 0th day to subsequent follow ups (20th, 30th day) with p value 0.0001(i.e <0.05) which is highly significant and have shown statistically significant results from 10th

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day t subsequent follow ups (20^{th} , 30^{th} day) with p value <0.05, followed by statistically significant results b/w 20^{th} to 30^{th} day with p value <0.05.

Table 9: *Daurbalyata* scores from 0th day to subsequent follow ups by Wilcoxon matched pairs test.

Treatment time	Media n	IQR	Mea n	SD	Z- value	p- value
0 th Day	2.00	1.7 5	1.53	1.0 1		
10 th Day	2.00	1.7 5	1.50	1.0 1		
0 th Day	2.00	1.7 5	1.53	1.0 1		
20 th Day	1.00	2.0 0	1.07	0.8 7	3.295 8	0.0010 *
0 th Day	2.00	1.7 5	1.53	1.0 1		
30 th Day	1.00	1.0 0	0.80	0.6 1	4.106 9	0.0001 *
10 th Day	2.00	1.7 5	1.50	1.0 1		
20 th Day	1.00	2.0 0	1.07	0.8 7	3.179 8	0.0015 *
10 th Day	2.00	1.7 5	1.50	1.0 1		
30 th Day	1.00	1.0 0	0.80	0.6 1	4.014 5	0.0001 *
20 th Day	1.00	2.0 0	1.07	0.8 7		
30 th Day	1.00	1.0 0	0.80	0.6 1	2.520 5	0.0117 *

The mean scores decrease of *Daurbalyata* was present in all the 3 *Prakruti* (*Vata*, *Pitta*, *Kapha*) but during pairwise comparison between *Kapha-Vata*, *Kapha-Pitta*, *Pitta-Kapha* it was not statistically significant with p value >0.5. Table 10: Comparison of Daurbalyata mean scoresb/w 3 groups (Kapha, Pitta, Vata)

	KAPH	IA		PITT	A		VATA		H-	p-value	Pair wise compa		parisons	
Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median			K vs P	K vs V	Pvs K	
1.57	1.09	2.00	1.42	0.90	2.00	1.75	1.26	2.00	0.7020	0.7040	p=0.6070	p=0.7500	p=0.5048	
1.50	1.09	2.00	1.42	0.90	2.00	1.75	1.26	2.00	0.5300	0.7670	p=0.7773	p=0.6710	p=0.5048	
1.14	0.95	1.00	1.00	0.85	1.00	1.00	0.82	1.00	0.1230	0.9400	p=0.7576	p=0.8318	p=1.0000	
0.86	0.66	1.00	0.67	0.49	1.00	1.00	0.82	1.00	0.9040	0.6360	p=0.5371	p=0.7500	p=0.4669	
	Mean 1.57 1.50 1.14	Mean SD 1.57 1.09 1.50 1.09 1.14 0.95	1.57 1.09 2.00 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.14 0.95 1.00	Mean SD Median Mean 1.57 1.09 2.00 1.42 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 1.14 0.95 1.00 1.00	Mean SD Median Mean SD 1.57 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 1.14 0.95 1.00 1.00 0.85	Mean SD Median Mean SD Median 1.57 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.14 0.95 1.00 1.00 0.85 1.00	Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean 1.57 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.75 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.75 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.75 1.14 0.95 1.00 1.00 0.85 1.00 1.00	Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD 1.57 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.75 1.26 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.75 1.26 1.50 1.09 2.00 1.42 0.90 2.00 1.75 1.26 1.14 0.95 1.00 1.00 0.85 1.00 1.00 0.82	Mean SD Median Mean Mean <th< td=""><td>Image Image <th< td=""><td>Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median Mean SD Mean</td><td>Image Image <th< td=""><td>Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean Mean SD Mean SD</td></th<></td></th<></td></th<>	Image Image <th< td=""><td>Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median Mean SD Mean</td><td>Image Image <th< td=""><td>Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean Mean SD Mean SD</td></th<></td></th<>	Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median Mean SD Mean	Image Image <th< td=""><td>Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean Mean SD Mean SD</td></th<>	Mean SD Median Mean SD Median SD Median SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean SD Median Mean SD Mean Mean SD Mean SD	

Aruchi scores have shown statistically significant results from 0th day to subsequent follow ups (10^{th} , 20^{th} , 30^{th} day) with p value 0.0001 (i.e. <0.05) which is highly significant and also have shown statistically significant results from 10^{th} day to subsequent follow ups (20^{th} , 30^{th} day) with p value <0.05, followed by statistically significant results b/w 20^{th} to 30^{th} day with p value <0.05

Table 11: Aruchi scores from 0th day to subsequentfollow ups by Wilcoxon matched pairs

Treatment time	Median	IQR	Mean	SD	Z-value	p-value
0th Day	1.00	1.00	1.23	0.63		
10th Day	0.00	1.00	0.47	0.57	4.1973	0.0001*
0th Day	1.00	1.00	1.23	0.63		
20th Day	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.41	4.5407	0.0001*
0th Day	1.00	1.00	1.23	0.63		
30th Day	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.18	4.5407	0.0001*
10th Day	0.00	1.00	0.47	0.57		
20th Day	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.41	2.5205	0.0117*
10th Day	0.00	1.00	0.47	0.57		
30th Day	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.18	3.1798	0.0015*
20th Day	0.00	0.00	0.20	0.41		
30th Day	0.00	0.00	0.03	0.18	2.0226	0.0431*

The mean scores decrease of *Aruchi* was present in all the 3 *Prakruti* (*Vata*, *Pitta*, *Kapha*) but during pairwise comparison between *Kapha* -*Vata*, *Kapha* -*Pitta*, *Pitta*-*Kapha* it was not statistically significant with p value >0.5.

Table 12: comparison of Aruchi mean scores b/w 3 groups (Kapha , Pitta, Vata)

Time		KAPH	IA		PITT/	١		VALA		H- value	P-	Pair	risons	
	Mea n	SD	Media n	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	value	value	K vs P	K vs V	P vs K
0th Day	1.29	0.61	1.00	1.33	0.49	1.00	0.75	0.96	0.50	2.0200	0.3640	p=0.9181	p=0.2648	p=0.2253
10th Day	0.50	0.65	0.00	0.50	0.52	0.50	0.25	0.50	0.00	0.6880	0.7090	p=0.8774	p=0.5592	p=0.4669
20th Day	0.21	0.43	0.00	0.25	0.45	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.1650	0.5580	p=0.8774	p=0.5240	p=0.4669
30th Day	0.07	0.27	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.1430	0.5650	p=0.7576	p=0.8318	p=1.0000

Shrama scores have shown statistically non significant results from 0^{th} day to subsequent follow ups (10^{th} , 20^{th} , 30^{th} day) with p value (>0.05) and was shown statistically non significant results from 10^{th} day to subsequent follow ups (20^{th} , 30^{th} day) with p value (>0.05).

Table 13: Shrama scores from 0th day to next followups by Wilcoxon matched pairs test.

Treatment time	Median	IQR	Mean	SD	Z-value	p-value
0th Day	1.00	0.75	1.00	0.74		
10th Day	1.00	0.75	1.00	0.74		
0th Day	1.00	0.75	1.00	0.74		
20th Day	1.00	0.75	0.97	0.72		
0th Day	1.00	1.50	1.00	0.74		
30th Day	1.00	0.75	0.90	0.66	1.6036	0.1088
10th Day	1.00	1.50	1.00	0.74		
20th Day	1.00	0.75	0.97	0.72		
10th Day	1.00	1.50	1.00	0.74		
30th Day	1.00	0.75	0.90	0.66	1.6036	0.1088
20th Day	1.00	0.75	0.97	0.72		
30th Day	1.00	0.75	0.90	0.66		

The mean scores decrease of *Shrama* was present in all the 3 *Prakruti* (*Vata, Pitta, Kapha*) but during pairwise comparison between *Kapha -Vata, Kapha - Pitta, Pitta-Kapha*, it was not statistically significant with p value >0.5.

Table 14: Comparison of Shrama mean scores b/w 3 groups (Kapha, Pitta, Vata)

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Time	Time KAPI	KAPHA PITTA			ų T		VATA	1	H-value p-valu	p-value	e Pair wise comparisons			
1	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median	Mean	SD	Median			K vs P	KwV	Pvs K
Oth Day	1.00	0.78	1.00	0.83	0.58	1.00	1.50	1.00	2.00	2.4170	0.2990	p=0.6070	p=0.2882	p=0.1456
10th Day	1.00	0.78	1.00	0.83	0.58	1.00	1.50	1.00	2.00	2.4170	0.2990	p=0.6070	p=0.2882	p=0.1456
20th Day	0.93	0.73	1.00	0.83	0.58	1.00	1.50	1.00	2.00	2.5390	0.2810	p=0.7773	p=0.2220	p=0.1456
30th Day	0.93	0.73	1.00	0.83	0.58	1.00	1.00	0.82	1.00	0.1980	0.9050	p=0.7773	p=0.8734	p=0.7160

The mean score of Hb% was improved from 9.29 to 9.55 which is statistically significant with p value 0.0001.

Table 15: Comparison of Hb% age at before and aftertreatment by Paired T test.

Treatment time	Mean	SD	Diff. mean	Diff. SD	Paired t	p-value
0th Day	9.29	0.68				
30th Day	9.55	0.66	-0.26	0.21	-6.8538	0.0001*

The mean increase of Hb% was present in all the 3 *Prakruti* (*Vata, Pitta, Kapha*) but during pairwise comparison between *Kapha -Vata, Kapha -Pitta, Pitta-Kapha*, it was not statistically significant with p value >0.5.

Table 16: Comparision OF Hb% b/n three group(Vata, Pitta, Kapha)

Time	KAI	PHA	PIT	TA	VA	TA	F- value	p-value	Pair wise compar		sons
									K vs P	K vs V	P vs K
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD					
0th Day	9.24	0.66	9.37	0.67	9.28	0.92	0.1157	0.8912	p=0.8824	p=0.9946	p=0.9719
30th day	9.46	0.62	9.56	0.60	9.85	1.02	0.5199	0.6004	p=0.9320	p=0.5715	p=0.7322

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DISCUSSION

Discussion on observation

Age: In present study incidence of anaemia was found in age group 11 yrs or more (53.33%) probably it may be due iron requirement due to rapid body growth and poor iron absorption which is required for haemoglobin synthesis.^[5]

Agni: 27% of the children in this study had *Mandagni* assessed by their poor appetite. According to Ayurveda, all the diseases occur due to presence of *Mandagni*. It does improper digestion & improper absorption of nutrients & minerals.^[6]

Prakruti: Anaemia was found in 46.67% children of *Kapha* dominant *Prakruti*, 40% of *Pitta* dominant *Prakruti*. *Prakruti* plays a vital role in vitiation of *Doshas* and children with certain diseases. This finding revealed predominance of *Pitta Dosha* in pathogenesis of *Pandu*.^[7]

Gender: The present study showed the ratio between Males to females 1:2 while it has been shown that the prevalence of anemia is greater among females as compared to males, the current study findings are not representatives of this possibly due to small sample size.

Religion: This data shows that *Pandu* is more prevalent in Hindu community (90%) compared to other communities. This may be due to the larger Hindu population in this region.

Nidra: In this study 20% children had *Atinidra*, while 80% children had *Samyaka Nidra*. This *Atinidra* may be because in *Pandu* there is *Agnimandya* due to this weakness occurs due to obstruction in *Uttarotara Dhatuposhana* which leads to *Atinidra*.

Discussion of effect of therapy

Symptoms were scored and statistically analysed for any change before and after the study. In the group statistically significant change (p<0.05) was observed. All children showed good improvement.

Effect of drug on *Daurbalyata* (Generalized weakness)

Among 30 patients, all the patients were having *Daurbalyata*. This symptom might be more prominent in *Pandu Rogi* because of *Dhatu Kshaya* and *Ojo Kshaya* which is the result of pathogenesis of *Pandu*. In subsequent follow up, there is 28.66% relief from 10^{th} to 20^{th} day and 25.23 % from 20^{th} to 30^{th} day with p<0.05 which is statistically significant.

In Phalatrikaadi Kwatha Amalaki, Haritaki, Guduchi are having Balya and Rasayana property, it might replenishes and rejuvenate impaired Dhatus which ultimately increases Bala and decreases the weakness. Most of the drugs in the formulation are having Deepana, Pacana property which increase the Agnibala & decrease Aruchi in food which leads to Uttarotara Dhatupoashana ultimately decreasing Dourbalyata.

Effect of drug on Aruchi

Among 30 patient 27 patient were having *Aruchi*, this may be because *Pandu* is occurring mainly due to *Mandagni*. Among 27 patients after treatment there is 97.56% relief in aruchi with p< 0.05 which is statistically significant. This may be due to *Deepana*, *Pachana* drugs in formulaton.

Pandu occurs due to Agnivikruti, Varnahani, Prabhahani, Utsahahani and Krishata are seen. In this formulation most of the drugs having the properties like Deepana, Pacana, Ruchya which improve digestion and assimilation.

All ingredients in this formulation are having *Tikta Rasa* and *Laghu, Ruksha Gunas*. So it may help in *Jivha Mukha Shodhana* which might inturn lead to improvement in *Aruchi*.

Nimba, Vasa, Katuki having *Tikta Rasa* which act as Pitthara, *Deepana* and *Pacana* which may be helpful to increase the appetite.

Effect of drugs on haemoglobin

Among 30 patients after treatment there is increase Hb% in 83.33% there is mean increase in 0.26% with p

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value < 0.05 which is statistically significant but clinically not significant.

Prakruti wise there was more increase in Hb% in *Vata Prakruti* due to *Balya* and *Rasayana* action of the drugs present in the formulation. But this was not statistically justified because of non-uniform distribution of patients in different *Prakruti* categories.

As the formulation which is containing aminoacids and iron content it might be helpful in the production of haemoglobin.

Amalaki is Amla Rasa Pradhana, being a rich source of Vit. C. which helps to increase the absorption of iron which may help in Pandu Roga.^[8]

According to modern science honey contains vitamins- B_{6} , K, B12, A, C, Riboflavin, Niacin and minerals (Cu, Zinc, Pottasium & Iron etc) as we know Cu and Zinc play important role in *Pandu* (Anemia), Vitamin C increases the iron absorption from Gastrointestinal tract. Thus honey seems to be beneficial in *Pandu*.

Probable mode of action Phalatrikadi Kwatha

In the pathogenesis of *Pandu Pitta Prakopa* is one of the major entity and in this study, the used formulation is having the drugs with predominance of *Tikta Rasa*, which has *Pittashamana* effect and will help to alleviate the *Pitta Dosha* in body.

Tikta Rasa also having *Amapacana* effect so it will help in proper formation of *Rasa Dhatu* and thus the subsequent *Raktadhatu* formation.

Guduchi does the *Shamana* of *Raktagata Pitta* it also does *Raktaprasadana* (enhance the quality) and ultimately nourishes the subsequent *Dhatus*.

Krimi is one of the reason for the manifestation of *Pandu, Nimba* might help in such cases, which acts on *Raktaja* and *Kapha*ja *Krimi* due to its *Prabhava* and also having *Pittakaphahara* property.

In *Pandu* as there is *Srotodhoosti* caused due to excessive or aggravated *Doshas*, due to *Shodana* and *Bhedana* property of *Katuki* that is why it may act as *Shrotoshodana* ultimately *Samprapti Vighatana*.

Pandu being a Santarpanajanya Vyadhi, the line of treatment mentioned in Pandu is Tikshna Virechana and Vamana (Apatarpana Chikitsa). The formulation contains Triphala, Tikta, Bhunimba which acts as Mriduvirechaka which might have helped in the Vighatana of Samprapti of Pandu.

Mode of action of Anupana (Honey)

It contains fructose, digestive enzymes; which facilitate quick absorption of medicine as *Yogawahi*.^[9]

Madhu is having Tridoshara, Ruksha, Laghu Guna, Kasaya Anurasa act as Deepana, Pachana, Yogavahi, Shorotovishodhana may be helpful in treating Pandu by reducing Shrotodusti and Aruchi thus increasing absorption of drug and food.

CONCLUSION

Phalatrikadi Kwatha was found effective in the treatment of *Pandu* in children, thus showing significant results with respect to symptoms like *Dourbalyata, Aruchi* and increase in HB%. No conclusion could be drawn on *Phalatrikadi Kwatha* in different *Prakrutis* due to non-uniform and less distribution in the category of different *Prakruti.*

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