

EVALUTION OF MANIKYA BHASMA AS NEUROPROTECTIVE ACTIVITY IN VIVO

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ABSTRACT

Neurodegeneration is the umbrella term for the progressive loss of structure or function of neuron including death of neurons. Neurodegeneration can be found in many different levels of neuronal circuitry ranging from molecular to systemic. Neuron cells once died cannot be regenerated. Today the cases of neurodegenerative diseases are increasing day by day because of environmental haphazard, pollution, stress and sedentary life style of people. There are number of patients suffering from neurodegenerative disease in India. Treatment

for the diseases is only symptomatic and treatment given is very costly. If neuroprotective drugs are used in such patients it may prove beneficial. As per ayurvedic text Manikya is medhya, vaat kapha har, bhtonmad naashak, vaatnaadi paushtikar. Previously ratnas were used for parad bandhan.^[1] As the priority of Ras shastra is to attain a Body that is deha dharan.^[2] hence Ras shastra had used almost all the ratnas(gems) for the purpose of inducing the longevity of life in human body.^[3] Also internal use of the ratnas can cure the several diseases present on the earth.^[4] Hence in the present study an attempt is made to carry out the experimental study of neuroprotective activity in swiss albino mice.

KEYWORDS: Neurodegeneration, Manikya is medhya, vaat kapha har, bhtonmad naashak, vaatnaadi paushtikar.

INTRODUCTION

Rasashastra (Iatrochemistry) had used almost all the gems for the purpose of inducing longevity of life in human body. (Vaidyopadhyaya, 1983) Also internal use of gems can cure several diseases (Vaidyopadhyaya, 1983). According to Ayurveda, Manikya has been grouped under ratna varga. Manikya Bhasma preparation from precious gem Manikya is a famous Ayurvedic preparation. It is a versatile drug having properties like memory

enhancing, aphrodisiac and specially recommended in erectile dysfunction, general debility, and it has best rasayana (antioxidant) as well as aphrodisiac property. So an attempt was made to do the experimental study of Manikya Bhasma i to facilitate its use in Ayurvedic therapeutics.

Ayurveda being ancient Indian science its theme is to maintain the proper health and to cure the diseases from human being. From the historical point of view, upto the seventh century herbal preparations were used for curative purpose and after this period the uses of minerals and metals for therapeutic purposes started. Since these metals and minerals could not be used orally in their crude form hence it was necessary to have specialised technical knowledge of converting minerals and metals into biologically effective form i.e deha satmya.^[5] Hence the concept of separate branch of Rasa-shastra emerged in the field of Ayurveda. The word Rasa denotes numerous things including mercury, which has been extensively used in the preparation of potent bhasma.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

MATERIALS

Manikya Bhasma has been used in patients since ancient times. In an effort to correlate the ancient knowledge with the modern concepts of research in pharmacology, the effects of Manikya Bhasma on some neuroprotective parameters in murine model were studied. Hence preclinical or Experimental study was conducted for Manikya Bhasma.

In ancient Ayurvedic classics, an emphasis has been placed on animal experimentation prior to its administration to human subjects. Sushruta states that man occupies a supreme position among all the living creatures. Hence for experimental trail, other animals should be utilized as experimental models. Present experimental study was carried out at Haffkine institute.

Ethical Committee

Permission of Institutional Animal Ethics Committee (IAEC) was taken before conduction of experiment vide Letter No. The study was conducted at the Department of Toxicology, under guidance of expert.

Environmental and Housing conditions were maintained throughout the experiment for all the animals as follows:

Housing of Animals & Environmental condition

Temperature was maintained at 24°C to 27°C and humidity at 50% to 70%. The animals were maintained at controlled environmental condition with natural light and dark cycle.



Food & Water of Animals

HOUSING

1. **Caging:** Polypropylene Cages covered with stainless steel grid top with water bottle (300 mL capacity) were used.
2. **Bedding:** Clean corn husk.
3. **Water bottle:** Polypropylene bottles with a stainless steel nozzle having capacity of 300 mL.
4. **Diet:** Rodent pellet diet given to all the animals. 10 gm of these pellets were kept in feed tray every day.
5. **Water:** Drinking water filtered through Aqua guard water system was provided.
6. **Animal identification:** Animals were marked on their body parts e.g. head, tail, head body tail, body tail and no mark using picric acid. Appropriate labels were attached to the cages indicating study, group, sex and cage number.

Design of Preclinical Work

| | | |
|-------------------------|----------|--|
| Name of center | : | Dept. of Toxicology. |
| Type of study | : | In Vivo. |
| Type of animal | : | Swiss albino mice |
| Selection of animal | : | Ave. Wt.:- 20 to 25 gm Sex :-Female |
| Route of administration | : | Orally by gavage method |
| No. of animal | : | 6 animals for Limit dose . |
| | | 36 animals for neuroprotective study. |

| | | |
|-------------------|---|-----------------|
| Drug vehicle | : | Ghrut and Madhu |
| Duration of study | : | 3 weeks |

Limit dose toxicity study

Before the actual study of neuroprotective activity of Manikya Bhasma the limit dose toxicity study of these test drug were done to see if the test drug shows any toxicity in its highest dose as per the OECD guidelines. 3 animals were used for the acute toxicity study.

Drug Dose

As per OECD guide lines, when available information suggests that mortality is unlikely at the highest starting dose level (2000 mg/Kg body weight), then a limit test should be conducted.

A limit test at one dose level of 2000mg/kg body weight was carried out with 3 animals per preparation.

MATERIAL

Test drug: Manikya Bhasma.



This group was the healthy control group. No test compound was given to the animals in this group. Total 3 animals were there in this group. On the last day of the study (21st Day) animals in this group were also sacrificed with the other groups and further studies were carried out.

Toxicity Control Group

Animals in this group were injected with MPTP (1-methyl, 4-phenyl 1,2,3,6 tetrahydropyridine) i.p. drug at a dose of 40 mg/Kg body wt. A total of 6 animals were

included in this group. On the last day of the study (21st day) animals in this group were also sacrificed with the other groups and further study was carried out.

Vehicle Control Group

In this group only vehicle i.e. ghee and honey were given to the animals. The group had 3 animals and on the last day of the study (21st day) animals in this group were also sacrificed with the other groups and further study was carried out..

Experimental Test Group B 1

This group was administered Manikya Bhasma at a dosage of 2mg/Kg body weight. The group consisted of 5 animals and on the last day of the study (21st day) these animals were also sacrificed with the other groups and further study was carried out.

Experimental Test Group B 2

This group was administered Manikya Bhasma at a dosage of 4 mg/Kg body weight. The group consisted of 5 animals and on the last day of the study (21st day) these animals were also sacrificed with the other groups and further study was carried out.

After the animals were sacrificed Whole Blood in EDTA bulb was collected used for hematological analysis along with the Brain tissues. The Brain tissue was segregated into two halves sagittally and one half was kept at -80°C this part was homogenized and used for Biochemical analysis, the other half was stored in formalin and later processed for histological analysis. Muscle tissue was also collected and used for histological analysis.

OBSERVATIONS AND RESULT OF EXPERIMENTAL STUDY

Hematological parameters

Hematological parameters were seen after the collection of blood sample taken from each group of animals and there results were as follows:

RESULT

| MICE CODE | H.B GM % | RBC x 10 ⁶ / cmm | WBC X 10 ³ /cmm | PLTX 10 ⁵ / cmm | PCV % | MCV fl | MCH Pg | MCHC Gm/dl | N. % | E. % | L. % | M. % |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| B1 | 13.7 | 8.92 | 12.2 | 6.70 | 39.0 | 43.7 | 15.4 | 35.1 | 34 | 00 | 66 | 0 |
| B2 | 12.9 | 7.9 | 6.5 | 9.77 | 38.4 | 48.6 | 16.3 | 33.6 | 28 | 00 | 72 | 00 |
| MPTP Control | 12.9 | 7.64 | 5.1 | 6.75 | 36.4 | 47.6 | 16.9 | 35.4 | 21 | 00 | 79 | 00 |
| Healthy Control | 13.6 | 7.97 | 7.1 | 5.77 | 39.6 | 49.7 | 17.1 | 34.3 | 23 | 00 | 77 | 00 |
| Vehicle Control | 15.1 | 8.21 | 7.1 | 4.86 | 43.7 | 53.2 | 18.4 | 34.6 | 27 | 00 | 73 | 00 |

Hb : Hemoglobin g / dl

RBC : Red Blood Cells million / cmm

WBC: White Blod Cells thousands / cmm

PLT: Plaelet Count lakhs / cmm

PCV: Packed Cell Volume %

MCV: mean corpuscular volum

MCHC: mean corpuscular haemoglobin concentration

MCH: mean corpuscular haemoglobin

N. Neutrophils %

E: Eosinophils %

Both Manikya Bhasma increases the haemoglobin but comparatively Manikya Bhasma is good increaser of haemoglobin.

Biochemical parameters: Estimation of the biochemical parameters after the sacrifice of the animals was carried out by the brain–organ homogenate .One way Annova test was applied and the observations and results were as follows.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on Lipid peroxidase (LPO) levels in MPTP induced neurotoxicity

| Groups | Mean | Standard deviation | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| HC | 5.813 | 0.814 | | |
| TC (SC) | 16.58 | 1.054 | | |
| VC | 15.66 | 0.873 | | |
| B 1 (BLD) | 9.47 | 0.83 | | |
| B2 (BHD) | 5.4 | 0.7 | | |
| | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F |
| Between Groups | 794.2 | 6 | 132.4 | 168 |
| Within Groups | 27.57 | 35 | 0.7876 | |
| Total | 821.7 | 41 | - | |

Significance at $p < 0.0001$

means compared to HC(healthy control)

\$ means compared to VC (vehicle control)

* means compared to TC (toxicity /MPTP control)

Intra-peritoneal administration of MPTP significantly increased the concentration of lipid peroxides (16.58 ± 1.054 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) in brain tissue, as measured by concentration of MDA when compared with healthy control (5.813 ± 0.214 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein). Treatment with

Manikya Bhasma dose dependently reduced lipid peroxide concentrations compared with Toxicity control and Vehicle control. However, Vehicle control (15.66 ± 0.873 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) did not produce any statistically significant changes in the lipid peroxide concentrations when compared with Toxicity control.

Bhasma exhibited significant protection as compared to toxicity control.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on reduced glutathione (GSH) levels in MPTP induced neurotoxicity

| Groups | Mean | Standard deviation | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-----|
| HC | 15.42 | 0.214 | | |
| TC (SC) | 5.16 | 0.534 | | |
| VC | 4.12 | 0.631 | | |
| B1(BLD) | 4.21 | 0.673 | | |
| B 2 (BHD) | 11.92 | 1.107 | | |
| | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F |
| Between Groups | 678.5 | 6 | 113.1 | 222 |
| Within Groups | 17.83 | 35 | 0.5094 | |
| Total | 696.4 | 41 | - | |

Significance at $p < 0.0001$

means compared to HC(healthy control)

\$ means compared to VC (vehicle control)

* means compared to TC (toxicity /MPTP control)

Prominent oxidative stress in colonic mucosa was induced by MPTP in the saline control as shown by the decrease in brain GSH levels (5.16 ± 1.054 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) when compared with healthy control (15.420 ± 0.214 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein). This oxidative abnormality in brain tissue was ameliorated by bhasma in dose dependent manner (BLD 4.21 ± 0.673 , BHD 11.92 ± 0.7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein; $P < 0.05$) respectively, that is manifested as the significant increase in GSH levels when compared with toxicity & vehicle control ($P < 0.05$). Further, vehicle control (4.12 ± 0.631 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) did not significantly alter the GSH levels when compared with toxicity control.

bhasma exhibited significant protection as compared to toxicity control.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on Superoxide dismutase (SOD) levels in MPTP induced neurotoxicity

| Groups | Mean | Standard deviation | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------|
| HC | 0.173 | 0.02 | | |
| TC (SC) | 0.057 | 0.003 | | |
| VC | 0.06701 | 0.0014 | | |
| B 1 (BLD) | 0.0541 | 0.002 | | |
| B 2 (BHD) | 0.069 | 0.01 | | |
| | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F |
| Between Groups | 0.06319 | 6 | 0.01053 | 142.6 |
| Within Groups | 0.002585 | 35 | 0.0000 7385 | |
| Total | 0.06577 | 41 | — | |

Significance at $p < 0.0001$

means compared to HC(healthy control)

\$ means compared to VC (vehicle control)

* means compared to TC (toxicity /MPTP control)

Severe oxidative stress induced by intra peritoneal administration of MPTP showed a significant decrease in the SOD levels (0.057 ± 0.003 U/mg protein) in toxicity control as compared to healthy control (0.103 ± 0.02 U/mg protein). All the treatment groups failed to elevate the level of superoxide dismutase.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on Catalase levels MPTP induced neurotoxicity

Table no: 5.22

| Groups | Mean | Standard deviation | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|-------|
| HC | 46.44 | 6.171 | | |
| TC (SC) | 18.84 | 2.45 | | |
| VC | 15.66 | 1.773 | | |
| B 1 (BLD) | 22.01 | 1.8749 | | |
| B 2 (BHD) | 31.42 | 4.01 | | |
| | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F |
| Between Groups | 0.06319 | 6 | 655.1 | 51.43 |
| Within Groups | 445.8 | 35 | 12.74 | |
| Total | 4376 | 41 | - | |

Significance at $p < 0.0001$

means compared to HC(healthy control)

\$ means compared to VC (vehicle control)

* means compared to TC (toxicity /MPTP control)

Intra-peritoneal administration of MPTP showed a significant decrease in the catalase levels (18.84 ± 2.450 U/mg protein) in brain tissue of toxicity control when compared with healthy

control (46.440 ± 4.780 U/mg protein). Treatment with high doses of bhasma 4 mg/kg & 2 mg/kg (29.423 ± 3.412 & 31.42 ± 4.01 U/mg protein) significantly ameliorated the catalase levels as compared to toxicity and vehicle control. Nevertheless, vehicle control and low doses of bhasma (15.66 ± 1.773 , 21.17 ± 3.271 & 22.01 ± 1.8749 U/mg protein resp) did not produce any significant change in the catalase levels when compared with toxicity control.

Bhasma exhibited significant protection as compared to toxicity control.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on CNS Dopamine levels MPTP induced neurotoxicity

| Groups | Mean | Standard Deviation | | |
|----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|--------|
| HC | 23.73 | 1.03 | | |
| VC (SC) | 2.73 | 0.26 | | |
| TC | 2.8 | 0.33 | | |
| B1 (BLD) | 22.01 | 1.8749 | | |
| B2 (BHD) | 31.42 | 4.01 | | |
| | Sum of Squares | Df | Mean Square | F |
| Between Groups | 997.4 | 6 | 166.2 | 0.9954 |
| Within Groups | 4.615 | 14 | 0.3296 | |
| Total | 1002 | 20 | — | |

Significance at $p < 0.0001$

means compared to HC(healthy control)

\$ means compared to VC (vehicle control)

* means compared to TC (toxicity /MPTP control)

Intra-peritoneal administration of MPTP showed a significant decrease in the Dopamine levels in brain (2.73 ± 0.26 ng/mg protein) in brain tissue of toxicity control when compared with healthy control (23.73 ± 1.02 ng/mg protein). Treatment with high doses of bhasma 4 mg/kg & 2 mg/kg (8.6 ± 0.29 & 6.4 ± 0.36 mg/kg protein) significantly improved the dopamine levels as compared to toxicity and vehicle control. Nevertheless, vehicle control and low doses of bhasma (4.35 ± 0.25 & 4.06 ± 0.12 ng/mg protein resp) did not produce any significant change in the dopamine levels when compared with toxicity control.

Bhasma high dose is most effective on Dopamine. Also at lower doses Bhasma exhibited significant protection as compared to toxicity control. Null Hypothesis was rejected since all the groups showed significant changes. And comparison within the groups was subjected to Bonferroni's multiple test.

Histopathological parameters

Histopathology of the organ brain was studied and result were as follows:

Lesion Grading : Minimal (1), mild (2), moderate (3), marked (4).

Distribution of Lesions : Focal (a), Multifocal (b),

Diffuse (c).

No abnormalities detected: NAD.

OBSERVATION

| Code | Skeletal Muscle | Brain |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|
| B1 | NAD | NAD |
| B2 | NAD | NAD |
| MPTP control | NAD | Mild degree degenerative and necrotic changes with moderate degree gliosis |
| Normal control | NAD | NAD |
| Vehicle control | NAD | Minimal degree diffuse malacia |



RESULT

Histopathological studies of brain viewed under light microscope in control and experimental animals. Hematoxylin /Eostin staining paraffin sections.

A) Section of brain from mice of healthy control group showed normal architecture .

- B) Section of brain from mice treated with dose of Manikya Bhasma (2 & 4 mg/kg body wt) for 21 days showed normal texture.
- C) Section of brain from mice treated with MPTP for 21 days showed pathological changes like cell swelling, vascular degeneration and cytoplasmic vacuolation.
- D) Section of brain from mice treated with MPTP for 21 days along with Manikya Bhasma showed marked reduction of degeneration and vacuolation.

Result of Experimental Study (Animal Study)

Hence from these study it can be concluded that Manikya Bhasma is effective neuroprotective formulations.

DISCUSSION

The Neuroprotective activity of Manikya Bhasma was seen in the Present study. First of all, the animals were given the drug dose that is Manikya Bhasma and on the 7th day the Neurotoxic drug MPTP was given and after the induction of this neurotoxic drug the test dose that is Manikya Bhasma was again administered orally to the animals for further 14 days. After 21 days the animals were sacrificed and the organ that is brain is collected and further study was carried out with the organ homogenate. Statistically One way Annova test was applied.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on Malonedialdehyde (MDA) levels

Intra-peritoneal administration of MPTP significantly increased the concentration of lipid peroxides (16.58 ± 1.054 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) in brain tissue, as measured by concentration of MDA when compared with healthy control (5.813 ± 0.214 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein). Treatment with Bhasma dependently reduced lipid peroxide concentrations compared with toxicity (MPTP) and Vehicle control. However, Vehicle control (15.66 ± 0.873 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) did not produce any statistically significant changes in the lipid peroxide concentrations when compared with toxicity control.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on reduced glutathione (GSH) levels

Prominent oxidative stress in colonic mucosa was induced by MPTP in the saline control as shown by the decrease in brain GSH levels (5.16 ± 1.054 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) when compared with healthy control (15.420 ± 0.214 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein). This oxidative abnormality in brain tissue was ameliorated by bhasma in dose dependent manner (BLD 4.21 ± 0.673 , BHD 11.92 ± 0.7 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein; $P < 0.05$) respectively, that is manifested as the significant increase in GSH levels

when compared with saline & vehicle control ($P < 0.05$). Further, vehicle control (4.12 ± 0.631 $\mu\text{g}/\text{mg}$ protein) did not significantly alter the GSH levels when compared with Toxicity control. Studies conducted by Sriram et al. demonstrated that in the midbrain of experimental mice treated with MPTP and GSH agonists, Mitochondrial Complex I was inhibited only 18 h after MPTP dose and no change was observed at the early time points examined. This implied that the depletion of GSH and increased ROS formation preceded the inhibition of the mitochondrial enzyme in the midbrain. Thus in the present study the bhasma may protect the neurons by interacting with pathways pertaining to generation of GSH.

Effect of Manikya bhasma on Superoxide dismutase (SOD) levels.

Severe oxidative stress induced by intra peritoneal administration of MPTP showed a significant decrease in the SOD levels (0.057 ± 0.003 U/mg protein) in saline control as compared to healthy control (0.103 ± 0.02 U/mg protein). All the treatment groups failed to elevate the level of superoxide dismutase.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on Catalase levels

Intra-peritoneal administration of MPTP showed a significant decrease in the catalase levels (18.84 ± 2.450 U/mg protein) in brain tissue of saline control when compared with healthy control (46.440 ± 4.780 U/mg protein). Treatment with high doses of bhasma 2 mg/kg (31.42 ± 4.01 U/mg protein) significantly ameliorated the catalase levels as compared to Toxicity and vehicle control.

Effect of Manikya Bhasma on CNS Dopamine levels.

Intra-peritoneal administration of MPTP showed a significant decrease in the Dopamine levels in brain (2.73 ± 0.26 ng/mg protein) in brain tissue of saline control when compared with healthy control (23.73 ± 1.02 ng/mg protein). Treatment with high doses of Bhasma 2 mg/kg (6.4 ± 0.36 ng/mg protein) significantly improved the dopamine levels as compared to toxicity (MPTP) and vehicle control.

Histopathological parameter

Histological examination of Brain section of mice treated with MPTP (1 methyl, 4 phenyl, 1,2,3,4,6 tetrahydropyridine) revealed degenerative changes in the parenchyma of the brain. No infiltrating polymorphs were seen, therefore the involvement of inflammation as a cause of the degeneration is ruled out.

Animals who were administered Manikya Bhasma in addition to induction of neurotoxicity by MPTP (1 methyl, 4 phenyl 1,2,3,4,6 tetrahydropyridine) exhibit normal brain histology. Hence from these study it can be concluded that Manikya Bhasma is effective neuroprotective formulations.

Though Al_2O_3 is a known neurotoxic compound. However Manikya with its chief component as Al_2O_3 exhibits neuroprotection in the present experimental study and also as per the Ayurvedic texts Manikya bhasma are medhya, rasayan, vaatkaphahar, balya and madhur rasatmak. This can be attributed to the fact that Manikya is a complex structure with many known and unknown chemical compositions. So Manikya is not to be considered as Al_2O_3 only. Analytical tests like ICPAES have confirmed the presence of iron, copper, magnesium, calcium, sodium, potassium. These elements have important role in neuroprotection. Thus as a whole, Manikya with all its chemical composition exhibits neuroprotection as observed in experimental study.

The results found in preclinical or experiment study are encouraging which will definitely form the base line for upcoming researchers.

Probable Mode of Action of drug

Manikya is said to be rasayan that is it does the vayahsthapan and also it is jaravyadhi har hence neurodegeneration due to geriatric reason can also be cured by the Manikya Bhasma. Manikya increases the immunity that is saptadhatu poshak and vardhak which can protect the neurons from viral infections like encephalitis.

Ayurveda is of the view that Pragyaparadh is the basic cause of all mental and physical health (Cha.sha 1/102). Medha which is a synonym of Pragyasa (Sanskrit Hindi Kosh) has a great role in prevention of mental diseases and maintenance of good health and the references of various medhya drugs in Ayurvedic literature confirm the importance of Medha which incorporates dheer, dhriti and smriti. Manikya is medhya hence it can be used in the condition like pragyaparadh that is dheer, dhriti, smriti vibhram. Also in the diseases like unmaad, apasmaar and atavabhinivesha all the three doshas are prakupit and due to it raja and tama gunas are also increased. There sthan sansraya occurs in head and heart, sangyavaha strotas and smriti is effected. These effected smriti causes the above mentioned diseases. Manikya due to its medhya and rasayan property increases smriti also it is tridosha shamak and balya to brain and heart hence can cure the diseases like unmaad, apasmaar and atavabhinivesha.

Manikya Bhasma both has been proved to be a nanomedicine. Nanomedicines have good functions in cell alteration and also nanomedicines cross the blood brain barrier which have the good role in neuroprotection because dopamine itself cannot cross this blood brain dopamine level also this pishti due to there antioxidant property increases the level of glutathione, super oxide dbarrier.Hence Bhasma as nanomedicine can also be used as neuroprotective.

After the induction of Neurotoxic drug i.e MPTP, it gets converted into MPP⁺ through biotransformation. This MPP⁺ is highly toxic and it hampers the cellular respiration chain which induces apoptosis. This have high affinity towards dopaminergic neurons hence the dopamine levels decreases gradually after the induction of MPTP. Along with this GSH, Catalase levels also decreases where as LPO level increases due to unsaturated fatty acids. All this in together leads to neurodegeneration . Manikya Bhasma and Pishti in the present study have increased the level of dopamine, GSH, Catalase and decreased the level of LPO, hence gives the protection to the neurons .From this study it can be said that Manikya Bhasma are efficient Neuroprotectives. The exact mechanism of action of Manikya Bhasma in awarding Neuroprotection needs to be studied with further molecular and cytological assays.

Neurodegeneration generally occurs due to decreased level of dopamine, decreased level of reduced glutathione, super oxide dismutase, and catalase,increased level of lipid per oxidation,brain injury, increased oxidative stress, exposure to neurotoxic drugs ,increasing age etc. Neurodegeneration means death of neurons and neuron cells once died cannot be regenerated but they can be protected and this protection of neurons is termed as neuroprotection.

For the the protection of neurons it is necessary to stop the causes of the neurodegeneration. From the present study it can be said that Manikya Bhasma increases thedismutase, catalase and decreases the level of lipid peroxidase.

APPLICATIONS OF THE PRESENT STUDY

The greatest risk factor for neurodegenerative diseases is aging. Mitochondrial DNA mutations as well as oxidative stress both contribute to aging. Many of these diseases are late-onset, meaning there is some factor that changes as a person ages for each disease. One constant factor is that in each disease, neurons gradually lose function as the disease

progresses with age. In this case if neurodegeneration is due to oxidative stress than Manikya bhasma may prove beneficial in age related neurodegenerative disorders.

Parkinsons disease is todays burning issue, Parkinson's disease (PD) is the most common form of a group of progressive neurodegenerative disorders characterized by the clinical features of parkinsonism, including bradykinesia (a paucity and slowness of movement), rest tremor, muscular rigidity, shuffling gait, and flexed posture. Although defined clinically as a movement disorder, it is now widely appreciated that PD can be accompanied by a variety of non-motor symptoms, including autonomic, sensory, sleep, cognitive, and psychiatric disturbances. Nearly all forms of parkinsonism result from a reduction of dopaminergic transmission within the basal ganglia. The discovery of dopamine in the brain, the demonstration of its depletion in PD, and the success of dopamine replacement therapy by its precursor, levodopa, are all major landmarks in the field of neurology. Treatment given in this disorder are levodopa and dopamine agonists like Bromocriptine which also have the lots of the side effects .Dopamine directly cant be given because it cannot cross the blood brain barriers hence the alternative are used.From the present study it can be said that Manikya pishti increases the dopamine levels and hence its use in Parkinsons Disease may prove beneficial.

Also in Senile Dementia Manikya Bhasma may proved beneficial by decreasing the oxidative stress in neuron cells because the main cause of senile dementia is increased oxidative stress in the neurons cells.

Manikya Bhasma in the present study have increased the level of dopamine, GSH, Catalase and decreased the level of LPO ,hence gives the protection to the neurons .From this study it can be said that Manikya Bhasma is efficient Neuroprotective drug . The exact mechanism of action of Manikya Bhasma in awarding Neuroprotection needs to be studied with further molecular and cytological assays.

CONCLUSION

Following conclusions can be drawn from the present study.

The experimental part proved that Manikya Bhasma is neuroprotective drug and following points were concluded from the animal study.

Treatment with Manikya Bhasma dose dependently reduced lipid peroxide concentrations compared with Toxicity control and Vehicle control. However, Vehicle control did not produce any statistically significant changes in the lipid peroxide concentrations when compared with Toxicity control.

Prominent oxidative stress in colonic mucosa was induced by MPTP in the saline control as shown by the decrease in brain GSH levels when compared with healthy control. This oxidative abnormality in brain tissue was ameliorated by pishti in dose dependent manner respectively, that is manifested as the significant increase in GSH levels when compared with toxicity & vehicle control ($P < 0.05$).

Treatment with high dose of bhasma 2 mg/kg significantly ameliorated the catalase levels as compared to toxicity and vehicle control. Nevertheless, vehicle control and low dose of bhasma did not produce any significant change in the catalase levels when compared with toxicity control.

Treatment with high doses of bhasma 4 mg/kg & 2 mg/kg significantly improved the dopamine levels as compared to toxicity and vehicle control. Nevertheless, vehicle control and low dose of did not produce any significant change in the dopamine levels when compared with toxicity control.

Histopathological reports too showed that Manikya Bhasma proved to be effective in the Neurodegenerative disorders, hence it can be said that Manikya bhasma have the potency of neuroprotection.

Hence from these study it can be concluded that Manikya Bhasma both are efficient neuroprotective formulations. The results found in preclinical or experiment study are encouraging which will definitely form the base line for upcoming researchers.

The exact mechanism of action of Manikya Bhasma in awarding Neuroprotection needs to be studied with further molecular and cytological assays.

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