



## **Review Article**

## IMPACT OF AYURVEDIC DIETETICS (PATHYA APATHYA) IN THE MANAGEMENT OF TAMAK **SHWASA: A CRITICAL REVIEW**

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#### ABSTRACT

Bronchial Asthma is a major non-communicable disease affecting both children and adults, nearly 262 million people in India suffer from asthma (WHO). It is a chronic disorder that affects the airways and characterized by bronchial hyper-reactivity and reversible airway obstruction. It could be correlated as *Tamak shwasa in* Ayurveda and considered as *Pranvaha* srotho vikara. The Pathya Aahar and Vihara, having Vata and Kapha alleviating properties can bring them to normalcy. The preventive and curative aspects of Ayurveda revolve around the central theme of Pathya Aahara and Vihara as Ayurveda advocates that Pathya is the secret of wellness whereas Apathya is the root cause of all diseases. Proper diet and implementation of right life style is necessary for better quality of life. Hence this review article defines the properties of various Pathya and Apathya Aahara Dravyas described in Ayurveda classics with view of modern scientific researches.

## INTRODUCTION

Bronchial asthma is major nonа communicable disease affecting both children and adults, nearly 262 million people in India suffer from asthma.[1] It is a chronic disorder that affects the airways and characterized by bronchial hyperreactivity and reversible airway obstruction [2]. It could be correlated as Tamak shwasa in Ayurveda and is considered as Pranvaha srotho vikara. Various drug and regimen having Vata and Kapha Dosha alleviating properties are prescribed by Acharyas for the management of Tamak shwasa as it is considered to develop due to aggravated Kapha and Vata Dosha.[3] Aahar not only provide nutrition but protects from infections, provide strength and prevent the various diseases along with physical and mental wellbeing. Modern medicine uses various steroids Bronchodilators to control Asthma but they had their own side effects too. Ayurveda provides proper dietary management, lifestyle advices and herbomineral medicines in the management of Tamak Shwasa. [4]

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## MATERIAL AND METHODS

This review was done by compiling the classical Ayurvedic literature, modern literature, Pharmacology literature (Dravyaguna) and Bhaishajya Ratnavali, and research journals etc. This review article has defined the properties of various *Pathya* and Apathya Aahar Dravyas described in Ayurveda classics with view of modern scientific researches.

## Specific Regimen for Management of Tamak Shwasa (Bronchial Asthma) [6]

## Pathya Vihara (Do's)

Verachan, Sweden, Dhumpan, Vaman, Diwaswapan, Atapasevana, Lavana Tail Abhyanga<sup>[7]</sup>, hot water bath, wearing warm clothes in winter season, practice of yoga asanas such as Bhujangasana, Naukasana, Ustrasana, Setubandhasana, Nadishodhan Pranayama and meditation is effectively could manage the recurrent attacks of Tamak Shwasa (bronchial asthma) by enhancing the lung capacity.

## Apathya Vihara (Don't)

Certain regimen should be avoided by Tamak Shwasa (bronchial asthma) patients such suppuration of natural urges like Mutra, Udgara, Chardi, Pipasa, and Kasa Vegadharana, Shram (hard labour), Adhva (excessive walking), lifting heavy items, facing dust, moving out in sun, having excessive

intercourse. Avoid the exposure to cold and humid atmosphere, smoke, fumes, pollutants, and pollens. Ayurvedic Dietetics for the Management of *Tamak Shwasa* (Bronchial Asthma)<sup>[5]</sup>

Table 1: Based on Ayurvedic Texts Pathya & Apathya Aahara for Tamak Shwasa

Pathya Aahar (Do's)	Apathya Aahar (Don'ts)
Puran Shashtika, Raktshali	Nishpava (Indian bean)
Kulatha, Mudga	Tailabhrsta Nishpava
Godhuma, Yava	Tila (Sesamum indicum)
Kantakari, Vastuka, Pothaki	Sarshapa (Brassica nigra)
Guduchi, Patola, Vartaka	Masha (Vigna mungo)
Rasona, Harada, Moolaka	Pistanna
Shigru, Tanduliya, Jivanti	Pinyaka
Bimbiphal, Jambir nimbu Matulunga nimbu	Mahisha Grita
Draksha, Amlaki, Bilwa, Kusmanda	Mahisha Kshira
Truti (small cardamom), Puskaramula	Kanda (Tubers)
Trikatu	Dadhi
Gud, Purana Sarpi, Madhu	Matsya (fishes)
Ushan jal	Anupmamsa (animal meat of marshy region)
Gomutra	Visthambhi anna (consuming heavy meal)
Aja kshira, Aja sarpi	Vidahi anna (corrosive food)
Jangala maans rasa, Maans of Tittar, Lava, Deer, Shooka, rabbit	

# Properties of *Pathya Aahar* (specific food items) Described for Bronchial Asthma Table 2: *Pathya Aahar* & their Properties Based on Bhavprakasha[8]

Rakta Shali	Madhura, Laghu, Tridosha Hara, Balya, Deepan, Swashhar		
<u>Kulatha</u>	Kashay, Katu Vipak, <mark>Us</mark> hna, L <mark>agh</mark> u, Ushnavirya Swash Kasa Hara		
Godhuma	Madhura, Sheetal, Ba <mark>lya, Snigdha, Bri</mark> mhana, Vatapitta Shamaka		
Yava	Kashay, Madhura, Katu Vipak, Deepan, Balya, Swashhar		
Mudga	Laghu, Kaphahara, Madhura, Grahi, Vishad		
<u>Rason</u>	Madhura, Katu, Tikta Rasa, Snigdha, Ushnavirya, Pachak, KatuVipak, Teekshna Kaphahara		
Draksha	Madhura, Kashay Ushna Brimhana Snigdha Phuphusbaldaayak Kaph Nisarak		
<u>Shunthi</u>	Laghu, Snigdha, Teekshan, Katu, Ushnavirya, Aamdoshnasak, Kaphagn		
Pippali	Katu, Laghu, Snigdha, Teekshna, Madhuravipak, Deepan, Pachana, Ushan		
Kali Mirch	Katu, Laghu, Teekshan, Katuvipak, Deepan, Pachan, Ushnavirya, Kaphgn		
Bilwa	Katu, Tikta, Kashaya, Teekshna, Deepana Ushnavirya Kapha Anila Hara, Amadosh Hara		
<u>Patol</u>	Ushna, Deepan, Pachan, Tridoshnasak, Kaphgn, Balya		
Shigru	Katu, Tikta, Laghu, Katuvipak Teekshan Ushnavirya Deepana, Pachan		
Vartaka	Madhura, Laghu, Katuvipak, Teekshan, Ushnavirya, Deepana, Kaphahara		
Tanduliyak	Laghu, Madhura, Deepana, Kaphshamak		
Kantakari	Katu, Tikta, Laghu, Rooksha, Teekshna, Katuvipak, Ushnaveerya, Kaphgan		
Vastuka (Bathua)	Madhura, Laghu, Katuvipak, Usnaveerya, Deepana, Pachan, Tridoshahara		
Patola	Katu,Tikta, Laghu Katuvipak Ushnaveerya Deepana, Pachan Kapha Pitta Hara		
Moolaka	Katu, Laghu, Katuvipak, Pachak, Ushnaveerya, Tridosha Hara, Swashhara		
Amlaki	Ruksha, Lavanrahit Panchras Yukt, Madhur vipak,kaphgn		
Haritaki	Lavanrahit Panchras Yukt, Laghu, Ushnaveerya, Deepana, Pachana, Balya, Rasayana		
Jamiri_Nimbu	Amla, Laghu, Teekshna, Ushnaveerya, Vatakapha, Hara, Deepana Pachana		
Choti Elaichi	Katu, Laghu, Katuvipak, Vata Kaph Hara		

Bathua	Madhura, Katuvipak, Deepan, Pachan, Laghu, Balvardak	
Pushkarmool	Katu, Tikta, Laghu, Teekshna, Ushnaveerya, Katuvipak Kasa Swash Hara	
Gomutra	Katu, Tikta, Kashaya, Teekshna, Ushna, Laghu, Deepan, Vatakapha Hara	
Goat Milk	Madhura_Kashya, Laghu, Sarva Dosha Hara	
Goat Ghrita	Katu, Agnivardak, Balya, Kasa Swash Hara	
kushmanda	Tikta, Laghu, Madhurvipak, Agnivardak, Vatta Kapha Hara	
Madhu	Madhura Kashya, Laghu, Deepana, Vata Kapha Nashak	
Jangla Mamsa	Madhura Kashya, Laghu, Balya, Deepana, Tridosh Hara	
UshanJal(Shushr	Kaph, Amadoshnashak, Agni Deepak, Swash Kasa Hara	
Matulunga	Amla, Madhura, Laghu, Ushnaveerya, Deepana, Swash Kasa Hara	

Most of these food articles are having *Madhura, Tikshna, Katu Ushna, Laghu* properties along with *Balya, Shwasa* and *Kaphahara, Deepan, Pachana* and *Tridoshnashak* properties which alleviate *Vata* and *Kapha doshas*.

## Apathya Aahar and Their Properties [9]

Nishpaava	Madhura, Ruksha, Amlavipak, Guru, Vidahi	
Masha	Madhura, Snigdha, Guru, Madhuravipak, Kaphavardak	
Sarshap Shak	Katuras, Guru, Amla Vipak, Vidahi, Ruksha, Tridoshkarak	
Dahi	Amla Rasa, Snigdha, Guru, Amlavipak, Kaphvardhak	
Mahisha Kshira	Madhura, Snigdha, Guru, Kaphavardhak	
Mahisha Gritha	Sheetal, Madhura, Guru, Madhura Vipak, Kaphavardhak	
Matsya	Madhura, Snigdha, Guru Kaphavardhak	
Anupmamsa	Madhura, Snigdha, Guru, Jatharagni Mandak, Kaphavardhak	
Til	Snigdha, Madhu <mark>ra Ush</mark> an, Kaphavardhak	
Pinyaka	Ruksha, Vishtmb <mark>kara</mark> k	

Table 3: Research Evidences: Properties of Food Articles Indicating for Tamak Shwasa (Bronchial Asthma)

Aahara Dravya	Botanical name	Pharmacological Action
Sunthi	Zingiber officinale	Anti-inflammatory and antioxidant effect <sup>[10]</sup>
Draksha	Vitis vinifera	Anti-asthmatic [11]
Amalaka	Emblica officinalis	Anti-inflammatory, acute and chronic inflammation [12]
Bilwa	Aegle marmelos	Anti-Viral, anti-microbial, diuretic and anti-inflammatory properties [13]
Vastuka	Chenopodium album	Anti-oxidant activity, antibacterial activity [14]
Rasona	Alium sativum	Anti-microbial activity antiallergic [15]
Pothaki	Basella rubra	Anti-inflammatory, anti-microbial activity, anti-viral activity [16]
Shigru	Moringa pterygosperm	Anti-microbial Activity [17]
Aja Kshira		Anti-inflammatory and anti-allergic [18]
Madhu		Inhalation of honey reduces airway inflammation and chronic asthma <sup>[19]</sup>

### DISCUSSION

Asthma is an inflammatory condition that causes narrowing of the small airways in the lungs. characterized by cough, wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness. Acharya Sushruta has mentioned when vitiated *Prana Vayu* with *Kapha*, moves upwards, it causes breathlessness (*Shwasa*).<sup>[20]</sup>

Acharya *Charak* described that, diet which should alleviate *Kapha* and *Vata dosha*, and is hot and carminative in nature is wholesome for *Tamak Shwasa* patients. [21]

Bhaishajya Ratnavali also indicated that food and drinks which could reduce Vata and Kapha dosha is Pathya for Shwasa patients. [22]

Above mentioned *Pathya Ahara* was found to have anti-inflammatory, anti-allergic, antimicrobial and anti-asthmatic properties in various *in vitro* and *vivo* studies. And due to their *Ushna*, *Tikshna*, *Laghu Guna*, *Katu*, *Tikta*, *Madhura rasa* and *Katu vipak* as well as therapeutic actions such as *Vata kapha shamak*, *Deepan*, *Pachan* and *Stroto Shodhan* and *Anuloman* properties these *Aahara* and *Vihara* are beneficial in the management of *Shwasa roga*. So proper use and

selection of *Aahara* and *Vihara* which could be able to maintain *Vata* and *Kapha dosha*, and help to relieve the obstruction in *Pranavaha srotas* is needed for the management and prevention of *Tamak Shwasa*.

## Pharmacological Action of Wholesome Food Items (*Pathya Dravyas*)

Sunthi: Elizabeth A. Townsend, Matthew E. et al observed that ginger have anti-inflammatory and antioxidant effects and work directly on smooth muscle of respiratory tract. Components of dry ginger, such as -gingerol, and shogaol, shows direct effect in relaxing smooth muscles of airways and also acts as bronchodilators thus reduces the asthmatic symptoms. Sunthi due to Laghu and Tiksna Guna, Katu Ras Madhur Vipak properties work as Stroto sodhana so, clear the obstruction and reduce the elevated Vata and Kapha Doshas.

**Bilwa:** Due to *Ruksha, Laghu guna, Kashay, Tikta rasa* properties it mitigates *Kapha dosha* and *Ushan* gun mitigate *Vata dosha* having anti-inflammatory activity due to the presence of lupeol and skimmianine compounds in the leaves and fruit.

Rasona: Rasona being Snigdha and Tikshna is Kapha nissarak (phlegmatic) and have an antibacterial property and enhance the immunity. Zare et al. investigated the effect of (AGE) aged garlic extract on allergic-airway inflammation and also proven AGE have immunomodulatory activity in allium sativum.

Shigru: Due to Katu Vipak and Ushan Virya and Katu Ras like properties it alleviates Vata and Kapha dosha. Moringa have alkaloid named moringine which closely resembles to ephedrine in action and can be used for the treatment of asthma as it relaxes bronchioles. n-butanol extract of the seeds of Moringa Oleifera shows anti-inflammatory activity against airway inflammation. ethanol and methanol extracts of MO have the highest antioxidant activity. The major bioactive compounds of phenolics like quercetin and kaempferol are responsible for antioxidant activity.

**Amlaki:** Amla, Madhur, Kashay and Tridoshhara properties so mitigate *Vata* and *Kapha doshas*. Hydroalcoholic extract of the fruit (HAEEO) have anti-inflammatory activities.

**Draksha:** Due to Madhur Rasa and Madhura Vipaka it is able to reduce the Vata dosha and strengthen the lungs. Kapha or phlegm expectoration properties phytoconstituents like tannin, tartaric acid etc. have anti allergic properties and polyphenolic compounds present in natural drugs have been reported to elicit potent anti-oxidant and anti-inflammatory properties VVHE might play an important role in the management of bronchial asthma.

*Kulthi*: Due to *Ushan Virya* and *Katu Vipak*, it alleviates *Kapha* and *Vata dosha*. Study showed that it also has

anti-microbial activity and anti-inflammatory properties.

**Honey:** Honey is best medicine for the balancing the *Kapha* due to *Ruksha, Tikshan* and *Chhedna Guna*. Its phenolic compounds possess anti-inflammatory and antioxidant properties.

Aja Kshira: Due to Madhura Kashya, Laghu, and Sarva Dosha Hara properties it decrease Vata and Kapha Doshas. Goat milk alleviates allergen-induced airway inflammation of allergic asthma and its anti-inflammatory and anti-allergic activity confirms its beneficial use in asthma.

#### CONCLUSION

Diet is the most essential requirement for life. As by use of following whole some regimen the severity of bronchial asthma it's recurrent attacks could be easily control. Many classical Ayurveda Samhita mentioned vitiation of Vata and Kapha dosha and formation of *Ama* are the main causes of development of Tamaka Shwasa so, the food items having the properties of *Deepana*. Shwasahara. Kasahara. Vatanulomana, Tridoshsamak would be an excellent choice to control disease. Also, Pathya Aahara and Vihara predominant in *Ushna*, *Tikshna*, *Laghu* properties, *Katu* and Tikta rasa and Katu Vipak which could reduce the Vata, Kapha dosha and reducing Ama dosha and also having specific pharmacological actions such as Deepan, Pachan, Srotoshodhana, Balya and Kasahara Shwashara properties should be effective as effective Swashara drugs for Tamak Swasha (bronchial asthma) patients.

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