



REVIEW ARTICLE

A STUDY ON THE EFFICACY OF MAHAPASMUL DECOCTION ON OBESITY AND TYPE II DIABETES

¹, *Perera, M.S.S and ²Samarakoon, S.M.S

¹Department of Prasuti tantra and StreeRoga, IPGT & RA, Gujart Ayurved University, Jamnagar, India

²Department of *Deshiyachikitsa*, Institute of Indigenous Medicine, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka

ARTICLE INFO

Article History:

Received 19th February, 2018
Received in revised form
20th March, 2018
Accepted 26th April, 2018
Published online 30th May, 2018

Keywords:

Mhapasmul Decoction,
Obesity,
Type-II Diabetes,
Lipid profile,
Fasting Blood Sugar.

ABSTRACT

The present study is a clinical study to evaluate the efficacy of *Mahapasmul* Decoction (MD) on Obesity and type II diabetes. Diagnosed patients were selected from Ayurveda Teaching Hospital at Borella from the period of January 2015 to May 2016. Thirty patients (30) who had BMI between 25 to 45 and fasting blood glucose <200 mg/dl were included in the study. Subjective assessment criteria were the symptoms of obesity with proper grading whereas objective criteria were BMI, body circumferences, skin-fold thickness, Lipid profile and FBS. Data were analyzed by using SPSS statistical software. In this study, *Mahapasmul* Decoction was given for eight weeks, 120 ml twice a day, before meal with 5ml Bee honey. *Mahapasmul* Decoction improved most of the signs and symptoms of obesity, most of the body circumferences, BMI (from 35.30 ±0.85 to 32.53±0.92), Skin Fold Thickness, Triglyceride (from 122.73 ± 1.68 to 126.45 ±1.10), and Fasting Blood Sugar (from 95.68 ±1.67 to 91.91 ± 1.54) in statistically highly significant manner (p<0.001) whereas the improvement of excessive thirst, excessive sweating, and drowsiness is statistically significant (p< 0.05). Considering lipid profile, MD improved Triglyceride, Fasting blood sugar in statistically highly significant manner (P<0.001), whereas the reduction of LDL is statistically significant (p<0.05). Collectively, MD is composed of *Katu*(20%), *Tikta*(100%) and *Kashaya rasa* (100%); *Laghu* (100%), *Ruksha* (66.6%) and *Guru guna* (16.6%); *Ushanavirya* (66.6%); and *Katuvipaka* (100%). The pharmaco-dynamic properties of MD reduce *kapha-meda* and increase *agni*. Hence, MD is efficacious on promoting digestive power and correcting *sroto-avarodha*. Finally, it may be concluded that *Mhapasmul* Decoction is effective on most of the subjective and objective parameters of Obesity and type II Diabetes.

Copyright © 2018, Perera and Samarakoon. This is an open access article distributed under the Creative Commons Attribution License, which permits unrestricted use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

INTRODUCTION

Sthaulya is included under Ashtauninditapurusha¹ and diseases of Shleshmananatmaja², Samtarpananimittaja³, Ati-Brihmana nimittaja⁴, and Bahudoshajanita vikara⁵. Accumulation of fat over the limit led to ill effect in the body known as obesity. Body mass index (BMI) is an index of weight-for-height that is commonly used to classify overweight and obesity.

*Corresponding author: Perera, M.S.S

Department of Prasuti tantra and StreeRoga, IPGT & RA, Gujart Ayurved University, Jamnagar, India

¹Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch. Su.21).

²Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi Ch.Su. 20).

³Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su. 23).

⁴Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su.22).

⁵Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su.16).

The World Health Organization (WHO) definition is ⁶a BMI greater than 25 is overweight and ⁷ BMI greater than 30 is obesity. Obesity and overweight occurs due to imbalance between calories consumed and calories utilized. Globally, there have been two reasons for overweight and obesity:⁷ an increased intake of energy-dense foods that are high in fat, salt and sugars; and⁸ a decrease in physical activity due to the increasingly sedentary nature of many forms of work and increasing urbanization. Overweight and obesity are the fifth leading risk for global deaths. At least, 2.8 million adults die each year as a result of being overweight or obese. In addition, 44% of the diabetes burden, 23% of the ischemic heart disease burden and between 7% and 41% of certain cancer burdens are attributable to overweight and obesity. Overall, more than one

⁶World Health Organization, "Obesity. Preventing and managing the Global Epidemic, Report of a WHO consultation (WHO Technical Report Series 894), WHO, 2000. http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/obesity/WHO_TRS_894/en/

⁷Worldwide Obesity Trends—Globesity," <http://www.annecollins.com/obesity/causes-of-obesity.htm>.

in ten of the world's adult population is obese.⁸ In addition to increased future risks, obese persons experience breathing difficulties, increased risk of fractures, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases and psychological effects.⁹ *Apathyanimittajapraveha* is caused by unhealthy dietary and lifestyle factors and it is well correlated with type II Diabetes Mellitus. Ayurveda possesses a number of valuable remedies that can be used in the management of *apathyanimittajapraveha*.

Justification

Obesity is one of the burning problems globally as it hamper the different systems in the body. An obese person is prone to land up in complications like dyslipidemia, hypertension, coronary heart diseases, diabetes mellitus, osteoarthritis, infertility, impotency and many psychological. Ayurveda is one of the highly developed indigenous systems of medicine in the world. The classical *Mahapasmul* Decoction had not been subjected to any scientific study to evaluate its efficacy on *Sthoulya* and *apathyanimittajapraveha*.

Objectives

This study was carried out to evaluate the efficacy of *Mahapasmul* Decoction on *Sthoulya* and *apathyanimittajapraveha*.

METHODOLOGY

The present study is a clinical study in which patients who fulfilled the criteria were selected from Ayurveda Teaching Hospital at Borella, Colombo 08, Sri Lanka from period of January 2015 to May 2016. Both male and female patients, between 20 -60 years of age, who had BMI between 25 to 45 kg/m² and FBS less than 200 mg/dl were included in the study. Sixty (30) patients were treated with *Mahapasmul* Decoction at the dose of 120ml at 8.00 a.m & 6.00 p.m before meal with 5 ml bee honey for a period of eight (08) weeks. Patients were evaluated before starting the treatment and after completing the treatment for their subjective as well as objective criteria. Subjective criteria (symptoms of *sthaulya* and *apathyanimittajapraveha*) were assessed with proper grading according to their severity. Objective assessment criteria were BMI, body circumferences, skin-fold thickness, lipid profile and FBS.¹⁰ Specific diet was recommended to each patient during the period of treatment. Data were analyzed by SPSS statistical software. Qualitative data were analyzed by Wilcoxon Sign Rank test and Mann-Whitney test whereas quantitative data were analyzed by paired and unpaired students 't' tests.

⁸Obesity and overweight-Fact sheet No. 311, 2012. <http://www.who.int/media/centre/factsheets/fs311/en/index.html>

⁹Centre for Public Health Excellence at NICE (UK), National Collaborating Centre for Primary Care (UK), "Obesity: The Prevention, Identification, Assessment and Management of Overweight and Obesity in Adults and Children," National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (UK) (NICE Clinical Guidelines, No.43), 2006. <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK63696>.

¹⁰An International Quarterly Journal of Research in Ayurveda /AYU 2014 Jan-Mar; 35(1): 28-34 Shri Kant Tiwari Department of *Kaya Chikitsa*, Faculty of Ayurveda, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India).

RESULTS AND OBSERVATION

Majority of patients were in 40-49 age group (48.33%), female (93.33%), married (93.3%), housewife (76.7%), had secondary education (78.3%), belonged to middle socio-economic status (86.7%), and lived in suburban areas (66.7%). Considering the family history, obesity and type II DM were among sisters (41.7%), mother (38.3%) and father (30.0%). The majority of patients had mixed diet (90%); *adayasana*(53.3%), *vishamasana*(36.7%) and *virudhasana* (25%); food rich in *snigdha* (73.3%) and *guruguna* (70.0%); *madhurarasa* (58.3%); and *visamagni*(53.3%). Considering the life style, the majority of patients had no exercise (68.3%), had excessive sleep (61.7%) and day sleep (36.7%). *Vata-kaphaprakriti* (58.3%) were more common among *sthaulya* and *apathyanimittajapraveha*. All most all patients had *avara* state of *abayavarana* and *avarajarana* (each 100%).

Effect of *Mahapasmul* Decoction on *Sthoulya* and *Apathyanimittajapraveha*

The improvement of the mean value of *sphik-chalata* (from 3.65 to 3.04), *anga-gaurava* (from 3.39 to 2.50), *anga-daurgandaya* (from 3.67 to 2.46), *ati-kshudha* (from 2.00 to 0.40), *daurbalya* (from 3.35 to 2.41), *gathra-sada* (from 3.37 to 2.53), *udara-chalata* (from 3.36 to 2.69) and *sthana-chalata* (from 3.56 to 2.84) was statistically highly significant ($p < 0.001$). The improvement of the mean value of *ati-trisha* (from 3.55 to 2.55), *seweda-abadha* (from 3.28 to 2.56), *utsahani* (from 3.40 to 2.80), *swasa* (from 3.60 to 2.60) and *nidradikya* (from 3.57 to 2.64) was statistically significant ($p < 0.05$). The mean value of mid arm circumference (from 34.65±0.74 to 32.47±0.70), waist circumference (from 103.97±2.14 to 98.98±2.16) and hip circumference (from 111.84±2.23 to 106.84±2.40) was reduced in statistically highly significant manner ($p < 0.001$). The mean value of BMI was reduced from 35.30±0.85 to 32.53±0.92 which is statistically highly significant ($p < 0.001$). The mean value of skin fold thickness over middle portion of the bicep (from 24.7±1.62 to 22.8±1.61), triceps (from 24.7±0.97 to 21.20±0.86), supra iliac (from 41.13±0.97 to 39.13±1.03), mid-thigh (from 42.30±0.73 to 39.87±0.90) and umbilicus (from 39.93±0.95 to 38.07±0.90) was reduced in statistically highly significant manner ($p < 0.001$). The mean value of triglyceride (from 122.7±1.68 to 126.45±1.10), Fasting blood sugar (from 95.68±1.67 to 91.91±1.54) was reduced in statistically highly significant manner ($P < 0.001$), whereas the mean value of LDL (from 144.10±5.90 to 123.80±7.40) was reduced in statistically significant ($p < 0.05$). According to the reduction of mean value of total cholesterol and HDL was insignificant ($p > 0.05$). The mean value of Skin Fold Thickness over middle portion of the Bicep (from 24.7±1.62 to 22.8±1.61), Triceps (from 24.7±0.97 to 21.20±0.86), Supra iliac (from 41.13±0.97 to 39.13±1.03), Mid-thigh (from 42.30±0.73 to 39.87±0.90) and Umbilical region (from 39.93±0.95 to 38.07±0.90) was reduced in statistically highly significant manner ($p < 0.001$).

DISCUSSION

In this study, collectively, 80% of patients belong to the age group of 30-49 meaning young adults and middle aged people are more prone to have obesity. The majority of *sthaulya* patients are female (93.33%).

Table 1. Effect of Mhapasmul Decoction on body circumferences

Parameter	Mean		SD± SE		t	P
	BT	AT	BT	AT		
Mid Arm Circumference	34.65	32.47	4.05±0.74	3.83±0.70	4.43	p<0.001
Waist Circumference	103.97	98.98	11.74±2.14	11.87±2.16	8.34	p<0.001
Hip Circumference	111.84	106.84	12.21±2.23	13.18±2.40	9.27	p<0.001

Table 2. Effect of Mhapasmul Decoction on Lipid profile and Fasting Blood Sugar

Parameter	Mean		SD± SE		t	p
	BT	AT	BT	AT		
Total Cholesterol	221.06	205.19	59.82±10.92	54.82±9.89	0.10	p>0.05
Triglyceride	122.73	126.45	9.23±1.68	6.06±1.10	4.80	P<0.001
LDL	144.10	123.80	32.34±5.90	40.58±7.40	3.33	p<0.05
HDL	52.97	52.85	28.54±5.21	21.53±3.93	-0.67	p>0.05
FBS	95.68	91.91	9.19±1.67	8.14±1.54	4.59	P<0.001

Table 3: Effect of Mhapasmul decoction on Skin Fold Thickness of *sthaulya*

Parameter	Mean		SD± SE		t	P
	BT	AT	BT	AT		
over Bicep	24.70	22.80	8.91±1.62	8.82±1.61	1.41	P<0.001
over Triceps	24.07	21.20	5.33±0.97	4.75±0.86	1.92	P<0.001
over Supra iliac	41.13	39.13	5.36±0.97	5.66±1.03	1.53	P<0.001
over Mid thigh	42.30	39.87	4.04±0.73	4.93±0.90	1.47	P<0.001
over Umbilical region	39.93	38.07	5.21±0.95	4.95±0.90	1.32	P<0.001

According to a study conducted by AI-Isa AN- Prevalence of obesity among adult Kuwaitis: a cross-sectional study, it has been reported that obesity (BMI \geq 30.0) is, at present, estimated to be about 40.6% in adult females are obese.¹¹ Hence, it is evident that females are more vulnerable to develop obesity. The majority of patients are married (93.3%), housewives (76.7%), having secondary education (78.3%), belonging to middle socio-economic status (86.7%) and living in suburban areas (66.7%). The majority of the patients are having gradual onset (98.3%). Considering the family history, obesity is common among sisters (41.7%) and mothers (38.3%). Considering the psychological history, this study reports that majority of the obesity patient having tension (45%) which may be due to the effect of disease. Among female patients, the majority of patients are having regular menstrual cycle (53.6%). The majority of patients are having mixed diet (90%) than the people who take vegetarian diet (10%). Excessive consumption of animal products rich in fat and oil is well established risk factor of obesity. The majority of patients are having *Adayasana* (53.3%) which is a causative factor of *santarpanajanitavyadhi*.¹² Obesity is one among *santarpanajanitavyadhi*. Majority of patient are having *visamagni* (53.3%) and *tikshanagni* (46.7%). The former is due to *vataprakopa* resulting in *sroto-avaradha* in the pathogenesis of *sthaulya*. The majority of patients have *madhyakoshta* (48.3%) and regular bowel habit (53.3%). The majority of patients has no exercise (68.3%), has excessive sleep (100%) and day-sleep (61.7%). As a *santarpanajanitavyadhi*, sedentary life style is one of causative factors of *sthaulya*. The 73.3% of patients are having food rich in *Snigdha* (73.3%), *ati-guru* (70.0%) and *ati-madhura* (58.3%) which increase *medo-dhatu* resulting obesity.

In this study it is revealed that *Sthaulya* is more common among *vata-kaphaprakriti* (58.3%) indicating this type of *prakriti* is more prone to obesity. All most all patients had *Avara* state of *abhyavaranashakthi* (100%) and *jaranashakthi* (100%). As stated in the pathogenesis, *sthaulya* is associated with increased appetite (*abhyavaranashakti*) and decreased digestion specially in the latter parts of formation of *dhatu* (*jaranashakti*).

Discussion on the effect of Mhapasmul Decoction

Mhapasmul Decoction improved *Sphik Chalata*, *Anga Gaurava Angadaurgandaya*, *Ati-kshudha*, *Daurbalya*, *Gathrasada*, *Udara Chalata*, *Sthana Chalata*, Mid Arm Circumference, Waist Circumference, Hip Circumference, BMI, Skin Fold Thickness over middle portion of the Biceps, Triceps, Supra iliac, Mid-thigh and Umbilical region Triglyceride and Fasting Blood Sugar is statistically highly significant (p<0.001). *Mhapasmul* decoction is composed of *Katu rasa* (20%), *Tikta rasa* (100%) and *Kashaya rasa* (100%); *Laghuguna* (100%), *Rukshaguna* (66.6%) and *Guru guna* (16.6%); *Ushanavirya* (66.6%); and *Katuvipaka* (100%). *Bilva* is having *thridosagna*, *vatagna*, anti-diabetic, *shothhara*, *deepana*, *pachana* properties. *Agnimantha* is having *kaphaghna*, *vatagna*, *deepana*, *anulomana*, *pramehagna* and *shothahara* properties. *Shyonaka* is known to have anti-inflammatory and diuretic astringent effects. *Kashmarya* is known to have anti-diabetic, anti-aging, analgesic, diuretic and hepato-protective. *Patala* is having *tridosahara*, *vatakapashamaka*, diuretic, anti-inflammatory, *ruchikaraka*, *agni-deepaka*, *yakruthutejaka*, *muthrakaraa*, *sewedauthpadaka* properties. *Makshika* (bee honey) is of *thridosagna*, *kapha pitta shamaka*, anti-inflammatory and anti-oxidant properties. Collectively, the pharmaco-dynamic properties of *Mhapasmul* decoction reduce *kapha* and *meda*, increase *agni*. Hence, *Mhapasmul* decoction is responsible for promoting digestive power and correcting *sroto-avaradha*. Collectively,

¹¹AI-Isa AN. Prevalence of obesity among adult Kuwaitis: a cross-sectional study. *Int. J. Obese*, 1995; 19:431-433.

¹²Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su.23).

the pharmaco-dynamic properties of *Mhapasmul* decoction reduce *kapha* and *meda*, increase *agni*. Hence, *Mhapasmul* decoction is responsible for promoting digestive power and correcting *sroto-avarodha*. Due to these pharmacodynamic properties, *Mhapasmul* decoction improves most of the subjective as well as objective parameters of *Sthaulya* significantly.

Conclusion

By fore going, it may be concluded that *Mahapasmul* Decoction is effective in improving most of the subjective as well as objective parameters of obesity (*Sthaulya*). Finally, it may be suggested that these findings need to be validated by further research having more number of patients with longer duration of treatment.

REFERENCES

- Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha, 2007. Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch. Su.21).
- Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha, 2007. Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi Ch.Su. 20).
- Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha, 2007. Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su. 23).
- Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha, 2007. Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su.22).
- Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha, 2007. Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su.16).
- World Health Organization, "Obesity. Preventing and managing the Global Epidemic, Report of a WHO consultation (WHO Technical Report Series 894), WHO, 2000. http://www.who.int/nutrition/publications/obesity/WHO_TRS_894/en/
- Worldwide Obesity Trends—Globesity," <http://www.annecolins.com/obesity/causes-of-obesity.htm>.
- Obesity and overweight-Fact sheet No. 311, 2012. <http://www.who.int/media/centre/factsheets/fs311/en/index.html>
- Centre for Public Health Excellence at NICE (UK), National Collaborating Centre for Primary Care (UK), "Obesity: The Prevention, Identification, Assessment and Management of Overweight and Obesity in Adults and Children," National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (UK) (NICE Clinical Guidelines, No.43), 2006. http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK_63696/.
- An International Quarterly Journal of Research in Ayurveda /AYU 2014 Jan-Mar; 35(1): 28–34 Shri Kant Tiwari Department of Kaya Chikitsa, Faculty of Ayurveda, Institute of Medical Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India).
- AI-Isa AN. Prevalence of obesity among adult Kuwaitis: a cross-sectional study. *Int. J. Obese*, 1995; 19:431-433.
- Charaka Samhita of Agnivesha (2007); Translated by Sharma P.V, Chaukambha Orientalia, Varanasi (Ch.Su.23).
