

International Journal of Ayurveda and Pharma Research

Review Article

REVIEW OF JWARAHARA GUTIKA YOGAS CONTAINING VATSANABHA IN SAHASRAYOGAM

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Article info	ABSTRACT
Article History: Received: 27-10-2021 Revised: 08-11-2021 Accepted: 20-11-2021 KEYWORDS: Vatsanabha, Jwara, Sahasrayogam, Antidote of Vatsanabha, Fever.	Vatsanabha is Vishavarga dravya mentioned in many of the Ayurveda Samhitas, which is commonly used in Ayurvedic medicinal preparations. It has a property of Jwarahara, Amaghna, Swedajana which is very useful in Jwara cases. The drugs like Parada, Gandhaka, Hingula along with Vatsanabha shows fast action on Jwara. In Ayurveda there are many formulations mentioned with Jwarahara properties. In this article we are studying about 17 Jwarahara Gutika yogas containing Vatsanabha which are mentioned in Sahasrayogam. Purpose of this study is to analyse these Yoga in the aspect of their ingredients, Bhavana dravya, Anupana, Sevana vidhi, and their role in management of Jwara. When we analysing each and every ingredients on these Yogas there are certain similarities in ingredients, Bhavana dravya, Anupana of these medicines. Most of these ingredients have Deepana Pachana karma, Katu Thikta rasa, Ushna veerya, Katu vipaka etc which are beneficial for Samprapti vighatana of Jwara. As Sahasrayogam is a compilation of popular formulations which are commonly used by ancient physicians of Kerala, it is assumed that all of this Yoga were once in practice. These formulations are to be kept in tablet form which is very convenient for their administration, palatability etc. But very few of them are available in market. In this current scenario of Covid pandemic Ayurveda field should rethink about these potent medicines of Jwara for the well being of our community, and further study and clinical trial also needed to know their action on Jwara.

INTRODUCTION

Sahasrayogam is a compilation of Ayurvedic formulations which are mostly used by ancient Vaidya (physicians) of Kerala. It contains Kashaya (decoction), Gulika (tablet), Vataka (tablet), Choorna (powder), Bhasma (ashes), Kshara (alkali), Lehya, Arishta (fermented decoction), Asava (fermented herbal juice), Taila (medicated oil), Ghrita (medicated ghee) formulations for different diseases. Most of them are collected from manuscripts and compiled together in a book named Sahasrayogam. Besides polymorphous formulations, single drug recipes are also indicated for the treatment of different diseases in this book.

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Quick Response Code					
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Gutika yogas (tablet formulations) of *Sahasrayogam* contain many *Jwarahara yogas* (antipyretic formulations). Most of them contain *Vatsanabha* as an ingredient.

In Ayurvedic classics, *Jwara* is considered the *Rogadhipati* i.e., king of all diseases. It is mentioned as a disease as well as a symptom of other diseases too. The term *Jwara* means the condition in which the mind, sense organs, and the body all are affected (*Dehendriya mana santapakara*).

Mithya ahara, Vihar (unwholesome food and physical activities) leads to an aggravation of *Vatadi doshas* which afflicts *Amashaya* (stomach) and gets mixed up with *Agni* (digestive fire), it follows the course of *Rasa* (the essence of food) and obstructs the channels of *Rasa* and *Sweda* (sweat channels), suppress the activity of *Pachakagni* (digestive fire) and expels the heat from the site of digestion spreading it all over the body thus causing *Jwara* (fever).^[1]

Vatsanabha

Vatsanabha (Aconitum ferox) is a drug that comes under *Maha visha varga* of Ayurveda. Though it is a poisonous drug its therapeutically efficiency is very much useful in Ayurveda formulations. Aconitum ferox is also known as Aconitum virorum is species of 'monk's hood', in the family of 'Ranunculaceae'. It contains a large amount of alkaloid pseudaconitine, which is a deadly poison.^[2]

For therapeutic purpose, *Vatsanabha* can be used only after *Shodhana* (purification). *Shodhana* of *Vatsanabha* is to be done in *Gomutra* (cow's urine) *Swedana* (fomentation) in *Dolayantra* for 3 *Yama*.^[3] Studies have shown that pseudoaconitine and aconitine were converted into far less toxic substances veratroyl pseudoaconine and benzoylaconine respectively in traditional Ayurveda *Shodhana* procedure.^[4]

The *Shuddha Vatsanabha is* used judiciously for the internal administration of inappropriate dosage *Vatsanabha* containing *Jwarahara Gutika Yoga* from *Sahasrayogam*^[8]

after thorough consideration of all the relevant factors that influence the dosage, the medicine acts like 'Amrita' (nectar). If this medicine is administered in higher doses, it stops cardiac activities and leads to death.^[5] Karma (therapeutic action) of Vatsanabha includes *Sheetaprashamanam* (alleviate coldness), Swedasanjananam (produce sweat), Deepana (digestive stimulant), Agnimandva Prashmanam (alleviate indigestion), etc indicates its excellent property of *Jwarahara*.^[6] Due to these properties, most of the Jwarahara formulations in Rasashastra contain Vatsanabha as an ingredient. Thribhuvana Keerthi Rasa, Anandha Bhairava rasa, Prathapalankeshwara *Rasa*, etc are some of the examples.

All these *Agnimandya*, *Ama* (undigested food) problems which is the main reason for *Jwara* can easily be managed by *Vatsanabha* due to its action on *Srotas*. A study of the chemical components of *Vatsanabha* shows that it has analgesic, anti-inflammatory, and immunomodulatory actions.^[7]

S.No	Yoga	Most Repetitive Ingredients								Other Ingredients
	U	Vatsanabha						Maricha	Sunthi	0
1.	Agnikumara rasa ^[9]	4	-	ational Journ	O strovijap		-	1	-	Vacha (Acorus calmus)- 1part Kushta (Saussurea lappa)- 1part Musta (Cyperus rotundus)- 1 part
2.	Ananda rasa ^[10]	1	1	1	1 JAP	R 40.80°		-	_	Haratala (orpiment)- 1 part Teekshna loha Bhasma (iron ashes) 1 part Tamrabhasma (copper ashes) 1 part Naga bhasma (lead) 1 part Vanga bhasma (tin) 1 part
3.	Aananda Bhairava gulika ^[11]	1	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	<i>Higu</i> (asafoetida)-1 part
4.	Kananka sundaram gulik ^[12]	1	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	Dattura – 1 part
5.	Kodashari Gulika ^[13]	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
6.	Chanda Bhaskara Rasa ^[14]	1	-	1	1	10	-	-	-	Jayapala beeja -20 parts
7.	Jwarankusharasa ^[15]	1	-	1	2	2	-	5	-	Katphala (Myrica esculenta) 5 part Danthi beeja (Baliospermum montanum) 5 part
8.	Tapajwaramatra ^[16]	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	Katurohini (Picrorhiza kurroa)- 4 part
9.	Maha Jwarankusha ^[17]	1	-	1	1	-	4	4	4	<i>Dattura beeja</i> 3 part
10.	Ramabhanagulika	1	-	1	1	-	4	4	4	Datturabeeja 3 parts

Table 1: *Yoga* and Their Composition

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	[18]									
11.	Ramachandeshwara rasa ^[19]	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	<i>Tamra-</i> 1 part <i>Laksha (Laccifer lacca)</i> 1 part
12.	Rogatrayari Rasa ^[20]	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	<i>Triphala</i> (1 part
13.	Vettumaran Gulika ^[21]	1	1	-	-	1	-	1	-	Ajamoda (Trachyspermum ammi) 1 part
14.	Sheeta matanga Sinha ^[22]	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	<i>Shikhi tutha</i> (copper sulphate) 1 part <i>Manashila</i> (realgar) 1 part <i>Haritala</i> -1part
15.	Sarva Roga kulanthakam ^[23]	1	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
16.	Suchimukha Rasa ^[24]	1	-	1	1	1	-		-	Haratala- manasila makshika Tutha Erandabeeja (Ricinus communis) Bilva majja (fruit Pulp of Aegle marmelos) each one part
17.	Suryaprabha ^[25]	1/16	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	Hingu - 1 part Triphala 3 part Jeraka (Cuminum cyminum) 1 part

Out of these 17 *Gulika Yogas, Agni kumara rasa, Ananda Bhairava rasa, Vettumaran gulika Suryaprabha* are widely using in practice.

In Agnikumara rasa parts of Vatsanabha are 4 parts. But, Suryaprabha containing only 1/16 part Vatsanabha.

Tankana (borax) is an antidote for *Vatsanabha*, but many of the *Yogas* do not contain *Tankana*. In *Sahasrayogam, Maricha Kashaya* (decoction of black pepper) is mentioned as an antidote for *Vatsanabha*.^[26,27] Other than *Vatsanabha, Hingula* (cinnebar), *Parada* (mercury), *Gandhaka* (sulpher), *Tankana, Sunthi* (dried ginger), *Pippali* (long pepper), and *Maricha* (black pepper) is the most repeating ingredients of this *Yoga*. (Table no.1)

Table 2: Indications

S No.	Yoga	Indication as per Sahasrayogam
1.	Agnikumara Rasa	Ama Jwara, Kapha Jwara, Peenasa (sinusitis), Pratishaya (rhinitis), Agnimandya, Amatisara Pakwatisara, Swasa
2.	Aanada rasa	Sannipathaja Jwara Sheetha Jwara
3.	Anandabhairava Gulika	Sannipa Jwara, Sheeta Jwara
4.	Kanaka sundaram gulika	Grahani (irritable bowel syndrome), Amashoola (pain), Arochaka, Agnimandya, Jwara, Teevratisara
5.	Kodashari gulika	Sarvanga Sannipatha Jwara, Taruna Jwara, Sannipatha Jwara
6.	Chandabhaskara Rasa	Pandu, Shopha, Mahodara (ascites), Udavarta, Gulma, Pleehodara (Splenomegaly), Arshas (piles), Krimi, Ajeerna, Amadosha, Purana Jwara (later stage of fever), Prameha, Mootrakrichram (dysuria), Ashmarivrana (ulcer due to calculi), Sarvavyadhiharam (alleviate all disease), Agnideeptikara
7.	Jwarankusha Rasa	Tridosha Jwara
8.	Tapa Jwaramatra	Tapa Jwara
9.	Maha Jwarankusham	Jwara
10.	Ramabana gulika	Sarva Jwara
11.	Ramachandeshwara rasa	Sannipatha

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12.	Rogathrayari Rasa	Nava Jwara, Sannipatha, Tridosha Jwara			
13.	Vettumaran gulika	Jwara, Vayukshobha (irregularities of Vata), Chardi (vomiting), Mootraghata (Gulma tumour), Sannipatha Jwara			
14.	Sheetamatanga simham	Sheeta Jwara			
15.	Sarva roga kulanthakam	Rajayakshma, Vayukshobha, Swasa, Jwara, Agnimandya, Sannipatha Vataroga			
16.	Soochimukha rasam	13 Sannipatha Jwara, Visha, Unmada (mental disorder), Moha (unconciousness), Dhanurvata (tetanus)			
17.	Suryaprabha	Shoola, Kasa, Swasa, Jwara			

Most of these formulations are indicated mainly in different stages/types of Jwara. Ama Jwara/ Taruna Jwara/Nava Jwara (early stage of fever), Sannipathika Jwara (fever in which all 3 Doshas and Rakta are vitiated), Tridosha Jwara (all 3 Doshas vitiated fever) Tapajwara (fever in which temperature is more), Sheeta Jwara (fever in which temperature is less), Sarvanga Sannipatha Jwara (fever affecting whole body organs) etc terms are used by authors. (Table no 2) When we are going through the other indications Swasa (dyspnoea), Agnimandya, Arochaka (anorexia), Atisara (loose motion) etc diseases that are commonly accompanying Jwara can be seen. Out of these Yogas, Chandabhaskara Rasa, Vettumaran Gulika, Sarvarogakulanthakam, Soochimukharasa etc show a wide range of indications. Soochimukha Rasa is an exceptional Yoga as it is for external use in scalp after making an incision there. This Yoga can be used in all 13 types of Sannipathaja Jwara, Visha Unmada, Moha, Dhanurvata, etc. This indicates Suchimukharasa is used as an emergency medicine in ancient time's emergency cases. And for examine whether patient is alive or not. The doses of these formulations are told in 125mg to 1g.

Properties	Raw Drugs									
	Vatsanabha ^[28]	Hingula ^[29]	Parada ^[29]	Gandhaka ^[30]	Tankana ^[31]	Sunthi [32]	Pippali [33]	Maricha ^{[34}		
Rasa	<i>Katu</i> (pungent), <i>Tikta</i> (bitter), <i>Kashaya</i> (astringent)	Shadrasa	Shadrasa	Katu, Tikta	Katu	Katu	Katu	Katu		
Guna	<i>Ushna</i> (hot)	Snigdha (oily)	- AUTATA	Snigdha JAPR UPJ8	Ruksha (dryness)	Tikshna (sharpness) Ruksha	Snigdha	<i>Laghu</i> lightness		
Veerya	Ushna	Ushna	-	Ushna	Ushna	Ushna	Anushna	Ushna		
Vipaka	<i>Madhura</i> (sweet)	Madhura	-	Katu	Katu	Madhura	Madhura	Katu		
Doshaghna	Tridoshahara	Kaphahara	Tridosha	Vata kapha	Kapha	Kapha Vatatmak	Vatahara	Sleshm		
other <i>Karma</i>	<i>Rasayana</i> (rejuvenating)	Jadaragni	Balya	Rasayana	Hridya	Dipana	Kaphahara	Chedana		
	<i>Swedala</i> (produce sweat)	Pachana	Vrishya	Deepana	Balya	Pachana	Deepana	Deepana		
	Pithasantapaka raka	Jwaraapaha	Rasayana	Pachana	Saaraka	Amadoshah ara	Ruchya	Ruchya		
	Rooksha		Krimighna	Medhya	Deepana	Vishama Jwarahara	Rasayana	Jantu		
	Teekshna		Ropana				Hridya	Medohara		
	Laghu						Vrishya	Chedi		
	Vikashi						Rochana	Hridroga		
	Vyavayi									
	Yogavahi									

Table 3: Properties of Main Ingredients

Observing closely to all ingredients, suggest that it mostly contains *Dipana*, *Pachana*, and *Agnivardhana dravyas*. Collectively they mainly act on *Rasavaha*, *Annvaha*, and *Swedavaha Srotas*.

Parad is *Yogvaahi* and *Tridoshashamaka*. *Yogvaahitva*, is an outstanding characteristic of mercury, these substances when combined with others besides maintaining their activity, increase the therapeutic activity of the other substance along with this. This is why the dose of the drug and time required for the onset of action is extensively reduced by mercurial compounds.^[35]

Purified Sulphur is useful in cough, asthma, hepatomegaly, and splenomegaly, chronic fever, etc.^[36] *Parad* and *Gandhak* together form a compound called *Kajjali*, this compound is found effective in diseases of all *Strotas*. The impact is *Tridoshahara*, which immediately spreads in the body when consumed clear the obstructed channels.^[37] *Kajjali* (black sulphide of mercury) can be used to treat a wide range of diseases when incorporated with the appropriate *Anupana*. *Sarvamayahara*, *Vrishya*, and *Tridoshahara* are the properties of *Kajjali*. *Kajjali* works synergistically and comprehensively with the herbal ingredients to provide a multi-targeted organ impact.^[38]

Kajjali is not absorbed in the GI tract, it is postulated that it eventually acts as GI stimulant, locally also as a neuro-chemical irritant for the intestinal mucosa.^[39] It also acts as a catalyst and hence through its catalytic activity, better absorption of herbal pharmacological molecules is achieved. Hence, the net resultant activity of *Kajjali* is that it eventually increases the bioavailability of ingested drugs.^[40]

Tankana is pungent in taste and hot in nature, it is good for the heart and act as an antidote for *Vatsanabha* as it compensates cardiac depressant action of *Vatsanabha*. It is *Kaphnissaraka* in nature and indicated in productive cough, asthma, chest congestion etc. It helps to improve menstrual flow.^[41] *Vatsanabha* as febrifuge agent is the best drug to reduce pyrexia by inducing sweat.

Trikatu (Maricha, Nagara, and *Pippali*) has *Agni Deepana* and *Kapha- Vata Samana* properties. *Trikatu* does *Deepana, Pachana* which is essential to reduce *Ama* and thereby *Jwara. Sunthi* is one of the best drugs for *Amapachana*. It is having antipyretic and antimicrobial properties. *Maricha* is of great value in fever especially as an adjuvant to more active febrifuge agents. It exerts a stimulant action throughout the entire course of the digestive system. *Pippali* acts as *Rasayana* i.e., rejuvenator. It has great action in intermittent fever and splenomegaly as having *Jwaraghna* and anti-malarial properties.^[42]

Drugs like *Gandhak* and *Pippali* are *Medhya* in nature hence it also reduces *Manasantap* (mental impairment).^[43]

Mineral ingredients present in the majority of the *Yogas* include *Parada, Gandhaka, Hingula* and *Tankana*.

Importance of Bhavana Dravya

Repeated *Bhavana* (levitation) of ingredients with appropriate *Bhavana Dravya* makes these formulations more effective and fast-acting.

The Yogas which contain Parada and Gandhaka method of preparation starts with, Sodhitha Parada and Gandhaka are properly triturated and Kajjali is prepared. Then assessment for colour, Varithrathwa, Rekhapoornathwa, as well as other Sidhalakshanas of the Kajjali is prepared. The remaining herbal and mineral ingredients, as well as the Kajjali and relevant Bhavana Davyas, specified in Yoga, are triturated later.

S No.	Yoga	Bhavana Dravya mentioned in Sahasrayogam				
1.	Agnikumara Rasa	Ardraka swarasa				
2.	Aanada rasa	Triphala kashaya, Ardraka swarasa, Parpataka kashaya, Sarpa pitta				
3.	Anandabhairava Gulika	Jambheera swarasa				
4.	Kanaka sundaram gulika	Bhanga kashaya				
5.	Kodashari gulika	Jambheera swarasa				
6.	Chandabhaskara Rasa	Nirgundi swarasa				
7.	Jwarankusha Rasa	Water or Nirgundi moola kashaya				
8.	Tapa Jwaramatra	Water				
9.	Maha Jwarankusham	Jambheera swarasa, Ardraka swarasa				
10.	Ramabana gulika	Sweta gunja leaf juice				
11.	Ramachandeshwara rasa	Ardrka swrasa, Nirgundi patra swarasa				
12.	Rogathrayari Rasa	Langali niryasa, Soorana, Chitraka, Ardraka,				

Table 4: Bhavana Dravya

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		Shigru, Punarnava niryasa
13.	Vettumaran gulika	Ardraka swarasa
14.	Sheetamatanga simham	Dhatura patra swarasa
15.	Sarva roga kulanthakam	Jambheera swarasam
16.	Soochimukha rasam	Sarpa pitta
17.	Suryaprabha	Jambheera swarasa

Ardraka Swarasa, Jambheera Swarasam, Nirgundi swarasam, Bhanga Kashaya, Dhatura Patra Swarasa, Sweta Gunja leaf juice, Langali Niryasa, Sarpapitta these are the Bhasvana Dravya for these formulations. All of these have Ushna Teekshna properties which will act on Ama when we go through its properties individually. Ardraka Swarasa having Katu Rasa (A.H-Tikta, Madhura), Teekshna, Ruksha Guna, Ushnaveerya, and Madhura Vipaka, thus pacifies Vata, Kapha Dosha without aggravating Pitta. Effectiveness of Ardraka as an antioxidant, antiinflammatory agent, anti-nausea, and anti-cancer, infectious disease.^[44]

Nirgundi is a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug. Chemical constituents present in *Nirgundi* act by blocking the synthesis of prostaglandins by inhibitory cyclooxygenase which converts arachidonic acid to prostaglandins inhibition of prostaglandin synthesis accounts for their analgesic, antipyretic and platelet inhibitory action.^[45]

Dhattura is quick in action indicated in *Jwara*, *Shotha*, *Vedana*. It is having potent analgesic and anti-viral properties. *Datura metel* is used traditionally for the treatment of various diseases including relaxation of smooth muscles, relief of fever, as well as gastrointestinal disorder. The study shows that the crude extract/fraction and the isolated compound, daturaolone exhibited significant gastrointestinal motility cessation, muscle relaxation, antipyretic effects.^[46,47]

Bhanga possess *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Ruchya*, *Madakari*, *Vyavayi*, *Grahi* (withholds secretions), *Medhya* (memory booster), *Rasayana* activities. The formulations levigated with *Bhanga* can be effectively applied in the management of clinical conditions like *Jwara*, *Agnimandya*, *Ajeerna*, *Grahani* due to its pharmacologic activities such as appetizer, digestive, antiemetic, antispasmodic, analgesic, anti-inflammatory, anticonvulsant, hypnotic, anti-psychotic and cataleptic, memory enhancer, anti-asthmatic, cardio-protective, anaesthetic, antiepileptic properties.^[48]

The leaves of *Gunja (Abrus precatorius)* are used to treat cough, fever, and cold.^[49,50] Sarpapitta (snake bile) is used in the preparation of 2 of these formulations, they are *Anandarasa* and *Soochimukharasa*.

Importance of Anupana

Anupana plays an important role in medicinal intake. With the help of same drugs, we can treat many types of diseases with different *Anupana* which means *Anupana* can easily intervene in the mode of action of the main drug. Specific *Anupanas* are recommended for different *Jwaravasthas* in some formulations. As we analyse these formulations *Ardraka Swarasa*, *Nirgundi Swarasa* is the main *Anupana* while patient having *Ama Jwara* or *Nava Jwara*. *Ardraka* and *Nirgundi* have *Deepana* and *Amapachana* properties as we mentioned earlier. (Table no 5)

	Table 5: Anupana					
S No.	Yoga	Anupana mentioned in Sahasrayogam				
1.	Agnikumara Rasa	Honey and Sunthi choorna in Amajwara Ardraka Swarasa and Nirgundi Swarasa in Kapha Jwara Ardraka Swarasa in Peenasa, Pratishaya, Lavanga kashaya or Lavanga choorna in Agnimandya, Pippali kashya and Ardraka Swarasa in Sannipatha Jwararbha.				
2.	Aanada rasa	Coconut water				
3.	Anandabhairava Gulika	Jambheera swarasa				
4.	Kanaka sundaram gulika					
5.	Kodashari gulika					
6.	Chandabhaskara Rasa	Guda				
7.	Jwarankusha Rasa					
8.	Tapa Jwaramatra	Naaree ksheera, Sharkara				

9.	Maha Jwarankusham	
10.	Ramabana gulika	
11.	Ramachandeshwara rasa	
12.	Rogathrayari Rasa	Ardraka swarasa in Navajwara
		Sannipatha Jwara in Kiratatikta Maricha kashaya
13.	Vettumaran gulika	Ardraka swarasa in Jwara
		Jeeraka kashaya in Vayukshobha
		Chandra mulika swarasa in Chardi
		(Pazhanthenga neeru) Coconut water in Mootraghata
		Garlic juice in <i>Gulma</i>
14.	Sheetamatanga simham	Sugar
15.	Sarva roga kulanthakam	Sheets jala, Ardraka swarasa
16.	Soochimukha rasam	
17.	Suryaprabha	

When discussing *Vettumaran gulika 'Pazhangenga Neeru'* (coconut water) is told, because here *Mootraghata* is associated with *Jwara*, in that condition even if tender coconut is *Vastishodhana* cannot give because of its *Amatwa*. In *Sarva Roga Kulanthakam* cold water is told as an *Anupana* which is opposite to the *Jwara*.

CONCLUSION

Total 70 *Gutika* Yoga are explained in Sahasrayogam, 38 out of them are with Jwara as an indication. 17 out of them contain Vatsanabha as an ingredient. Vatsanabha is an excellent drug of choice for *Jwara* as it has *Swedasanjanana*, *Deepana*, *Pachana* actions. Most of these Yoga contains Hingula or Parada and Gandhaka as ingredients. A detailed examination of the Yogas mentioned in *Jwara* reveals that they are all excellent combinations of drugs with antipyretic, antibacterial, and antiviral properties. From these, we can understand ancient physicians has given much care to selecting drugs, during their preparation (Bhavana) and administration (Anupana) of each of these formulations for achieving maximum results. And the drugs like *Sarpa Pitta*, *Bhanga* are not much for medicinal available preparations due to Government restrictions. Studies on these drugs are also very few. Nowadays most of them are not available in the market, many of them are unfamiliar with standard practice. So potency of these formulations in the management of Jwara is not much known to society. Especially in this current Covid scenario, our healthcare system must adopt these medications for the wellbeing of the community.

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 - Cite this article as:

KV Reshma Phalgunan, Madavi Subhashchandra. Review of Jwarahara Gutika Yogas Containing Vatsanabha in Sahasrayogam. International Journal of Ayurveda and Pharma Research. 2021;9(11):71-79. https://doi.org/10.47070/ijapr.v9i11.2175

Source of support: Nil, Conflict of interest: None Declared

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