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# A COMPREHENSIVE LITERATURE REVIEW ON KUSTHA W.S.R TO PAMA KUSTHA IN AYURVEDA

# Dr. Swetasmita Sahu<sup>1</sup> Dr. Manoj Kumar Sahoo<sup>2</sup> Dr. Saumyaleena Baral<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>M.D. Scholar, P.G. Department of Ayurveda Samhita & Siddhanta, GAC & H, Balangir, Odisha <sup>2</sup>Principal & H.O.D., P.G. Department of Ayurveda Samhita & Siddhanta, GAC & H, Balangir, Odisha <sup>3</sup>Lecturer, P.G. Department of Ayurveda Samhita & Siddhanta, GAC & H, Balangir, Odisha

Corresponding Author:- Dr. Swetasmita Sahu M.D. Scholar, P.G. Department of Ayurveda Samhita & Siddhanta, GAC & H, Balangir, Odisha

## **ABSTRACT**

The Ancient Vedic civilization gave rise to the living science known as Ayurveda. Achieving Chatur-Varga is the ultimate goal of life, and it requires good health to do so. A thorough analysis of all skin conditions has been done on Samhita Kala, with a special chapter devoted to Kustha. Among these, Pama is one kind of Kshudra Kustha has a Pitta-Kapha predominance, which may be considered scabies in contemporary science. It is an acute communicable disease caused by Sarcoptes scabiei. It is characterized by extreme itchy eruptions of white, reddish, or black colour. It has been discovered that "Pama" Vyadhi is among the most prevalent illnesses, particularly among those from lower socioeconomic classes, who are more likely to not routinely take baths and to disregard basic hygiene rules. In Ayurvedic literature, the signs, symptoms, pathogenesis, and treatment of Pama are comprehensively explained. KEYWORDS-Ayurveda, Kustha, Pama, Kshudra Kustha, Scabies

## INTRODUCTION

Our skin is the outside layer of our body that conveys the inside balance. According to Ayurveda, it is one of the five "Jnanendriyas" that regulates touch perception. Additionally, it carries out tasks including thermoregulation and protecting the body against chemical, mechanical, biological, and physical harm. Furthermore, it has a significant impact on how beauty is expressed and leaves an impression.

India is the 2nd largest populated country in the world and area wise it is in 7th position. Being a developing country most of the population is living in lower socio-economic class more over 90% of population live in rural area. Most of the people are not concerned about their health and personal hygiene which leads to many systemic diseases like skin disease, TB, cholera etc.

In Ayurveda, skin diseases are explained under the common terminology 'Kustha' which implies exposed diseases. Cause of Kustha is due to the vitiation of Tridosha and Dhatus, so it quoted as "Saptokodravya-Sangraha" by Acharya Charak. There are 18 types of Kustha described in Samhitas which is divided in to 7 Maha Kustha and 11 types of Kshudra Kustha. Out of the 11 Kshudra kusthas Pama is one of them.

Pama which is caused by the vitiation of Kapha Pitta dosha and is characterized by extreme itchy, eruption of white, reddish or black color & Seen over Sphik (Buttocks), Pani-pada (Hand & Foot), Kurpara (Fore arm or elbow region). The disease Pama Kustha may be considered as scabies in contemporary science. It is an acute communicable (Aupasargika) disease.

Sarcoptes scabiei, a small mite, is the common cause of scabies. Small itchy eruptions are caused by the mites burrowing into the top layer of human skin to lay their eggs. The mites burrow into the top layer of human skin to lay their eggs, causing small itchy bumps. The symptoms of scabies occur 2-6 weeks after the infection, since it takes some more time before the mite can penetrate the skin & reproduce. Although it is a long-recognized disorder of skin but it is a common problem in India.

The Majority of Ayurvedic classics classify all forms of Kustha as Rakta Doshaja Vikara. Among those Kapha Pitta Pradhana Twak Vikara is Pama Kustha.

## **OBJECTIVE**

To study details about *Pama Kustha* as per classical Ayurvedic literature.



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## **MATERIAL METHODS**

The following Ayurvedic Samhitas about Kustha and Pama Kustha were the source of all the material on this subject: - The commentaries on Charaka Samhita, Sushruta Samhita, Astanga Samgraha, Astanga Hridaya, Kasyapa Samhita, Madhava Nidana, Sarangadhara, Bhavprakash, Bhela Samhita and Yogaratnakara, as well as other relevant websites, were vividly studied.

## LITERATURE REVIEW OF PAMA

As a Kshudra Kustha with Pitta-Kapha dominance, Pama is defined by intensely irritating eruptions that might be white, reddishbrown, or black in appearance. If the illness is ignored, the Twacha, Mamsa, Rakta, and Lasika will decompose, begin to dissolve, cause problems, and eventually spread throughout the body. No separate *Nidanas*, *Poorvaroopa* and *Samprati*, have been enlisted for Pama Kustha or any other form of Kustha. It is necessary to consider Kustha's Samanya Nidana as Hetu for Pama as well.

## **DEFINATION OF PAMA**

Pama is said to be of two genders: Streelinga and Napumsakalinga. The Napumsaka Linga Pa + Manin and the Streelinga Paman + Manah. Both denote cutaneous eruptions, corresponding to Vicharchika and Kacchu. In Amarakosha, Kacchu and Vicharchika are listed as synonyms for Pama.

#### **NIRUKTI**

Pama word has its derivation from three roots. They are

- 1. Pai- " Shoshan Dhatu " meaning that which dries the Dhatu.
- 2. Paa " Rakshane Payathe Deha Asmath " which means that taking shelter in the body and moisten the body.
- 3. Pibati Deham Va- " meaning that Pama drinks the body " The dictionary meaning of the word Pama (Pamath) is a kind of skin disease, cutaneous eruption, herpes, scab (a type of mild leprosy).

## NIDANA PANCHAKA OF PAMA

Vata, Pitta, and Kapha are the three humours that control both the body's good and unhealthy states. They preserve health when they are in an equilibrium state; when they are not, they lead to disease. These distorted or unbalanced Doshas, along with the Dhatus and Malas, can combine to cause a particular Nija type of illness. However, Doshas involvement in Aagantuja type diseases is not directly observed. Sushruta provides a clear explanation of the disease's manifestation process in six steps, referred to as "Shat Kriyakala." The same procedure is outlined in Madhava Nidana using "Nidana Panchak" as the basis of it.

## NIDANA OF PAMA

The causing factors, Nidana or Hetu, are essential for the disease's development. Nidanas for Pama or any other type of Kustha have not been enlisted separately in classics. It is also possible to interpret the Samanya Nidan of Kustha as Hetu for Pama<sup>8</sup>. These Nidanas can be categorized into,

- I. Aharaja Nidana-Diet and dietetic pattern
- II. Viharaja Nidana- Faulty lifestyle
- I. Aharaja Nidana

Aharaja nidanas include the following:

- 1. Viruddha Ahara
- 2. Mithya Ahara



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## 1. Viruddha Ahara

## Table No.1. Viruddha Ahara mentioned in different Ayurvedic Texts:

S.No.	Viruddha Ahara	C.S	S. S	A. S	B. S
1.	Intake of Chilchima fish and milk.	+	+	+	+
2.	Intake of food mostly containing <i>Hayanaka, Yavaka, Chanaka, Uddalaka &amp; Koradusa along with Ksheera, Dadhi. Takra, Kola, Kulatha, Masha, Atasi, Kusumbha &amp; Sneha.</i>	+	1	1	-
3.	Intake of Mulaka & Lashuna with Ksheera.	+	-	-	-
4.	Continuous intake of Gramya, Audaka & Anupa Mamsa with Ksheera.	-	+	-	+
5.	Use of Pippali, Kakamachi, Lakucha with Dadhi & Sarpisha.	-	-	-	+
6.	Use of Meat of Dear with Guda.	-	1	-	+
7.	Use of Mulaka with Guda.	-	•	-	+
8.	Excessive use of alcohol & milk.	-	•	-	+
9.	Intake of articles having sour taste with milk.	-	ı	-	+
10.	Excessive use of green vegetables with milk.	-	-	-	+
11.	Intake of honey & meat.	-	-	-	+
12.	Use of fish, citrus & milk together.	-	-	-	+

## 2. Mithya Ahara

## Table No. 2. Mithya Ahara mentioned in different Ayurvedic Texts: -

S.No	Mithya Ahara	C.S	S. S	A. S	B.S
1.	Excessive use of Navanna, Dadhi, Matsya, amla & Lavana.	+	-	+	-
2.	Excessive use of <i>Tila, Ksheera &amp; Guda</i> .	+	-	+	-
3.	Drava, Snigdha, Guru Aharanam Atyartha Sevanam.	+	-	+	-
4.	Excessive oleation.	+	-	-	-
5.	Continuous & excessive use of <i>Madhu</i> and <i>Phanita</i> .	+	-	ı	1
6.	Intake of food that would cause burning sensation.	+	-	-	-
7.	Intake of food during indigestion.	+	+	-	+
8.	Adhyasana.	+	+	ı	+
9.	Asatmya Ahara.	-	+	-	+
10.	Intake of polluted water.	-	-	-	+

## I. Viharaja Nidan

Acharya Gayadas has divided the Mithya Viharaja Nidanas into 3 categories

- a) Kayika (improper physical activities)
- b) Vachika (improper verbal activities)
- c) Manasika (improper mental activities)

## a. Kayika (Improper physical activities)

- Suppression of natural urges.
- Excessive sun exposure.
- Exposure to air conditioned.
- Work place contradicting with hot and humid environment.
- Over exertion and over exercises.
- Day sleep and late-night sleep.
- Complications of *Panchakarma* therapy.

## b. Vachika (Improper verbal activities)

- Behavioral misconduct or verbal sinful activities like abusing teachers, deities etc.
- Verbal antisocial activities.



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These factors bring about psychogenic stress which is of prime importance in the pathogenesis of Kustha (skin diseases). Chinta, Bhaya, Shoka are Vata Prakopaka Nidana and also causes Dushti of Swedavaha Srotas, Chinta causes Dushti of Raktavaha Srotas.

## c. Manasika (Improper mental activities)

The diseases, in which no clinical result obtained even after the best treatment were considered as Papakarmaja Vyadhi (disease due to sinful activities). Both Charaka and Sushruta Acharya have described Kustha as a most chronic disorder and all Acharyas including Bahavaprakash and Madhavakara also have included it due to Papa-Karma.

## **PURVARUPA OF PAMA**

Understanding Purvarupa is crucial for making differential diagnoses, determining the disease's diagnosis, and choosing a course of treatment. Since each variant of Kustha does not have a distinct Purvarupa specified, Pama must be taken as the Samanya Purvarupa of Kustha, as indicated in the table no.3

Table No.3. Purvarupa of Kustha in different Avurvedic Texts: -

S.No.	Purvarupa	C.S	S.S	A.H	B.S	M.NI	B.P.N
1.	Atiswedanam	+	+	+	+	+	+
2.	Lomaharsha	+	+	+	+	+	+
3.	Aswedanam	+	+	+	+	+	+
4.	Vaivamnyam	+	-	+	+	+	+
5.	Suptata	+	+	+	+	+	+
6.	Atishlakshnatva	+	-	+	-	+	+
7.	Kandu	+	+	+	-	+	+
8.	Kharatvam	+	-	+	-	+	+
9.	Paridaha	+	-	+	+	+	+
10.	Unnata Kotha	+	-	+	-	+	+
11.	Nistoda	+	-	+	ı	+	+
12.	Nimitte alpe	+	-	+	-	+	+
	ati Kopanam						
13.	Gauravam	+	-	-	+	ı	-
14.	Ushmayanam	+	-	-	+	-	-
15.	Shrama	+	-	+	-	-	-
16.	Klama	+	-	-	+	1	-
17.	Parushyam	+	+	-	-	-	-
18.	Davathu	ı	-	-	+	1	-
19.	Swalpanam Api	+	-	-	-	-	-
	Vrananam Arohanam						
20.	Pakva Dagdha Dasta -	+	-	-	-	-	-
	Bhagna Kshata						
	upaskhalistsu						
	Atimatram Vedana						
21.	Bahya Chidresu	+	-	-	-	-	-
	Upadeha						
22.	Shwayathu	+	-	-	-	-	-
23.	Visarpagam	+	-	-	-	-	-
	Abhiksnatam						
24.	Pariharsa	-	-	-	-	-	-
25.	Swalpanam api	+	-	-	-	-	-
	Vrananam Dusi						

## SAMPRAPTI OF PAMA

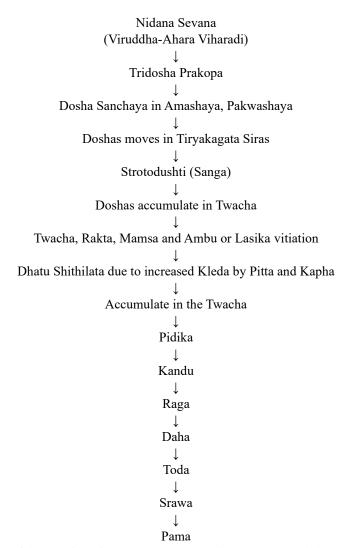
The common Samprapti of Kustha has been mentioned by all Acharyas, and they have not divided it into smaller subgroups. Therefore, the common Samprapti of Kustha likewise applies to Pama.



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Diagrammatic Representation of Samprapti of Pama



The manifestation of the pathology follows this entire phenomenon, Kustha(Pama) spreads between individuals due to:-

- 1. Prasangat (Sexual intercourse)
- 2. Gatrasansparsat (Physical contact)
- 3. Nishavsat (Droplet infection)
- 4. Sahabojhnat (Combining food and beverage consumption)
- 5. Shasayyaasnat (Lying down or sitting on the patient's chair or bed)

## SAMPRAPTI GHATAKA

Dosha	Pitta, Kapha
Dushya	Twak, Rakta, Mamsa, Ambu
Srotasa	Rasavaha Raktavaha, Swedavaha
Srotodushti	Sanga
Agni	Jatharagni and Dhatwagnimandya
Udbhava Sthana	Amashaya and Pakwashaya
Vyakta Sthana	Twacha
Adhishsthana	Twak,Mamsa
Rogamarga	Bahya
Swabhava	Chirakari



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## RUPA(LAKSHANA)

Nearly all of the authors mention the *Lakshanas*, including *Srava*, *Kandu*, *Daha*, *Bahu Pidaka*, and *Ruja*. *Bhava Mishra*, *Vanga Sena*, and *Yogendratnkar* provided more descriptions of the amount of *Srava*, the intensity of *Kandu*, and the *Ruja*.

The color of Pidaka was only referenced by Acharya Vagbhata and Charaka, that Shyava, Aruna, or Shweta.

Table No. 4 Rupa of Pama described in various Ayurvedic Texts

S.N	LAKSHANAS	C.S	S.S	A.S	AH	Sh.S	B.P	K.S	BaR	YR	HS	MN
1.	Srava	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+
2.	Kandu	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
3.	Daha	ı	+	+	+	ı	+	ı	+	+	+	+
4.	Ruja	ı	ı	+	+	ı	-	+	-	-	ı	-
5.	Bahu Pidika	+	+	+	+	+	+	ı	+	+	+	+
6.	Sookshna Anu	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
	Pidika											
7.	Shweta Pidika	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
8.	Shyava Pidika	+	ı	-	ı	ı	-	ı	-	-	ı	-
9.	Aruna Pidika	+	ı	+	+	ı	-	ı	-	-	ı	-
10.	Paka	ı	ı	-	ı	ı	-	+	-	-	ı	-
11.	Kleda	-	-	+	+	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
12.	Sphik, Pani Kurpara	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

#### BHEDA OF PAMA KUSTHA

Under the eleven-fold category of Kshudra Kustha, Pama is the Vyadhi. However, some authors, such as Acharya Sushruta and Basavarajeeyam, have different opinions.

Under Kshudra Rogas and Kshudra Kustha, Acharya Sushruta has acknowledged Pama. In response to Sushruta's interpretation of Pama as Kshudra Roga.

Gayadasa stated that while Pama is Kshudra Roga, it should only be interpreted as Kshudra Kustha.

Pama is regarded by Basavarajiyam as one of the eight Maha Kusthas.

According to Acharya Vagbhata, four Shleshmas and Pitta Doshas are included in the Kustha group, which includes Pama.

According to Acharya Charaka, Bhavamishra, Shodhala, Kashyapa, and the authors of Yogaratnakara, Pama is one of the eleven Kshudra Kusthas.

Only Gangadhara, the commentator of Charaka Samhita has mentioned two varieties of Pama-

- 1) Kapha Pittaja (Alpa Srava)
- 2) Pittaja (Bahu Srava)

## **UPADRAVAS (COMPLICATIONS)OF PAMA KUSTHA:**-

The classics do not specify any specific Upadravas for *Pama*. Thus, the *Upadravas* of *Pama* can be regarded as the *Upadravas* of *Kustha*. According to *Acharya*, if the *Sadhya Kustha* is left untreated, the *Twacha*, *Mamsa*, *Rakta*, and *Lasika* will decompose and begin to disintegrate; if *Atisweda* is present, the *Swedaja Krimi* will cause an infection on the skin. All of this leads to greater vitiation of the *Doshas*, which in turn produces more *Dushti of Twacha*, Mamsa, *Rakta*, *Lasika*, and so on, resulting in the subsequent *Upadravas*.

Vataja Upadravas:	Toda, Vepathu, Harsha, Sankocha, Shrama, Stambha, Supti, Bheda, and Bhanga; Shyava, Aruna,
	Parushata, Rookshata, Shoola, and Shosha.
Pittaja Upadravas:	Paka, Raga, Kotha, Sweda, Srava, Kleda, and Daha.
Kaphaja Upadravas:	Twachashwaitya, Shleshma, Sthairya, Gaurava, Shaitya, Kandu and Utsedha.

## **SADHYASADHYATA**

Based on Dosha -Dushya- Sadhyasadhyatha

Disease with	Acharya	Sarvadoshaja	Krichrasadhya	Yapya	Asadhya
Involved					
	C.S	Eka doshaja,	Kaphapittaja, Vatapittaja		Tridoshaja
		Vata kaphaja			
Dosha	A.H	Kapha vataja,	Dvanda, Raktapittaja		Sarvadoshaja
		Eka doshaja			
	Y.R				Tridoshaja



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	S.S	Twak, rakta, mamsa		Meda	Asti, majja, shukra
Dushya	A.H	Twakgata	Rakta, mamsa	Meda	Asti, majja, shukra.

## Asadhva lakshana.

Acharya	Asadhya lakshanas					
C S	Sarva Laxanayukta, Upadravayukta, Jantudagda, Balahani,Trishna, Daha, and Agninasha.					
SS	Atibalavan kustha, chirakari					
AH	Aristha Lakshanayukta					
Y R	Krimi , Daha, Mandagni, Upadravayukta					

## Chikitsha of Pama

Specific Chikitsa are explained in Pama Kustha in addition to the common Kustha hara chikitsa.

The three major treatments for various ailments, including skin disorders, that Ayurveda prescribes are . 1. Nidana Parivarjana (avoidance of causative causes).

- 2. Samshodhana" (bio-purification),
- 3. Samshamana" (Pacification),

NidanParivarjana - First, avoid Nidana Sevana as it will prevent the Vyadhi from progressing further by limiting Dosha vitiation. The disease manifests itself from Nidana. Diets that are heavy or aggravate Kapha Dosha, or those contain a lot of milk, curd, jaggery, Amla, Lavana, or Katu rasa, should be avoided In Pama Kustha.

Samshodhana: Vamana (Emesis) should be performed every fifteen days, Virechana (Purgation) once a month, Nasya every three days, and Raktamokshana (Bloodletting) once every six months, and Lepa Karma in every three days as per Acharya Sushruta and Yogaratnakar.

Shamshamana: Unless the body's channels are thoroughly cleaned and harmful substances are removed, palliative therapy in the form of medications and diets may not be successful. Samshodhana is said to achieve long-lasting positive benefits by bringing about the equilibrium of bio-humors and cleansing or purifying all bodily tissues. Predominantly Tikta and Kashaya Rasa drugs should be used for *Kustha* palliative therapy.

Lifestyle modification:- Healing an illness can be aided by a strict diet, effective daily routine, and stress reduction.

## External application :-

Kustha, being exhibited through the skin, external application are also advocated. For the external application drug should be applied after elimination of the Doshas from the body by Shodhana Karma and Raktamokshana There are several recommended local application forms, including Udvartana, Pralepa, Parisheka, Abhyanga, etc. In addition, Kshara and Agada Karma are advised in the unique Kustha condition.

## The following Lepas which are used in Pama Kustha:

Kushtadi Lepa ,Aragwadha Patra Yoga, Aragwadhadhi, Bhojapatradi, Darvadi, Gandhaka, Gandhaka Drava, Gandhavirojada, Grihadhimooladi, Mahagandhahasti, Agada Jathadi Lepa, Maheshwar Ghrita Rasnadi Lepa, Manashiladi Lepa, Moolakabeejadi, Haridradi Lepa, Saindhavadi, Sindhooradi, Vachadi Lepa.

## Abhyanga Chikitsa:

Taila, which can be used for Abhyanga purpose: Khadira Ghrita, Nimba Ghrita, Karanjadi Taila, Potaladi Ghrita, Darvi Ghrita, Gandhaka Taila, Durvadya Taila, Haridradi Taila, Bhallataka Taila, Aditya Paka Taila, ArkaManahshila Tail, Jeerakadya, Kachhoorakshasa, Kandarpasara, Kushtarakshasa, Sweta Karavira, Pallavadi, Sweta Karaviradi, Sinduradya.

## PATHYA-APATHYA IN PAMA KUSTHA:

Acharya Charaka has defined 'Pathya' as they are the wholesome drugs and regimen which do not adversely affect the body and mind. Those which adversely affect them are considered to be Apathya.



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Following Pathya Apathya are described for Kustha hence for Pama Kustha also:

Ahara: Laghu Anna, Tikta Shaka, Purana Dhanya, Jangala Mamsa, Mudga, Patola, Food and Ghee prepared by Bhallataka, Triphala & Nimba, Purana Shali, Shashtika, Yava, Godhuma, Kordusha, Shyamaka, Udaalaka: Mandukaparni, Bakuchi, Atarushaka, Siddha

Vihara: Abhyanga with Karanja Taila, Utsadanam with Aaragvadhadi Kashaya, Pana, Parisheka, Avagaha etc. with Khadira Kashaya.

## **APATHYA**

Ahara: Guru Anna, Amla Rasa, Dugdha, Dadhi, Anupa Matsya, Guda, Tila, Mamsa, Taila, Kulattha, Masha, Nishpava, Ikshupishta, Pishta-Vikara, Virudha Bhojana, Adhyasana, Ajirnasana, Vidahi-Abhishyandi Ahara.

Vihara: Divasvapna, Maithuna, Vegadharana, Paapkarma, Tapa Sevana, Svedana etc.

## DISCUSSION

The most prevalent diseases in poorer countries like India, where the majority of people have inadequate cleanliness, is Pama Kustha. Pama have discussed almost all of the Acharayas and how they are managed. The Tridosas Vata, Pitta, Kapha, and two Dushvas (Rasa, Raktha) are among the Sapta Dravvas indicated for the causation of Kustha, and they are crucial in managing Pama Kustha. Given that this skin condition is prone to relapses, the patient was recommended to adhere to Pathyapthya, which includes Ahara, Vihara, Achara, and Vichara. In accordance with the traditional practices of Dosha, Kala, Agni, and Desha, among others, repeated Shodhana should be given to regulate the frequency of recurrence and Skin illnesses have a higher likelihood of recurrence after further dissemination.

## CONCLUSION

The interior purity of blood, tissues, nutrients, and electrolytes is reflected or mirrored in the skin. It is vitally important to be informed of skin health issues. Almost all of the Acharayas have mentioned the management of Pama. Therefore, the Ayurvedic formulations of Bahiparimarjana in the form of Lepas and Shamana Aushadhis should be taken in order to promote Rakta Dushti.

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