

Evaluation of chemical composition of Vaalai Rasa Chendooram: A gold based herbomineral Siddha drug

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Vaalai rasa chendooram is a Siddha herbo-mineral drug used in the treatment of several diseases such as cancer, AIDS and chronic skin diseases. Literature survey revealed that scientific study was lacking for this drug. The present study was aimed at the characterization of the physico-chemical traits of Vaalai Rasa Chendooram.

Vaalai Rasa Chendooram was prepared as per Agathiyarsiddhar method. The ingredients were sulphur, mercury, gold, alum, potassium nitrate and *Aloe vera*. The prepared drug was analyzed for chemical properties using Fourier transform infra-red (FTIR), zeta potential and differential scanning calorimetry and thermogravimetric analysis (DSC-TGA).

The heavy metals were absent except mercury (0.05 ppm), which is below the acceptable limit. Gold (12.91%) is the major inorganic constituent presented with other heat stable organic compounds such as flavonoids, alkaloids, glycosides, serpentines, tannin and lignin. The particle size was 846.5 nm.

Vaalai Rasa Chendooram might be a heat stable gold-organics complex formulation. Future studies will be focused on the isolation of each organic compounds, evaluation of their pharmacological role and toxicology profile.

Key words: Siddha, Ayurveda, basma, metals, and traditional medicine

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