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# Comparative clinical study of *Kushmanda ghrita* and *Yashti ghrita*Pratimarsha nasya as memory booster

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**Abstract**: Memory is one of the fundamental processes of brain, without it we are capable of nothing but simple reflexes and stereotyped behaviours. It is retention of information over time influencing future acts and is most important aspect to differentiate from one individual from other as human beings, recognizing individual Thousands of years of wisdom filled Ayurveda, one of the main Indian medicine systems, described Medhya rasaynas, special herbs which acts exclusively on human brain. Kushmanda and Yashti are two of many other medhya rasaynas mentioned in these ancient texts. Go ghrita is also known for its medhya property; therefore compound of these drugs is used in this study. Nasya, one of main Panchakarma therapy, acts on head and neck related disorders, is applied here. Since medhya rasayna acts on brain, its comparative effect as memory boosting is evaluated. Healthy volunteer between age group of 20-40 years were selected for this study. As a result both Kushmanda ghrita

Yashtighrita were found to be equally effective as memory boosters.

## **Keywords:**

Panchakarma, Pratimarsha nasya, Medhya rasayana, Kushmanda ghrita, Yashti ghrita, Memory, PGI memory scale.

#### Introduction:

Right from the beginning of human civilization, the interest of the humans has been in conquering all aspects of life. Since Vedic period, all sages have been focused on understanding and controlling the psychological conditions in human beings. For the successful survival of man in this competitive world, there is a need for promotion of psychological health and management of various psychological and psychosomatic problems. Brain is the organ that is responsible for what we call the mind. It is the basis for thinking, feeling, perceiving, learning, memory, curiosity and behaviour.

Memory is one of the fundamental processes of brain. It is nothing but

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retention of information over time for influencing future acts. It is perhaps the most vital aspects that differentiate humans. Poor Memory, lower retention and slow recall and are common problems in today's stressful and competitive world with laterally occurring negative emotions that may led to memory loss, amnesia, anxiety, high blood pressure, dementia, to more ominous threat like schizophrenia and Alzheimer's diseases and in that case the person is not able to make full use of his or her potentials.

In processing perspective, there are three main stages in the formation and retrieval of memory by:

- 1- Encoding
- 2- Storage
- 3- Retrieval, Recall or Recognition.

All three of these processes determine whether something is remembered or forgotten. Modification in daily life due to technological advances and busy life schedule does not permit a person in indulging some basic health preserving procedures. Moreover, in our day-to-day life due to addictions such as tobacco. alcohol, irregular food habits, sleeping disturbance, suppression of natural urges, stress, depression, night awakening & day sleeping, increased levels environmental pollution, etc. All of these ultimately affect the cognitive function of brain leading to forgetfulness and further memory related disorder. Medhya rasayana like Kushmanda and Yashti can be used in panchakarma, especially in Nasya therapy for its cognitive function. This study will be helpful in further research of medicinal formulation like

this i.e. single drug study to enhance memory.

#### AIM:

To observe and compare changes in memory with Pratimarsha nasya of Kushmanda ghrita and Yashti ghrita.

- 1. To study concept of Memory according to Ayurveda.
- 2. To study the concept of Memory according to Allopathy.
- 3. To study the concept of Nasya and Pratimarsha nasya.
- evaluate 4. To efficacy of Pratimarsha nasya with Kushmanda ghrita for memory boosting.
- 5. To evaluate efficacy of Pratimarsha nasya with Yashti ghrita for memory boosting.

#### Material and Methods:

60 healthy volunteers were selected randomly, within the age group of 20-40 yrs, from OPD of Dr. D. Y. Patil College of Ayurveda & Research centre, Pimpri, Pune, irrespective of sex, occupation and socio-economic status.

Volunteers were equally divided between group A and group B. Each group contained 30 volunteers.

Drugs used in this study were made in college pharmacy following quality control protocols.

# SELECTION OF SUBJECTS-**INCLUSION CRITERIA:**

- 1) Healthy volunteers willing to enhance their memory capacity.
- 2) Sex: Male / Female
- 3) Age: 20 to 40 Years.
- 4) Healthy volunteer who gave written consent.



5) Healthy volunteer fit for nasya.

## **EXCLUSION CRITERIA:**

- 1) Healthy Volunteer having age less than 20 years & above 40 years.
- 2) Patient contraindicated for Nasya according to Ayurveda.
- Diabetes, cardiovascular, diseases or any other disease affecting multiple body systems.
- 4) Pregnant woman and woman in Post partum stage.

#### WITHDRAWAL CRITERIA:

- 1) Occurrence of serious adverse events.
- 2) When investigator felt that the protocol has been violated.
- Healthy volunteers for absent continuous 2 days were considered dropped out.
- 4) Volunteers who were not willing to continue the trial.

## **DRUG ADMINISTRATION:**

Title	Group A	Group B
Therapy	Pratimarsha nasya	Pratimarsha nasya
Dose	2 drops per nostril	2 drops per nostril
Kala	Twice a day, post meals	Twice a day, post meals
Duration of therapy	60 days	60 days
Follow up	30 <sup>th</sup> and 60 <sup>th</sup> day	30 <sup>th</sup> and 60 <sup>th</sup> day
Material of therapy	Kushmanda ghrita	Yashti ghrita

#### STUDY DESIGN:

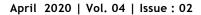
Healthy volunteers for Memory boosting were selected

Whole procedure was explained to the volunteer and consent was taken for same

Patient were distributed in Group A and Group B

Group A Group B Yashti ghrita Pratimarsha Kushmanda ghrita Pratimarsha Nasya for 30 days Nasya for 30 days (60 days in total) (60 days in total)

Follow up and assessment on 30<sup>th</sup> day





Final follow up and assessment on 60<sup>th</sup> day

Statistical analysis of assessed data

Discussion

Conclusion

## **CRITERIA OF ASSESMENT:**

PGI memory scale was used to assess memory of volunteers by scoring pattern. It consists of 10 sub tests with maximum score as follows:

Serial	Sub tests	Maximum
number		score
1	Remote memory	8
2	Recent memory	5
3	Mental balance	9
4	Attention and concentration	28
5	Delayed recall	10
6	Immediate recall	12

7	Retention of	5
	similar pairs	
8	Retention of	15
	dissimilar pairs	
9	Visual retention	13
10	Recognition	10

## Observation:

Observations were made by using statistical analysis with Wilcoxon signed ranks test to calculate changes within each single drug, before and after treatment and Mann Whitney test to calculate change comparatively between two drugs.

## 1) Remote Memory -

, <b>v</b>										
						Wilcoxon				
	ВТ		AT		%	Signed	P			
					Improvement	Ranks				
Remote	Mean		Mean			Test				
Memory	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z				
Group-A	7.40	0.675	7.90	0.305	6.8	3.638	<0.001 HS			
Group-B	7.43	0.504	7.93	0.254	6.7	3.873	<0.001 HS			

Remote Memory	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	0.50	0.572	0.127	0.899
Group-B	0.50	0.509		



Group A: Mean score before treatment is 7.40 and after treatment is 7.90. The change in percentage is 6.8 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 7.43 and after treatment is 7.93. The change in percentage is 6.7 which is highly significant.

## 2) Recent Memory:

	ВТ		AI		%	Wilcoxon Signed	P
Recent memory	Mean	Sd	Mean score	Sd	Improvement	Ranks Test Z	
Group-A	4.20	0.484	4.90	0.305	16.7	4.583	<0.001 HS
Group-B	4.10	0.481	4.77	0.430	16.3	4.472	<0.001 HS

Recent memory	Mean difference score	Sd	Mann- Whitney Z	P
Group-A	0.70	0.466	0.275	0.783
Group-B	0.67	0.479		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 4.20 and after treatment is 4.90. The change in percentage is 16.7 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 4.10 and after treatment is 4.77. The change in percentage is 16.3 which is highly significant.

## 3) Mental Balance:

	ВТ		AI		%	Wilcoxon Signed	P
					Improvement	Ranks	
Mental	Mean		Mean			Test	
Balance	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	6.50	1.042	7.93	0.640	22.0	4.594	<0.001 HS
Group-B	5.97	.718	7.27	0.691	21.8	4.786	<0.001 HS

<b>Mental Balance</b>	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	1.43	0.774	0.919	0.358
Group-B	1.30	0.596		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 6.50 and after treatment is 7.93. The

change in percentage is 22which is highly significant.



Group B: Mean score before treatment is 5.97 and after treatment is 7.27. The change in percentage 21.8 which is highly significant.

## 4) Attention and concentration:

	BT		AT		%	Wilcoxon Signed Ranks	P
Attention and Concentration	Mean score	Sd	Mean score	Sd	Improvement	Test Z	
Group-A	14.10	2.310	16.53	2.675	17.2	4.822	<0.001 HS
Group-B	11.90	1.423	13.50	1.408	13.4	4.902	<0.001 HS

Attention	and	Mean	difference	Sd	Mann-	P
Concentration		score			Whitney Z	
Group-A		2.43		1.165	2.996	0.003 Sig
Group-B		1.60		0.621		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 14.10 and after treatment is 16.53. The change in percentage is 17.2 which is highly significant.

5) Delayed recall:

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 11.90 and after treatment is 13.50. The change in percentage is 13.4 which is highly significant.

				0.4	Wilcoxon	D	
	BT		AT		%	Signed	P
					Improvement	Ranks	
Delayed	Mean		Mean			Test	
Recall	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	9.20	0.805	9.80	0.407	6.5	4.025	<0.001 HS
Group-B	9.07	0.640	9.90	0.305	9.2	4.456	<0.001 HS

<b>Delayed Recall</b>	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	0.60	0.563	1.519	0.129
Group-B	0.83	0.592		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 9.20 and after treatment is 9.80. The

change in percentage is 6.5 which is highly significant.



Group B: Mean score before treatment is 9.07 and after treatment is 9.90. The

change in percentage is 9.2 which is highly significant.

6) Immediate recall:

	BT		AT		%	Wilcoxon Signed	P
					Improvement	· ·	
Immediate	Mean		Mean			Test	
Recall	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	9.97	0.490	11.03	0.669	10.6	4.725	<0.001 HS
Group-B	10.07	0.521	11.30	0.535	12.2	4.710	<0.001 HS

<b>Immediate Recall</b>	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	1.07	0.583	1.096	0.273
Group-B	1.23	0.626		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 9.97 and after treatment is 11.03. The change in percentage is 10.6 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 10.07 and after treatment is 11.30. The change in percentage is 12.2 which is highly significant.

7) Verbal retention of similar pairs:

						Wilcoxon	
	BT		AT		%	Signed	P
Verbal					Improvement	Ranks	
retention of	Mean		Mean			Test	
Similar pairs	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	4.70	0.466	5.00	0.000	6.4	3.000	0.003 Sig
Group-B	4.97	0.183	5.00	0.000	0.6	1.000	0.317

Verbal retention of	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
Similar pairs	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	0.30	0.466	2.748	0.006 Sig
Group-B	0.03	0.183		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 4.70 and after treatment is 5.00. The change in percentage is 6.4 which is significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 4.97 and after treatment is 5.00. The change in percentage is 0.6.

8) Verbal retention of dissimilar pairs:



<b>3</b> 7 1 1	DT		ΔТ		0/	Wilcoxon	D
Verbal	BT		AT		%	Signed	Р
Retention of					Improvement	Ranks	
Dissimilar	Mean		Mean			Test	
pairs	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	13.43	1.382	14.93	0.254	11.2	4.011	<0.001 HS
Group-B	13.53	1.408	14.70	0.651	8.6	3.477	0.001 Sig

Verbal Retention of	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
Dissimilar pairs	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	1.50	1.306	1.096	0.273
Group-B	1.17	1.315		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 13.43 and after treatment is 14.93. The change in percentage is 11.2 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 13.53 and after treatment is 14.70. The change in percentage 8.6 which is significant.

## 9) Visual retention:

	ВТ		AT		%	Wilcoxon Signed	P
					Improvement	Ranks	
Visual	Mean		Mean			Test	
retention	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	11.77	0.817	12.53	0.681	6.5	4.413	<0.001 HS
Group-B	11.27	0.828	12.07	0.785	7.1	4.347	<0.001 HS

Visual retention	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	0.77	0.568	0.181	0.857
Group-B	0.80	0.610		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 11.77 and after treatment is 12.53. The change in percentage is 6.5 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 11.27 and after treatment is 12.07. The change in percentage is 7.1 which is highly significant.

## 10) Recognition:

						Wilcoxon	
	BT		AT		%	Signed	P
Recognition	Mean	Sd	Mean	Sd	Improvement	Ranks	



	score		score			Test	
						Z	
Group-A	8.87	0.900	9.57	0.626	7.9	4.379	<0.001 HS
Group-B	8.47	0.860	9.23	0.568	9.0	4.300	<0.001 HS

Recognition	Mean difference	Sd	Mann-	P
	score		Whitney Z	
Group-A	0.70	0.535	0.182	0.856
Group-B	0.77	0.679		

Group A: Mean score before treatment is 8.87 and after treatment is 9.57. The change in percentage is 7.9 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 8.47 and after treatment is 9.23. The change in percentage is 9.0 which is highly significant.

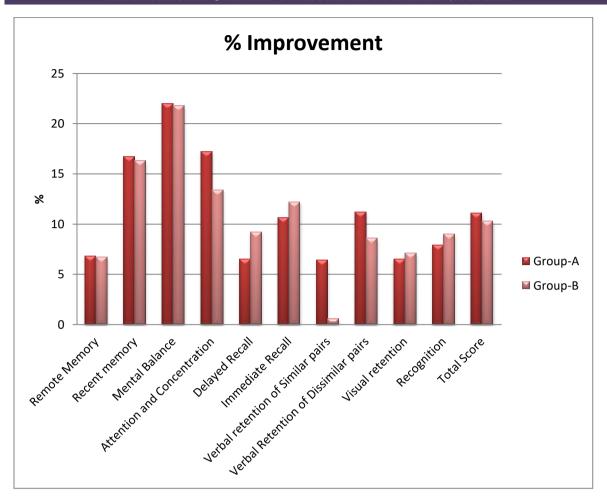
11) Change in Memory (Total score):

	ВТ		AT		%	Wilcoxon Signed	P
					Improvement	Ranks	
	Mean		Mean			Test	
Total score	score	Sd	score	Sd		Z	
Group-A	90.13	6.367	100.13	4.890	11.1	4.795	<0.001 HS
Group-B	86.77	3.256	95.67	2.631	10.3	4.797	<0.001 HS

Total score	Mean difference score	Sd	Mann- Whitney Z	P
Group-A	10.00	2.491	1.872	0.061
Group-B	8.90	2.218		

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roup A: Mean score before treatment is 90.13 and after treatment is 100.13. The change in percentage is 11.1 which is highly significant.

Group B: Mean score before treatment is 86.77 and after treatment is 95.67. The change in percentage is 10.3 which is highly significant.

12) Memory overall test scores:

<b>Sub-tests</b>	% Improvement	
	Group-A	Group-B
Remote Memory	6.8	6.7
Recent memory	16.7	16.3
Mental Balance	22.0	21.8
<b>Attention and Concentration</b>	17.2	13.4
Delayed Recall	6.5	9.2
Immediate Recall	10.6	12.2
Verbal retention of Similar pairs	6.4	0.6
Verbal Retention of Dissimilar pairs	11.2	8.6



Visual retention	6.5	7.1
Recognition	7.9	9.0
<b>Total Score</b>	11.1	10.3

13) Overall effect (Comparative effect between Group A and Group B):

Te) e vermi erret (comparative erret				
Overall Effect	No. of cases			
	Group-A	Group-B		
No change (<25%)	30	30		
Mild change (25% – 49.9%)				
Moderate change (50% -74.9%)				
Good change (75% +)				

Comparatively, with statistical analysis, overall memory effect between group A and group B is not significant.

#### **Result:**

Based on observations made in the clinical study, the following conclusions can be drawn.

- Both Kushmanda ghrita and Yashti ghrita pratimarsha nasya individually shows highly significant result in Remote memory, Recent memory, Mental balance, Attention and concentration, Delayed recall, Immediate recall, Visual retention, Recognition and overall memory score.
- Kushmanda pratimarsha ghrita nasya shows significant result in verbal retention of similar pairs and highly significant result in verbal retention of dissimilar pairs.
- Yashti ghrita pratimarsha nasya shows significant result in verbal retention of dissimilar pairs and non significant result in verbal retention of similar pairs.

- Comparatively, Kushmanda ghrita pratimarsha nasya and Yashti ghrita pratimarsha nasya shows significant results in attention and concentration and verbal retention of similar pairs. Hence Kushmanda ghrita pratimarsha nasya boosts these sections of memory compare to Yashti ghrita.
- Apart from memory changes, majority of volunteers also notified general feeling of refreshment, loss or decreased hair fall and diminish greying of hair.
- Finally, to conclude this study, according to overall effect on memory, statistically no significant result was found, that is Pratimarsha nasya of both Kushmanda ghrita and Yashti ghrita are equally effective as memory booster.

#### Discussion:

Present lifestyle of youth as well as other age groups, with lack of exercising and insufficient physical work increase in luxurious settlement along with increasing stressful life with



competitive world is affecting psychological health of humans. This is impacting cognitive function, in this context hampering memory. Preventive as well as curative measures should be taken to tackle this before such stage of forgetfulness leads to grave diseases like dementia.

Panchakarma therapy of Ayurveda is bio purification method to remove and balance vitiated doshas to prevent and treat diseases. Nasya is one panchakarma therapy which deals with head and neck related disorders. Hence in this study Pratimarsha nasya is used, for memory enhancement, which can be given daily to patients for longer duration without any ill effects owing to its small dosage. Due to medhya properties of Kushmanda and Yashti, these drugs along with Go ghrita were used. Action of Snehana Nasya karma it could be hypothesized that it acts on local as well as on systemic levels by the direct contact with the nerve terminals by uptake of the drugs through nasal mucosa. Nasya dravya reaches the Shringataka marma of head which is Sira Marma and formed by the Sira of Nasa, Akshi, Kantha and Shrotra. The drug spread by the same route and removes vitiated dosha of Urdhwajatru is head and neck region, and that excretes them. In this context, Sushruta clarified that Shringataka marma is a Sira marma formed by the union of Sira supplying to nose, ear, eyes and tongue. Therefore drugs can enter in above mentioned Sira, which is administered in nasal route and pacify the Doshas.

## **Conclusions:**

Kushmanda ghrita and Yashti ghrita pratimarsha nasya are equally effective as memory booster.

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