



## Ayurvedic Concept of Vega of Visha - A Review Article

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### ABSTRACT

*Ayurveda Samhita* describes various types of *Visha* such as *Sthavara Visha* (Inanimate poison), *Jangama Visha* (Animate poison) and *Kritima Visha*. These types of *Visha*, when it enters into the body, it passes through the different *Dhatu*s and give rise to different stages of *Vega* in the body and according to these *Vegas*, different types of signs and symptoms appear on the body. The main aim of this review article is to compile and evaluate the concept of *Visha Vega* and their sign & symptoms. All the descriptions of *Visha Vega* mentioned in different Ayurvedic texts were critically analyzed and discussed to check their relation. After analysis, it is observed that all the symptoms which appear during entering of the *Visha* are mainly due to their *Vegas*. As gradually stages of *Vega* progresses, their signs and symptoms gradually become more severe. After critically analyzed it is concluded that if we diagnosed the different *Vegas* of *Visha* at the right time, we could treat those patients better.



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### INTRODUCTION

'Agada Tantra' is one among the *Astanga Ayurveda*, which describes the origin and types of *Visha*, its sign and symptoms and management (Srikantha, 2017).

*Visha* has been classified mainly into two kinds- *Sthavara Visha* (Inanimate) and *Jangama Visha* (Animate Poison). The sources of *Sthavara Visha* are ten, while sources of *Jangama Visha* are sixteen in number (Singhal, 2007b).

Roots, leaves, fruits, flowers, barks, sap, pith, gum, tubers (all these plants) and *dhatu*s (minerals) are

the ten receptacles of *Sthavara Visha* (G. D. Singhal, 2007). The sources of *Jangama Visha* are- sight, breathe, teeth, nails, urine, stool, semen, saliva, menstrual blood, bristles, flatus, bones, bile, sting and dead body (Singhal, 2007a).

*Visha Vega* is made up of two words- *Visha* and *Vega*. *Visha* means the substance which causes vitiation of the *rasadi dhatu*s, in turn hampering the health or life of a person is termed as *Visha*.

The literally meaning of *Vega* is impulse, speed, velocity, circulation, effect etc. So the meaning of *Visha Vega* is impulse or circulation or effect of the poison (Vishavega, 2021).

### *Visha Vega*

The *Visha* after entering into the body passes from one *kala* to another *kala* which are located in between the *dhatu*s and thus gives rise to the different stages of *Vega* that is described in *Sharira Sthana* of *Sushruta Samhita* (Bhat and Shobha, 2018).

*Acharya Sushruta* has described about the *kala* and said that there are seven *kalas* which are located between the seven *dhatu*s such as *Rasa*, *Rakta*, *Mansa*, *Meda*, *Asthi*, *Mazza*, *Shukra*. It means that *kala* is a septal membrane that is located between the *dhatu*s (Tissues) and *Ashayas* (hollow organs) (Murthy K.R Srikantha, 2017).

**Table 1: Visha Vega of Sthavara Visha in Human beings (According to Charaka)**

Vega	Location	Sign & Symptoms	Treatment
1 <sup>st</sup>	Rasa	Trishna (thirst) Moha (Mental confusion) Dantaharsha (sensitivity in teeth) Prasheka (excessive salivation) Klama (exhaustion) Vamthu (vomiting)	Vamana
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Rakta	Vaivarnya (discolouration of the skin) Bhrama (giddiness) Vepathu (trembling) Murchha (fainting) Jrimbha (yawning) Anga Chimchim (tingling sensation) Tamaka (dyspnoea)	Virechana
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Mansa	Mandal (circular patches) Kandu (itching) Swathu (swelling) Kotha (urticaria)	Ksharagada with honey and water
4 <sup>th</sup>	Vaatadi Dosha	Daha (burning sensation) Chardi (vomiting) Anga shool (body pain) Murcha (fainting)	Gomaya Rasa along with Kapittha, madhu and sarpi.
5 <sup>th</sup>		Neeladinam tamasha darshanam (one sees the objects as blue and the vision becomes dark)	Ashayotanam, Anjan, Nasya with Swarasa of Kakanda and Shirish or with Gopitta, Rajani, Majistha, Maricha & Pippali.
6 <sup>th</sup>		Hikka (hiccup)	Sangya Sthapana
7 <sup>th</sup>		Bhanga Skandha (falling/drooping of shoulders)	Vishapana in case of dransta Visha, Sarpadansha in case of vishapana.
8 <sup>th</sup>		Maran	

**Table 2: Visha Vega of Sthavara Visha into Sushruta Human beings (According to Sushruta)**

Vega	Sign and Symptom	Treatment
1 <sup>st</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bluish discolouration of the tongue with loss of movement</li> <li>• Fainting</li> <li>• Dyspnoea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Vamana</i></li> <li>• <i>Sheetambu Sechana</i></li> <li>• <i>Agada with madhu and sarpi</i></li> </ul>
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shivering</li> <li>• Debility</li> <li>• Burning sensation</li> <li>• Pain in the throat</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Vamana</i></li> <li>• <i>Virechana</i></li> </ul>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain in the heart</li> <li>• Dryness of palate</li> <li>• Severe pain in the stomach</li> <li>• Eyes will have altered colour or green colour associated with swelling</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Agada pana</i></li> <li>• <i>Nasya</i></li> <li>• <i>Anjana</i></li> </ul>
4 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pain in the stomach</li> <li>• Hiccup</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Intestinal gurgling</li> <li>• Feeling of severe heaviness of head</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Sneha</i> mixed with <i>Agada pana</i></li> </ul>
5 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More elimination of <i>kapha</i></li> <li>• Discolouration</li> <li>• Pain in the joints</li> <li>• Aggravation of all doshas</li> <li>• Pain in the large intestine.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Madhu</i> with <i>Madhuka kwath</i></li> </ul>
6 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There will be loss of consciousness</li> <li>• Severe Diarrhea</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Atisara Chikitsa</i></li> <li>• <i>Awapeedak Nasya</i></li> </ul>
7 <sup>th</sup>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cutting pain in the shoulders, back and waist</li> <li>• Cessation of breathing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Kakapada Chikitsa</i></li> <li>• <i>Awapeedak Nasya</i></li> </ul>

As the *Visha* passes from one *kala* to another *kala*, it produces certain signs and symptoms, which are termed as "*Visha Vega*". *Acharya Sushruta* has described about *Visha Vega* in *Sarpadasta Visha Vigyaniya* chapter of *Kalpasthan* and stated that *kala*, which are situated between the *dhatu*s, are seven in number ([Singhal G.D., 2007](#)). When *Visha* crosses these *kalas*, *Visha Vegas* are generated.

### **Vegantara**

The time in which the *Visha* travels from one *kala* to another *kala* breaking the barriers stimulated by *Vata*, is known as *Vegantara* ([Murthy K.R.Srikantha, 2019](#)).

*Acharya Charaka* has described eight *Visha Vegas* which are common to both *Sthavara Visha* and *Jangama Visha* ([Bhat and Shobha, 2018](#)), while *Acharya Sushruta* have described seven *Visha Vegas*. *Acharya Charaka* has also mentioned four *Visha Vegas* for animals and three *Visha Vegas* for birds. Table 1, Table 2, Table 3, Table 4 and Table 5.

### **Sign and Symptoms and Treatment of Visha Vega**

*Visha Vega* of *Sthavara Visha* in Human beings (According to *Charaka*) ([Priyavrat, 2019](#))

### **Visha Vega in Birds and Animals**

The four *Vegas* of *Visha* in animals are as follows, ([Sharma, 2019](#))

**Table 3: Darveekara Sarpa Visha Vega Sign/ Symptoms and Treatment**

Vega	Dhatu	Sign and Symptom	Treatment
1 <sup>st</sup>	Rakta (blood)	-Blackish discolouration of the blood -Black discolouration of the body	-Blood letting
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mamsa (muscles)	-Profound black colour of the body -Edema -Tumors	- Administer <i>Agada</i> (anti poisonous medicine) along with <i>honey &amp; ghee</i> .
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Medas (fat)	- Moistness in the site of bite -Heavyness of the head -Sweating & loss of movements of the eyeballs.	- Anti poisonous <i>nasal</i> medicines and eye salves should be applied.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Stomach & vitiates <i>Kapha dosha</i>	- Drowsiness - More Salivation - Loosing of joints - Expectoration - Vomiting	-Vomiting should be induced & then <i>Yavagu</i> (thick gruel) is given.
5 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Asthi</i> (bone)	-Pain in the joints - Hiccup - Burning sensation	-Cold treatment followed by emetics & purgatives and thick gruels.
6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Majja</i> (marrow)	-heavyness of the body - Fainting - Diarrhoea -Heart pain - Indigestion	-same as above
7 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Shukra</i> (semen)	-Cutting pain in the waist and back. - Loss of all movements - More elimination of saliva & sweat -Obstruction of expiration	- Power <i>avapida</i> (nasal drops of juice of herbs) - <i>Anjana</i> ( eye salves) - <i>Kakapada</i>

1. In the first stage, the animals get depression and giddiness.
2. In the second stage, sign of tremor appears.
3. In the third stage, the animals feel emptiness and stop eating.
4. In the fourth stage, the animal dies due to obstruction in respiration.

#### ***Visha Vega* of *Sthavara Visha* in Human beings (According to *Sushruta*)**

*Acharya Sushruta* has described separate *Visha Vegas* for *Sthavara Visha* and *Jangama Visha*. The signs and symptoms and treatment for *Sthavara Visha* are as follows: ([Srikantha, 2019b](#))

#### ***Visha Vega* of *Jangama Visha* (According to *Sushruta*)**

The three *Vegas* of *Visha* in birds are as follows,

1. In the first stage, the birds get depressed.
2. In the second stage, the birds get giddiness.
3. In the third stage, the bird develops slothness of the limbs resulting in death.

According to *Acharya Sushruta Veganusara* signs and symptoms and treatment for *Jangama Visha* are separately for the three main varieties of poisonous snakes like *Darveekara*, *Mandali* and *Rajiman sarpa*. ([Srikantha, 2019a](#); [Murthy K.R Srikantha, 2019](#)).

**Table 4: Mandali Sarpa Visha Vega Sign/ Symptoms and Treatment**

Vega	Dhatu	Sign & Symptom	Treatment
1 <sup>st</sup>	Rakta (blood)	- Vitiated blood become yellow - Burning sensation -Yellow colouration of the body.	- Similar to <i>darveekara Sarpa</i> .
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mamsa (muscles)	-Excess yellowish discolouration -Excessive burning sensation -Excessive swelling	- Administer <i>Agada</i> (anti poisonous medicine) along with honey & <i>ghee</i> then vomiting should be induced & then thick gruels for a drink.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Medas (fat)	- Loss of movement of the eye - Thirst -Moistness of bite site -Perspiration	- Purification should be done using powerful recipes and then thick gruel.
4 <sup>th</sup>	Kostha (stomach)	- Fever	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Asthi (bone)	-Burning sensation all over the body	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Majja (marrow)	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>	- <i>Peya</i> (thin gruel) prepared from <i>kakolidya gana</i> along with <i>agadas</i> .
7 <sup>th</sup>	Shukra (semen)	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>	-Antipoisonous <i>avapida</i> (nasal drops of juice of drugs) & <i>agada</i> should be used.

**Table 5: Rajimaan Sarpa Visha Vega Sign/ Symptoms and Treatment**

Vega	Dhatu	Sign & Symptom	Treatment
1 <sup>st</sup>	Rakta (blood)	- Vitiated blood become yellowish White colour - Horripilation - Whitish appearance of the body.	- Blood letting should be done first using <i>Alabu</i> (gould) and then <i>agada</i> mixed with honey and <i>ghee</i> administered.
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Mamsa (muscles)	-Profound yellowish-white colour of the body - Lassitude - Oedema of the face - Extreme heaviness of the body	- Vomiting should be induced and then anti poisonous reipes was given.
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Medas (fat)	- Loss of movement of the eye - Thirst -Moistness of bite site -Perspiration - Exudation from the nose and the eyes	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Kostha (stomach)	- Stiffness of the neck - Heaviness of the head	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>
5 <sup>th</sup>	Asthi (bone)	-Loss of speech -Fever with chills	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Majja (marrow)	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>	-Very strong <i>Anjana</i> (eyeslave) should be given.
7 <sup>th</sup>	Shukra (semen)	Similar to <i>Darveekara Sarpa</i>	- <i>Avapida</i> (nasal drops) are used.

## CONCLUSION

This study can be concluded that *Acharya Charaka* and *Acharya Sushruta* has described various stages of *Visha Vega* in *Sthavara Visha* and *Jangama Visha*. The specific sign and symptoms appeared during the specific *Vega* of *Visha*. On the basis of these *Veganusara* signs and symptoms, different types of treatment procedures are done like Blood letting, *Vamana*, *Virechana*, *Awapida Nasya*, administration of different *agadas* and much more procedures are done. So these treatment modules are very important for the treatment of *Visha*, and it can only be done to judge them *Veganusara* signs and symptoms. So there is a need to do more scientific studies on *Vega* of *Visha* and their treatment module.

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## Conflict of Interest

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