

Comparative analysis of traditional *Ayurveda* concepts with modern perspectives on health and management of elephants

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Ayurveda, the ancient Indian medical system, acknowledges the significance of elephants, as evident in its detailed accounts. It is crucial to bridge the gap between ancient wisdom and modern practices in elephant management, especially in integrating traditional knowledge within the one health framework to enhance elephant well-being and ensure environmental sustainability. Through interdisciplinary analysis, this research aimed to integrate traditional *Ayurveda* concepts of elephant health with modern One Health framework, emphasizing the interconnectedness among human, animal, and environmental health. The objective was to compare traditional *Ayurveda* knowledge with modern perspectives, specifically meticulous review, and analysis of insights from ancient *Ayurveda* texts attributed to the sage *Palakapya* like *Gajashastra* and *Hasthayurveda* in the context of contemporary understandings of elephant health and management. For this study, data was collected comprehensively encompassing both thorough review and analysis of the ancient *Ayurveda* texts alongside an examination of modern literature and approaches, including relevant books and research articles. Through a combined approach, this study has uncovered valuable insights into elephant health and management. It delved into the comprehensive guides provided by *Gajashastra*, which focused on elephant well-being, and the detailed coverage of anatomical and physiological aspects, diseases, and treatments found in *Hasthayurveda*. These texts revealed *Ayurveda's* holistic approach to animal health, extending beyond human health to encompass all living beings. Furthermore, comparing traditional *Ayurveda* knowledge with modern perspectives within the one health framework has highlighted the interconnectedness among human, animal, and environmental health. These findings can inform holistic elephant conservation strategies, promoting ecosystem sustainability and harmonious coexistence between humans and wildlife.

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