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COMPARATIVE STUDY OF NOMENCLATURE OF EYE DISEASES IN SRI LANKAN TRADITIONAL MEDICINE AND AUTHENTIC AYURVEDA TEXTS: A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS

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Traditional medical systems in Sri Lanka and classical Ayurveda offer comprehensive approaches to ocular diseases, developed over centuries. Despite their shared South Asian heritage, comparative analyses of their disease nomenclature remain limited. This study investigates the similarities and divergences in the classification and naming of eye diseases across both systems to enhance integrative ophthalmic knowledge and practice. In this study compare the nomenclature and classification of ocular diseases in Sri Lankan traditional medicine and Ayurveda; to examine their alignment with *Tridosha* theory; and to identify unique regional distinctions. A qualitative textual analysis was conducted on classical Ayurvedic texts Sushruta Samhita, Madhava Nidana, and Ashtanga Hridaya Samhita and Sri Lankan traditional manuscripts, notably the *Kandha Vaidya Grantha*. Diseases were analyzed based on naming conventions, symptomatology, etiology, and *Doshic* correlations. A comparative matrix was developed to synthesize findings. Thirty-six ocular disease terms were identified as common across both systems, though notable differences emerged in sub-classification, symptom emphasis, and *Doshic* attribution. For instance, *Abhishyanda* (conjunctivitis) appears in both, yet some unique terms appeared only in Sri Lankan sources. These findings reveal differing diagnostic priorities Ayurveda emphasizes systemic *Doshic* theory, while Sri Lankan medicine adopts a more symptom-oriented approach. Integration of both frameworks could enhance culturally relevant, holistic eye care, particularly in resource-limited settings. Combining insights from both systems may significantly improve eye disease treatment. This study underscores the importance of preserving and integrating these traditional systems to enhance holistic approaches to eye care. Furthermore, it supports the development of a unified framework for the ophthalmology practices, leveraging the strengths of both rich medical traditions.

Keywords: Ayurveda, *Kandha Vaidya Grantha, Akshi roga*, Traditional medicine, Nomenclature