

PREPARATION AND ANALYSIS OF *SHVITRA LEPA*

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Leucoderma or vitiligo, is a skin condition in which gradual loss of pigmentation results in white patches. The disease is non-life-threatening and does not present serious adverse effects. It is termed *Shvitra* in Ayurveda and can be treated internally and externally. This study aimed to analyze the pharmacological properties of ingredients of *Shvitra lepa* (SL) and to prepare and analyze SL, a traditional herbal formulation used externally for treating *Shvitra*. This is explained in *Malahara kalpana* in Ayurveda. The formulation was done according to the Ayurveda Pharmacopoeia. The active ingredients of SL were herbal and mineral components like *Bakuchi* (*Psoralea corylifolia* L. Medik.), *Krushna thila* (*Sesamum indicum* L.), *Pippali* (*Piper longum* L.), *Laksha* (*Laccifer lacca* Kerr.), *Wawel* (*Calamus monoecus* Roxb.), *Kakoudumbara* (*Ficus hispida* L.f.), *Rasanjana* and *Lauha churna*. Cow's urine served as the grinding medium. The final product was subjected to organoleptic analysis, phytochemical screening, and chromatographic (TLC and HPTLC) analysis. The methanol extract of SL was obtained via cold extraction method. The developed chromatogram (Ethyl Acetate: Methanol: Water 5:4:1) was scanned using an HPTLC scanner. Ingredients of SL was mainly having *Katu rasa*, *Laghu* and *Ruksha guna*, *Ushna virya* and *Katu vipaka*. SL appeared dark red in color with a soft texture and characteristic odour. The methanol extract of SL was positive for flavonoids, alkaloids, saponins, tannins, phenols, and terpenoids, which are associated with skin regeneration and pigmentation. The HPTLC fingerprint showed 07 distinct peaks. The final product had a slightly acidic pH. Pharmacological properties of the ingredients confirm its effectiveness in treating *Shvitra*. Analytical findings also exhibited that SL contains many bioactive compounds, which can act as effective external treatment for depigmented skin diseases.

Keywords: Ayurveda, *Shvitra*, Vitiligo, *Malahara kalpana*, *Shvitra lepa*