



# PINAK

## the Ayurvedic Antivenin

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**S**nakebite is the most important killing accident. It is worldwide problem. It is more predominant in hilly and wild areas, though snakebite cases are seen in all districts. Snakes do not bite on their own unless they are frightened or disturbed purposefully or inadvertently. It still remains a fairly common melody in farmers, trekkers, hill climbers etc. in rural area. Snakes are our friends, especially of farmers. Snakes are rat eaters who in turn eat valuable lot of food grains. They usually bite in self-defence. Only Cobra, Viper and Krait are generally poisonous in India. Rest are non-poisonous. Treatment in snakebite cases varies from place to place and from doctor to doctor. Injection Anti-Snake Venom is used all over

developed western countries monovalent ASV is used. In India polyvalent ASV is used. Injection ASV is derived from animal origin. Hence many times reactions are seen to it. Sometimes they are fatal also; and hence ASV is used only after testing by experienced hands. The doctors are also scared to use it at peripheral remote places. In India, some hospitals give 1-2 ASVs to every snakebite patient without seeing the toxicity. Hence we were in search of a safe, oral medicine which can be given by layman also. And we found Pinak.

In some places people rely on traditional remedies such as neem tree juice. Reaction of relatives after the death of the victim also makes the doctor panicky while treating the patient. Hence the treatment strategies vary.

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Prognosis of the snakebite patient is always in the hands of relatives, doctor, place where he is treated and patient himself.

Even today many die of snakebite, some on the way to hospital, some due to severe reaction, some due to reaching late at the hospital, some which are resistant to ASV. Hence it continues to draw the interest and efforts of the workers in this field.

Through this study proved poisonous snake bite cases have been studied with the use of Ayurvedic 'PINAK' and KAPIS as an Adjuvant. It included study of signs, symptoms, investigations, various modes of treatment, of course the meticulous observation.

#### MATERIALS & METHODS:

Study was carried in S.S.Venutai Y. Chavan sub-district Hospital, Karad over a period of 42 months years from July 2002 onwards. Study was also carried out in Shri V. Joshi Charities Trust B.K.L.W. Hospital Derwan from April 2005 onwards. Study was carried out in Shree Hospital and Siddhivinayak Hospital, Karad from May 2005 onwards.

Total number of cases studied is 75.

#### SNAKE BITE CASES

Name: Age: Sex:

OPD No: IPD No:

Address:

DOA: DOD:

#### COMPLAINTS:

1. Pain in affected site:
2. Giddiness:
3. Difficulty in respiration:
4. Difficulty in swallowing:
5. Sweating:
6. Thurst:
7. Bleeding: Local/general:

#### PHISICAL EXAMINATION:

1. Pulse:
2. B.P.:

#### SYSTEMIC EXAMINATION:

1. Signs of neuroparalysis:
  - Ptosis
  - Dysphasia
  - Disarthria
  - Respiratory paralysis
  - Muscle paralysis
2. Signs of bleeding:
  - Local bleeding
  - Heamaturia
  - Gum bleeding
  - Generalized bleeding
3. Local Examination
  - Swelling of the site
  - Blebs at the site
  - Discoloration at the site
  - Bite mark
  - First Aid
  - Tourniquet:

#### INVESTIGATIONS:

- CBC
- BT & CT
- Blood grouping & cross matching
- BUN, electrolytes, creatinine
- Urinalysis
- X-ray chest sos & Local radiograph sos

#### TREATMENT:

- Resuscitation:
- Release of tourniquet:
- Injection ASV:
- First Aid:
- Tab **Pinak**:
- Surgical treatment: Puncture of blebs/Fasciotomy/Amputation

#### FOLLOW-UP:

#### (C) CLINICAL DATA:-

The following observations have been made on the clinical data collected data of 75 cases of Snake Bite.

#### 1) AGE:

Maximum number of cases were in age group 31- 40 years (22 cases, out of 75).

Our youngest patient was a girl of 2.5 years and oldest patient of the age 65 years.

#### Table No. I

Table showing age distribution.

Age group in years	No. of patients	%
0-10	03	04
11-20	21	28
21-30	10	13.33
31-40	22	29.33
41-50	13	17.33
Above 50	06	08
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 2) SEX:

Regarding sex distribution Male : Female ratio observed is 49:26.

#### Table No. II

Table showing sex distribution

Sex	No. of patients	%
Male	49	65.33
Female	26	34.66
<b>T O T A L</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>

**Table No. III**

Table showing distribution according to Religion.

Religion	No. of patients	%
Hindu	72	96
Muslim	01	01.33
Other	02	02.66
T O T A L	75	100

**3) SYMPTOMATOLOGY:****Table No. IV**

Table showing distribution of symptoms.

Complaints	No. of cases	%
a) Type of snake		
Snake	61	81.33
Others	14	18.33
b) Site of bite		
Rt. Lower extremity	25	33.33
Lt. Lower extremity	18	24
Rt. Upper extremity	13	17.33
Lt. Upper extremity	14	18.66
Other including unknown	05	06.33
c) Local Swelling	59	78.66
d) Local Pain	59	78.66
e) Bleeding	22	29.33
f) Signs of paralysis		
Dyspnoea		
Dysphagia		
Drooping of eyelids	16	21.33
Weakness in limbs		
g) General Symptoms		
Giddiness	16	21.33
Nausea	29	38.66
Vomiting	29	38.66
Pain in abdomen	29	38.66

16 of cases showed the symptoms of neurotoxicity. 29 cases showed the symptoms of vasculotoxicity. 30 cases showed the symptoms of local toxicity of hyaluronidase and other lesser toxins.

29+16 of cases showed the general symptoms suggesting Envenomation.

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**Table No. V**

Table showing time of arrival of patients.

Arrival	No. of cases	%
Arrival within 2 hours	24	32
Arrival after 2 hours	51	68
T O T A L	75	100

24 cases arrived within two hour. 51 cases arrived after two hour.

**Table No. VI**

Table showing ligature application.

Ligature	No. of cases	%
Ligature tied	46	61.33
Ligature not tied	5	06.66
Ligature tied not known	24	32
TOTAL	75	100

46 of 75 cases had ligature in place tied immediately. All of 46

cases had ligature tied tightly to obstruct the arterial blood flow.

5 of 75 cases did not tie the ligature.

**Table No. VII**

Table showing first aid incision.

Incision	No. of cases	%
Incision taken immediately	01	01.33
Incision not taken	74	98.66
TOTAL	75	100

Only 1 of 75 cases had first aid incision taken immediately and 74 of 75 cases had not taken incision.