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Documentation and Analysis of *Anjanam* (Medicated Eye Salve) Preparations for *Vida Nilai* (Toxic States) in Classical Siddha Literature: A Review

Dr. Visakh K Raj[1], Dr. Sowmini Preetha K[2], Dr. G Chenthamarai Selvi[3], Dr. S Balamani[4]

[1]PG Scholar (III year), Department of Nanju Maruthuvam, Government Siddha Medical College & Hospital, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu, India.
[2]PG Scholar (III year), Department of Nanju Maruthuvam, Government Siddha Medical College & Hospital, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu, India.
[3]Assistant Professor, Department of Nanju Maruthuvam, Government Siddha Medical College & Hospital, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu, India.
[4]Associate Professor, Department of Nanju Maruthuvam, Government Siddha Medical College & Hospital, Palayamkottai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Corresponding Author: Dr. Visakh K Raj

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ABSTRACT

The Siddha system of medicine is one of the ancient traditional medical systems of India, with Siddha Toxicology (*Vida Vaidyam*) constituting a specialised branch that addresses the nature of toxins, their effects on the human body, fatal dose, fatal period, and corresponding therapeutic interventions. Siddha literature describes both internal and external treatment modalities for managing toxic states caused by plant, mineral, and animal biotoxins. *Anjanam* (medicated eye salve), one of the 32 external therapies mentioned in classical Siddha texts, is traditionally indicated in various disease conditions, including poisoning.

The present study aimed to compile and analyse Anjanam preparations prescribed for different *Vida nilaigal* (toxic states) as documented in selected classical Siddha literatures. Relevant formulations were collected, tabulated, and reviewed with respect to their indications, composition, and frequency of citation. Herbal, Herbo-mineral, and Mineral preparations were identified. Repeated formulations across multiple texts were documented, and commonly used solvents, plants, metals, minerals, and frequently indicated toxic conditions such as snake bite, scorpion sting, rat bite, and dog bite were analysed.

This review provides a consolidated reference on Anjanam therapy in Siddha toxicology and may serve as a foundation for future experimental and clinical studies.

Keywords: Anjanam; Siddha Toxicology; Vida Nilai; External Therapy; Classical Siddha Literature

INTRODUCTION

The Siddha system of medicine is one of the most ancient traditional medical systems of India, deeply rooted in the knowledge imparted by the Siddhars—enlightened sages who attained excellence in medicine, alchemy, and spiritual sciences. The term *Siddha* signifies accomplishment or perfection, reflecting the Siddhars' profound understanding of health, disease, and therapeutics. Among the many specific branches of this system, Siddha Toxicology (*Nanju Maruthuvam*) occupies a significant

position, addressing various toxic conditions described collectively as *Vida nilai*.

Siddha Toxicology encompasses the identification of toxic substances, their sources, mechanisms of action, clinical manifestations, and appropriate therapeutic interventions. Classical Siddha texts document a wide spectrum of toxic agents derived from plant, mineral, and animal origins. Management of *Vida nilai* involves both internal (*Agamarunthu*) and external (*Puramarunthu*) therapeutic modalities. External therapies play a crucial role in emergency situations, particularly when the affected individual is unconscious, critically ill, or unable to ingest internal medicines. These therapies are considered rapid in action and are traditionally employed to arrest the progression of toxicity and support vital functions.

Anjanam (also known as *Mai*) is an important external therapeutic procedure in the Siddha system, involving the application of a medicated eye salve along the eyelids and eyelashes. According to *Theraiyar Tharu*, Anjanam is classified as the ninth procedure among the thirty-two external therapeutic methods (*32 Puramaruthuvam*). Traditionally, Anjanam preparations are formulated using lipid bases such as cow's ghee, castor oil, or coconut oil, along with herbal and natural ingredients including *Karisalai* (*Eclipta alba*), *Santhanam* (sandalwood), and *Sirattai* (coconut shell). The application is performed using a specially prepared probe, historically made from metals such as lead, arsenic, or cadmium, reflecting the metallurgical and alchemical practices prevalent during the classical Siddha period.

Classical Siddha literatures describe several Anjanam formulations indicated specifically for different *Vida nilaigal* (toxic states), highlighting their therapeutic relevance in toxicological emergencies. However, these references remain dispersed across multiple classical texts, and a systematic, consolidated review of Anjanam preparations used in Siddha toxicology is currently lacking. This fragmentation poses challenges for academic understanding, standardization, and scientific evaluation of these formulations.

Therefore, the present study aims to conduct a comprehensive literature review of Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations indicated for *Vida nilai* as described in classical Siddha texts. By compiling and critically analyzing these formulations, this review seeks to provide an organized reference for researchers and clinicians, emphasize the role of Anjanam within Siddha toxicological practice, and create a foundation for future pharmacological investigations and clinical studies.

ANJANAM (MEDICATED EYE SALVE):

Mai or Anjanam is defined as a soft external application mostly lined on the eye lashes in smaller quantity to treat eye diseases. Lining of eye lashes is usually performed by a specific probe.

TYPES:

According to the physical nature and administration, it is classified into three types.

- Semisolid in consistency

Dose – Pepper size (120 mg) to be applied on eye lashes directly

- Hard consistence in tablet form to be dissolved in liquids

Dose – Vaividangam size (180 mg) to be applied on eye lashes dissolved in any medium

- Soft fine powder form

Dose – 2 Salagai (60 mg) to be applied on eye lashes after touching a wet probe into the soft fine powder.

MECHANISM OF ACTION

Upon ocular application, Anjanam stimulates sensory receptors of the cornea and conjunctiva, inducing reflex lacrimation. This leads to partial elimination through tear washout and nasolacrimal drainage, while a fraction remains available for absorption.

Absorption occurs via:

- **Cornea (lipophilic drugs – transcellular route)**

- **Conjunctiva (hydrophilic drugs – paracellular route)**

Drug transport mechanisms include passive diffusion, active transport, and endocytosis. Some portion undergoes systemic absorption via the nasolacrimal pathway. Due to ocular barriers, the therapeutic effect is mainly localized to the anterior segment of the eye.

AIM

To document the mentioned Anjanam (Medicated Eye Salve) Preparations for various Vida nilaigal (toxic state) in selected Classical Siddha Literatures.

MATERIALS & METHODS

STUDY DESIGN:

Literature Review

STUDY PERIOD:

4 Months

STUDY SETTING:

Data were collected from Siddha textbooks, Journals, research articles to tabulate the preparation of Anjanam (Medicated Eye Salve) treatment in treating toxic states. The texts were collected from about 11 books from Library of Government Siddha Medical College – Palayamkottai, Library of National Institute – Chennai and Anna Centenary Library of Chennai.

RESULTS

LITERATURES

1. THERAIYAR YAMAHA VENBHA – PART III (1st EDITION – 1997)

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Thuvarai (*Cajanus cajan*), Kollu (*Macrotyloma uniflorum*), Avarai (*Lablab purpureus*), Saamai (*Panicum sumatrense*), Thinai (*Setaria italica*), and *Thriphala*—Kadukkai (*Terminalia chebula*), Nellikkai (*Phyllanthus emblica*), and Thantrikkai (*Terminalia bellirica*)—were deep fried until carbonized and processed into fine ash. Equal quantities of each ash were combined, and cow's ghee, Kumkumapoo (*Crocus sativus*), and Korosanai (ox bile) were added and triturated to obtain a homogeneous medicated eye salve (Anjanam).	All types of poisonous bites	192,193

2. SARABENDIRA VAIDYA MURAIGAL (VISHA ROGA SIGICHAI) [6th EDITION – 2012]

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Puthiraseevi (*Putranjiva roxburghii*) or Kadarpalai (*Argyreia nervosa*) seeds were ground with water, and a *Payaru alavu* was applied ocularly as Anjanam.	All types of Poisonous bites	4
2	Vellai Kuntrimani (*Abrus pulchellus*) was wrapped in Kuppaimeni leaf (*Acalypha indica*), buried for eight days, triturated with Russell's viper flesh, formed into Kuntri-sized pills, shade-dried, ground with water, and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	All types of Poisonous bites	8
3	Equal parts of purified Patharasam (mercury), Kanthagam (sulphur), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), Indhuppu (rock salt), Azhinjil seed (*Alangium salvifolium*), Pachonthi bile, Pachai paambu, peacock bile, Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), and Pavazhakuntri ilai (*Abrus precatorius*) were triturated with Garudan egg white, formed into elongated pills, ground with water, and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	All types of poisonous bites	15
4	Vellai Poondu (*Allium sativum*), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), and Uppu (salt) were triturated with water, shaped into Milagu-sized pills, and shade-dried.	Viriyan (Russel viper) snake bite	23,24
5	**Thel kadikku kuntri Anjanam** Vellai Kuntrimani ver (*Abrus pulchellus*) was ground with child's urine and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Scorpion sting	81,82

6	Equal parts of root of Vilvam (*Aegle marmelos*), Perungayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), Vellai Poondu (*Allium sativum*), Kadugu (*Brassica juncea*), and Naaivittai (dog excreta) were triturated with child's urine, formed into pills, and ground with *Vilva ilai* juice (*Aegle marmelos*) for ocular application as Anjanam.	Snake bite	162,163
7	Kuppaimeni thol (*Acalypha indica*, 2 *Kazhanju*), Vendhayam (*Trigonella foenum-graecum*, 2 *Kazhanju*), purified copper powder (1 *Kazhanju*), purified copper sulphate (½ *Kazhanju*), and purified zinc sulphate (½ *Kazhanju*) were triturated with *Puli ilai* juice (*Tamarindus indica*) for one day and formed into pills. For poisonous bites, the pill was ground with *Saaranai* juice (*Trianthema portulacastrum*) and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Poisonous snake bite	164,165
8	Kukkil (*Shorea robusta*), purified Thurusu (copper sulphate), and purified Thuththam (zinc sulphate) were triturated with *Peithumbai* juice (*Anisomeles malabarica*), formed into pills, and shade-dried. For poisonous bites, the pill was re-triturated with *Peithumbai* juice and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	All types of Poisonous bites	166
9	Vellai Milagu (*Piper nigrum*) was soaked in *Vaagai poo* juice (*Albizia lebbeck*) for seven days, triturated with water, and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Poisonous Snake Bite	172,173
10	Peeled Chukku (dried ginger) was enclosed within *Sathurakkalli* wood (*Euphorbia antiquorum*) for 10 days, then triturated with mother's milk and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Poisonous Snake Bite	174,175
11	Equal quantities (1 *Varaganadai* each) of Chukku (*Zingiber officinale*), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), Thippili (*Piper longum*), Vasambu (*Acorus calamus*), Indhuppu (rock salt), Kothalan kai, Vengayam (*Allium cepa*), and Samuthirapazham (*Barringtonia racemosa*) were powdered and triturated with lemon juice, formed into elongated pills, and shade-dried. The pill was ground with water and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	All types of Poisonous bites	202
12	Take Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), purified Aritharam (yellow arsenic), purified Patharasam (mercury), fried Induppu (rock salt), and fried Venkaram (borax) were triturated with *Peipeerkku ilai* juice (*Luffa amarus*) and formed into pills. The pill was ground with water, and a *Payaru alavu* (pea-sized quantity) was applied ocularly as Anjanam	All types of Poisonous bites	3

3. VISHA VAITHIYA SINTHAMANI – Edition 1995

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Equal quantities (1 *Varaganadai* each) of Sootham (mercury), Thuththam (zinc sulphide), Valaparuppu (*Croton tiglium*), Vengayam (*Allium cepa*), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), Neelarengu, and Neelathurusu (copper sulphate) were triturated with *Peipeerkku ilai* juice (*Luffa amarus*), formed into pills, and ground with *Vetrilai* juice (*Piper betle*) or *Peipeerkku ilai* juice for ocular application as Anjanam.	Ashta Naaga muthalaya Visha Janthukkalin Kadi	70
2	Indhuppu (rock salt), Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), Rasam (mercury), and Aritharam (yellow arsenic) were triturated with *Peipeerkku ilai* juice (*Luffa amarus*), formed into pills, ground with *Vetrilai* juice (*Piper betle*), and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	All types of poisonous bites including Ashta naagam	70
3	Equal parts of purified Rasam (mercury), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), Vaalam (*Croton tiglium*), Venkaram (borax), and Thutham (zinc sulphide) were triturated with *Peipeerkku ilai* juice (*Luffa amarus*), formed into pills, shade-dried, ground with saliva, mother's milk, or *Kayyanthakarai* juice (*Eclipta prostata*), and applied ocularly as Anjanam	All types of Poisonous bites	71,72
4	**Sudukaaduvittan gulikai** Equal parts of Naabi (*Aconitum ferox*), Vaalam (*Croton tiglium*), Rasam (mercury), Azhinjil seed (*Alangium salvifolium*), Kayam	All types of Poisonous bites	74,75

	(*Ferula asafoetida*), Peipeerkkan seed (*Luffa amarus*), Koshtam (*Costus speciosus*), and Etti seed (*Strychnos nux-vomica*) were triturated with lemon juice for 3 hours, formed into payaru-sized pills, shade-dried, ground with urine, and applied ocularly as Anjanam.		
5	**Sanjeevi Urundai** Equal quantities of Thurusu (copper sulphate), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), and Milagu (*Piper nigrum*) were combined with Vaalam (*Croton tiglium*) in the sum of the three, soaked in lemon juice for three days, and applied ocularly on the fourth day	All types of poisonous bite	90
6	Juice was extracted from crushed Erukku (*Calotropis gigantea*) leaves and Pugai ilai (*Nicotiana tabacum*).	Snake bite	99

4. VISHA VAIDHYA AARUDA NOOLGAL (2nd EDITION – 2013): KARUDA PANCHATSARA AARUDAM

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Sootham (mercury) was triturated with *Peipeerkku ilai* juice (*Luffa amarus*). Equal parts of Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), Tharam (yellow arsenic), and Venkaram (borax) were similarly triturated with *Peipeerkku ilai* juice, formed into pills, ground with cow's milk, and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Poisonous Snake bite	61
2	Equal parts of Semparunthu bile, Keeri bile, Peipeerkku (*Luffa amarus*), Sangu (conch shell), Singi (lead sulphide), Parangipattai (*Smilax china*), Thikaipoodu (Nanjukodi), and Echchuramooli (*Aristolochia indica*), along with 1 *Kazhanju* each of Thurusu (zinc sulphate), Kaantham (magnetic oxide of iron), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), Rasam (mercury), and Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), were mixed and triturated with Vembu thylam, formed into pills, shade-dried, ground with *Vetrilai* juice (*Piper betle*), and applied ocularly as Anjanam	All types of Poisonous bite	3
3	Equal quantities (1 *Palam* each) of Garudakkal (magnesite), Indhuppu (rock salt), Thurusu (copper sulphate), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), Venkaram (borax), Tharam (yellow arsenic), Murungai seed (*Moringa oleifera*), Chukku (dried ginger), Sootham (mercury), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), Thippili (*Piper longum*), and Kanthagam (sulphur) were triturated with lemon juice, formed into pills, ground with cow's milk, and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Poisonous Snake bite	61
4	Equal parts of Kanthagam (sulphur), Sootham (mercury), Kayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), Magizh seed (*Mimusops elengi*), and Vasambu (*Acorus calamus*) were triturated with *Aadutheendapalai* juice (*Aristolochia bracteolata*) to form karkkam, which was stuffed into the stomach of a Moonjooru (shrew rat), placed in a pot, and buried for eight days. After retrieval, it was ground, formed into pills, triturated with cow's milk, and applied ocularly as Anjanam	Poisonous Snake bite	61
5	Twelve Poovanthipazham (*Sapindus emarginatus*) and equal parts Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*) were triturated with Veppennai, formed into pills, ground with cow's milk, and applied ocularly as Anjanam	Poisonous Snake bite	62
6	Equal parts of Thippili (*Piper longum*), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), and Vaalam (*Croton tiglium*) were triturated with lemon juice, formed into pills, ground with mother's milk, and applied ocularly as Anjanam	Poisonous Snake bite	62
7	Equal parts of Peikumatti seed (*Citrullus colycynthus*), Milagu (*Piper longum*), root of Magizh (*Mimusops elengi*), Thippili (*Piper longum*), and Kuntriparuppu (*Abrus precatorius*) were triturated with donkey's milk, formed into pills, ground with *Kuppaimeni* juice (*Acalypha indica*), and applied ocularly as Anjanam.	Poisonous Snake bite	62

NAAGAR VISHA AARUDAM

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Equal parts of Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), Rasam (mercury), Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*), Magizh seed (*Mimusops elengi*), Peipeerkku seed (*Luffa amarus*), and Thali seed were triturated with lemon juice, formed into pills, and shade-dried.	All types of Poisonous bites.	128

THEVI AARUDAM

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Kanthagam (sulphur), Rasam (mercury), Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), Magizh seed (*Mimusops elengi*), and Vasambu (*Acorus calamus*) were ground together with Peipeerkkin ilai juice (*Luffa amarus*) and Pangampalai juice to form a uniform paste (kalkam). The kalkam was then placed inside the stomach of a Moonjuru (shrew rat) and buried under soil for 8 days. After this period, the mixture was retrieved, finely powdered, and rolled into pills for therapeutic application.	All types of Poisonous bites	172
2	Anjanam was prepared by grinding Thayekontran juice (*Musa paradisiaca*, 1 Kazhanju), Kazhuthai paal (donkey's milk, 1 Kazhanju), Peikumattikani (*Citrullus colocynthis*, 1 Kazhanju), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*, 1 Kazhanju), Magizh root (*Mimusops elengi*, 1 Kazhanju), Kuntri (*Abrus precatorius*, 4 Kazhanju), and Thippili (*Piper longum*, ½ Kazhanju) with Kuppaimeni juice (*Acalypha indica*), forming pills that were subsequently powdered and triturated with mother's milk or lemon juice for ocular application as Anjanam	Poisonous Snake bite	173

SAKTHI AARUDAM

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Nellu Edai Rasam (purified mercury) was finely triturated with the fresh leaf juice of Avuri (*Indigofera tinctoria* Linn.) until a smooth and homogeneous paste was obtained. The prepared formulation was used for external ocular application as **Anjanam** (medicated eye salve).	All types of Poisonous bites	212
2	Indhuppu (rock salt), Thurusu (copper sulphate), Garudakkal (magnesite), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), Anjanakkal (kohl stone), Venkaram (borax), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), Murungai seed (*Moringa oleifera*), Chukku (*Zingiber officinale*), Rasam (purified mercury), Kanthagam (purified sulphur), Sembu (copper), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), Thippili (*Piper longum*), and Sangu (conch shell) were taken in equal quantities (1 *palam* each). Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*) was taken in a quantity of 2 *palam*. All ingredients were powdered, triturated with fresh ginger juice and lemon juice, and rolled into small spherical pellets (mani-shaped pills) as per classical Siddha pharmaceutical procedures	All types of Poisonous bites	218
3	Paranjothi Mai A *Thylam* was prepared using 20 Thai Eesal (winged termites) and ¼ *varaganadai* of Venkaram (borax). Three *kazhanju* of the prepared *Thylam* was used for external ocular application as **Anjanam**	All types of Poisonous bites	218,219
4	Visha Mai Vidathari (*Dichrostachys cinerea*), purified Vellai Padanam (white arsenic), Thurusu (copper sulphate), Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*), Rasam (purified mercury), Kanthagam (purified sulphur), Manosilai (red orpiment), and Veppam Vithu (*Azadirachta indica*) were taken in equal quantities of 2 *kazhanju* each and powdered. The ingredients were triturated with fresh Vellerukkan (*Calotropis procera*) leaf juice for one *saamam* (3 hours)	All types of Poisonous bites	269

	followed by trituration with Vembu Thylam for one *saamam*, until a uniform *Mai* was obtained, which was then stored in *Simizh*.		

MANTHIRA AARUDAM

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Equal quantities of purified Vellai Padanam (white arsenic), Sootham (mercury), Nellikkai Kanthagam (sulphur), Manosilai (red orpiment), Thurusu (copper sulphate), Kayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), Veppam Paruppu (*Azadirachta indica*), and Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*) were taken. The ingredients were triturated with Erukkam paal (*Calotropis gigantea*) for one day, followed by trituration with Veppennai for one day, and stored in *Simizh*. For use, an *Ulunthu alavu* quantity was triturated with fresh Vetrilai (*Piper betle*) leaf juice and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**.	All types of Poisonous bites.	357,358
2	Sootham (purified mercury), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), Neelathurusu (copper sulphate), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), and Venkaram (borax) were taken in equal quantities (*varaganadai* each), triturated with Peipeerkkan (*Luffa amarus*) juice, and made into pills. For use, a *panavidai* quantity was triturated with Vetrilai (*Piper betle*) leaf juice and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**.	All types of Poisonous bites.	382
3	Equal quantities of Indhuppu (rock salt), Sootham (purified mercury), and Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*) were triturated with fresh Peipeerkkan (*Luffa amarus*) juice and rolled into pills. For use, a *panavidai* quantity was triturated with Vetrilai (*Piper betle*) leaf juice and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**	All types of Poisonous bites.	383
4	Equal quantities of Rasam (purified mercury), Vaalam (*Croton tiglium*), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), and Venkaram (borax) were triturated to obtain a liquid extract. This extract was added to boiled Peipeerkkan (*Luffa amarus*) juice and further triturated with urine until a uniform mass was formed and rolled into pills. For application, a pill was triturated with saliva and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**.	All types of Poisonous bites.	383

VISHA VAITHIYA MANTHREEKA ONBATHU AARUDAM -1922

S.NO	PREPARATIONS	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	GARUDA ANJANAM Equal quantities of Indhuppu (rock salt), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), Perunkayam (*Ferula asafoetida*), and Rasam (purified mercury) were triturated with fresh Peipeerkku ilai (*Luffa amarus*) juice and rolled into pills. For use, a pill was triturated with cow's milk and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**	All types of Poisonous bites.	288

5. VISHAKKADI MOOLIGAI MARUTHUVANGAL – 1995

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Equal quantities (1 *kazhanju* each) of Thuththam (zinc sulphate), Thurusu (copper sulphate), Milagu (*Piper nigrum*), and Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*) were soaked in lemon (*Citrus limon*) juice for four days. On the fifth day, the ingredients were triturated with lemon juice and rolled into pea-sized pills. For use, one pill was triturated with water and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**	All types of Poisonous bites.	18
2	Fresh Pugai ilai (*Nicotiana tabacum*) leaves were triturated to obtain juice, which was applied externally to the contralateral eye.	Scorpion, Pooran, Kodukkan	10

6. AGASTHIYAR VAITHIYA KAAVIYAM – 1500 (1st EDITION – 1994)

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	**Amrithakaran Anjanam** Equal quantities of Kukkil (*Shorea robusta*), Thurusu (copper sulphate), Thuththam (zinc sulphate), Elam (*Elettaria cardamomum*), and Lavangapattai (*Cinnamomum verum*) were triturated with Peithumbai (*Anisomeles malabarica*) juice and rolled into pills. An adequate quantity of the prepared formulation was triturated and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**	Veri Naikkadi (Dog bite)	843

7. AGASTHIYAR VAIDHYA PILLAI THAMIZH (1st EDITION – 1998)

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	**Visha mai** Sirupayaru alavu Visha mai taken and is consumed internally and applied on the eyes as Anjanam.	All types of snake bite	163

8. RAVANAR NANJU MURIVU MARUTHUVAM (2021)

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Nallamilagu (*Piper nigrum*, 8 g), Isangu (*Clerodendrum inerme*, 8 g), Vellai Poondu (*Allium sativum*, 50 g), purified Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*, 30 g), Chukku (dried ginger, 5 g), Kadugu (*Brassica juncea*, 2½ g), and Katterumbu (Indian black ant, 1 *kai alavu*) were triturated with the liquid from Naththai (freshwater snail) for five days, rolled into pills, and dried under shade. For application, a pill was triturated with Naththai liquid (*Oosi neer*) or Vetrilai (*Piper betle*) juice and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**	All types of Poisonous bites	107, 108
2	Equal quantities of Anjanakkal (kohl stone), Kadugurokini (*Picrorhiza scrophulariiflora*), Valmilagu (*Piper cubeba*), and Nervalam (*Croton tiglium*) were purified and triturated with mother's milk to obtain a homogeneous *Mai*, which was stored in a container made of Kombu. A *payaru alavu* quantity was taken and applied externally to the eyes as **Anjanam**	Snake bite and other Poisonous bites.	117,118

9. NANJU MARUTHUVAM (1st EDITION -1993)

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Peipeerkkan seeds (*Luffa amarus*) were powdered and triturated with fresh juice of Vetrilai (*Piper betle*) to obtain a paste. The paste was spread on a bronze plate and dried under sunlight, during which an oily extract (Thylam) separated and was collected and stored. For application, a dose approximately equal to the size of a green gram (Payaru alavu) was applied to the eyes as an external preparation.	All types of Poisonous bites	60

10. AATMARATCHAMIRTHAM ENNUM VAITHIYA SARASANGEERAGAM

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	NARATHANKAI KUZHAMBU Narathankai Kuzhambu was triturated with the juice of *Calotropis gigantea* and applied externally to the eyes.	All types of Poisonous bites	522,523

2	Narathankai Kuzhambu was triturated with Thaivelai juice and applied externally to the eyes	Rat bite	522,523

11. SIDDHA SYSTEM OF TOXICOLOGY (1st EDITION – 1993)

S.NO	PREPARATION	TYPES OF POISON	PG.NO
1	Equal quantities (5 g each) of Indhuppu (rock salt), Venkaram (borax), Kanthagam (sulphur), Aritharam (yellow arsenic), Kadugu (Brassica juncea), and Perunkayam (Ferula asafoetida) were finely triturated. Subsequently, 5 g of Valai Rasam (mercury) and sufficient ribbed luffa (Luffa spp.) leaf juice were added and ground to obtain a fine, homogeneous paste, which was used for external ocular application.	Snake bite	70

RESULT

A total of 48 Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations were identified and compiled from 11 classical literary sources during the course of the study. The secondary objective was to categorize these formulations based on their composition. Analysis revealed that 34% of the preparations were purely herbal, 60% were Herbo-mineral formulations, and the remaining 6% were mineral-based preparations.

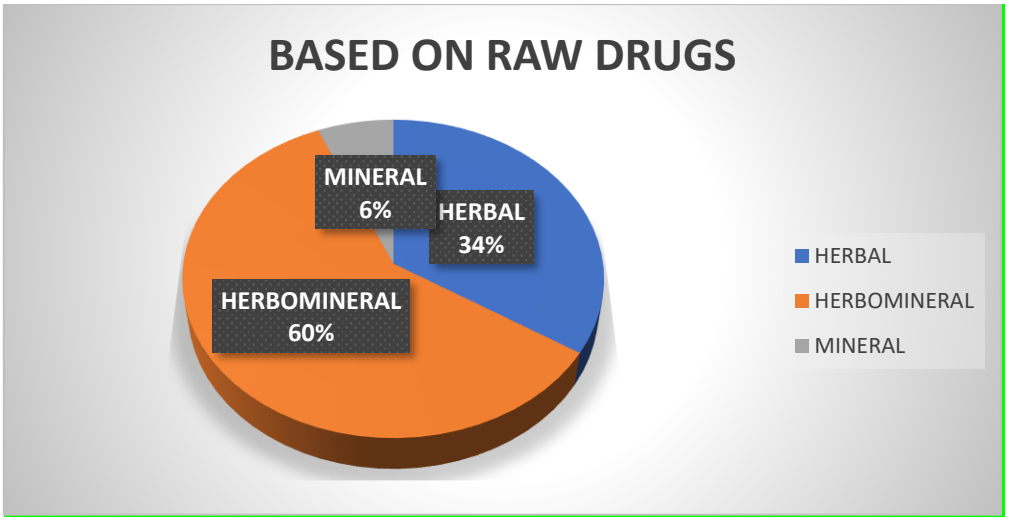

Fig 2. Preparations based on raw drugs.

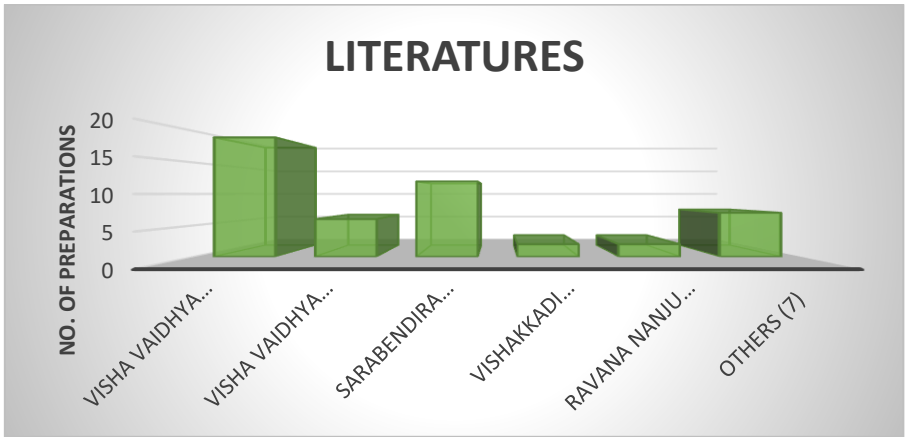

Fig 3. Literatures that have most number of preparations.

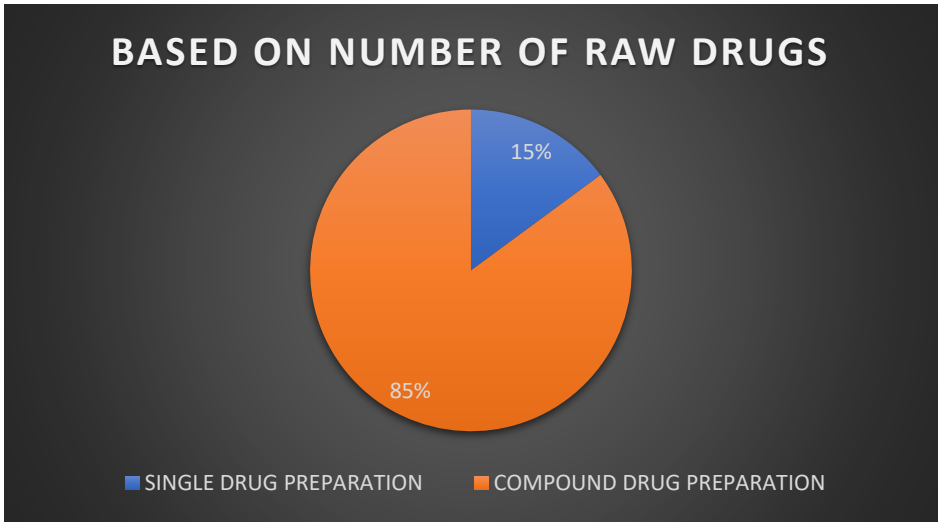

Fig 4. Percentage of Single and Compound drug preparations.

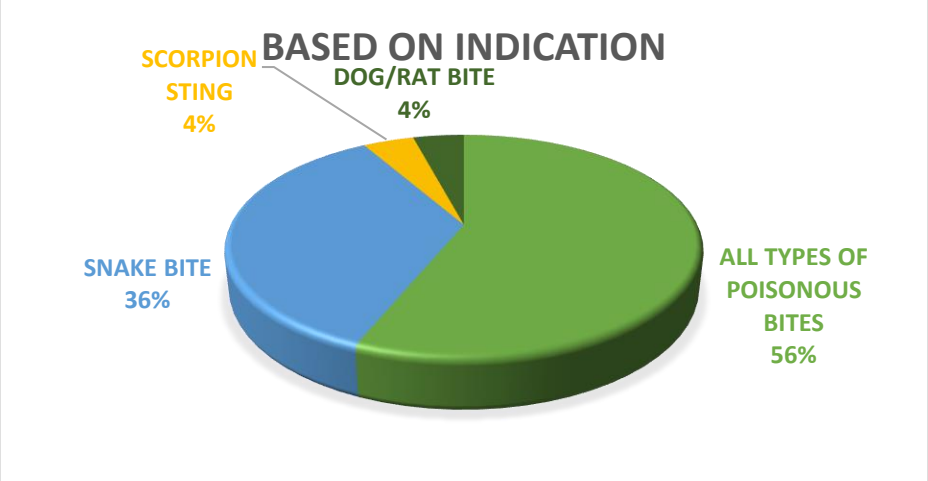

Fig 5. Percentage of frequently mentioned Indication.

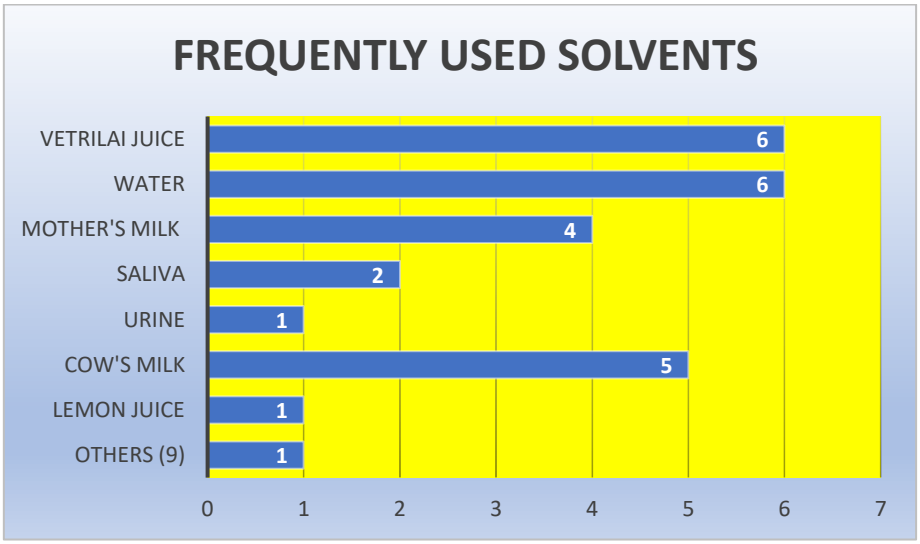

Fig 6. Number of frequently used Solvents.

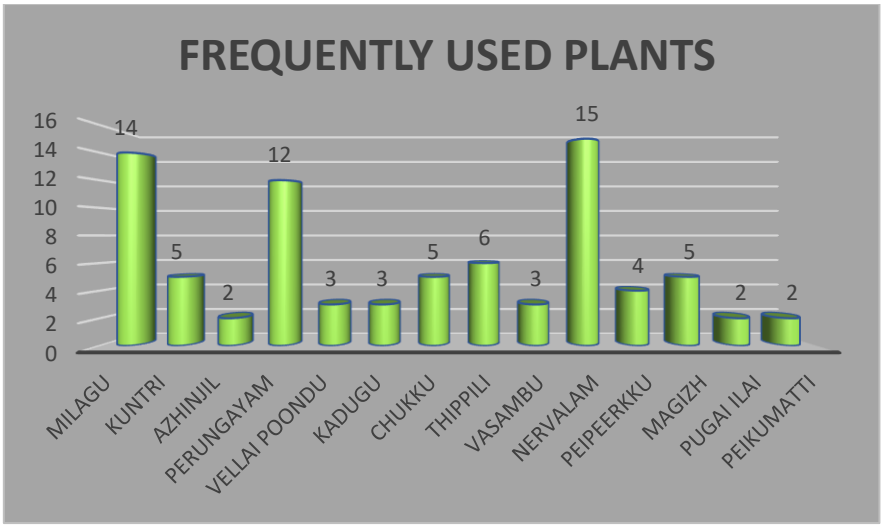

Fig 7. Number of frequently used Plants.

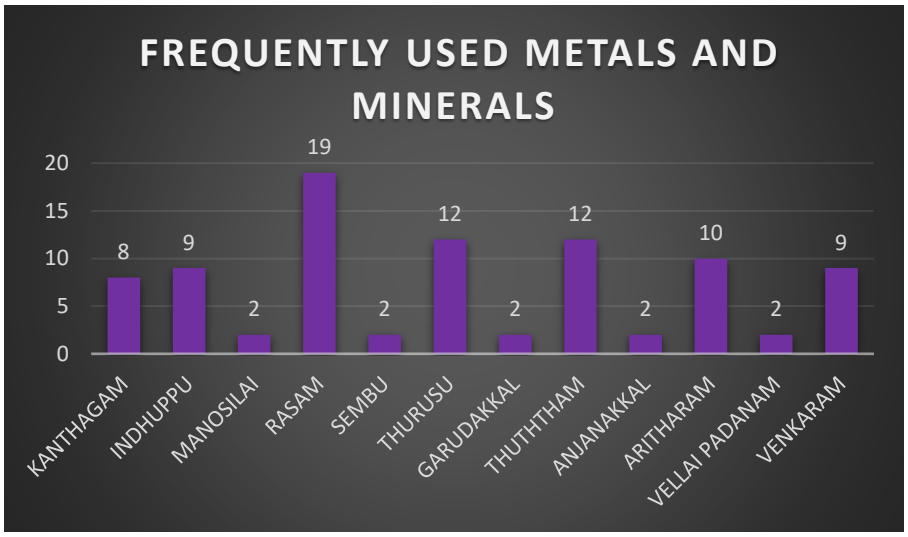

Fig 8. Number of frequently used Metals &Minerals

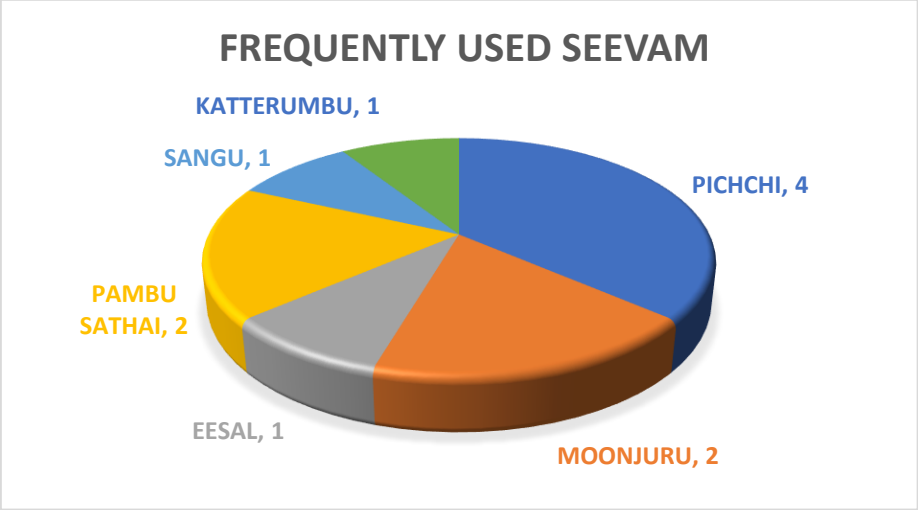

Fig 9. Number of frequently used Seevam

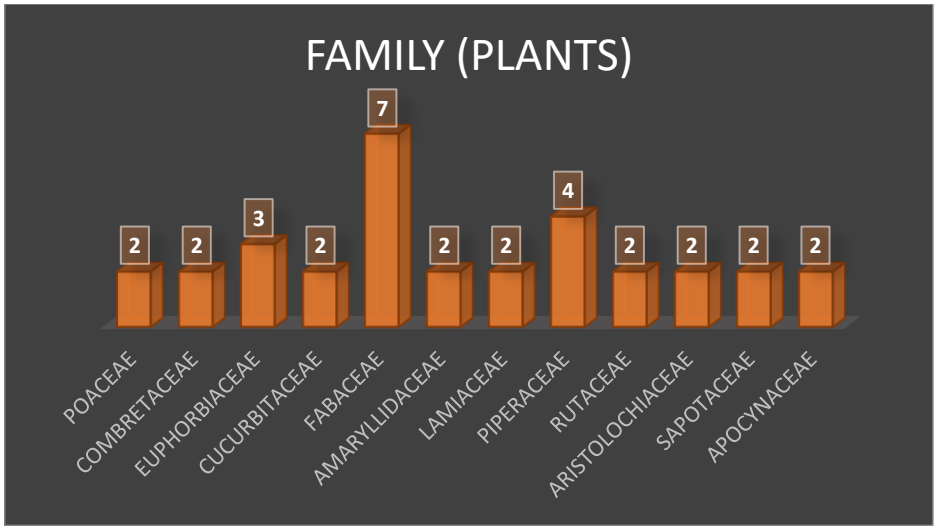

Fig 10. Family from which more number of Plants used.

DISCUSSION

This study enumerates the various Anjanam (medicated eye salve) treatment modalities indicated in Vida Nilai (toxic state), based on a review of classical Siddha literatures available at the GSMC, Palayamkottai, Central Library, Palayamkottai; Anna Centenary Library, Chennai; and the NIS Library, Chennai.

A total of 48 Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations were identified and compiled from 11 classical and contemporary literary sources. The collected formulations were categorized based on their composition. Among these, 34% of the preparations were purely herbal, 60% were herbo-mineral formulations, and the remaining 6% were mineral preparations. This distribution indicates a predominance of herbo-mineral formulations in Anjanam preparations described in the reviewed literatures.

Among the collected formulations, approximately 7 were single-drug preparations and 40 were compound preparations, accounting for about 15% and 85% of the total, respectively. This observation indicates that compound formulations constitute the majority of Anjanam preparations described in the reviewed literatures.

Among the 48 Anjanam preparations analyzed, various solvents were employed for trituration and preparation. The most frequently mentioned solvents were water (n = 6) and *Vetrilai* juice (*Piper betle*) (n = 6), followed by cow's milk (n = 5) and mother's milk (n = 4). Less commonly reported solvents included saliva (n = 2) and human urine (n = 1). This distribution reflects the diverse range of liquid media utilized in the preparation of Anjanam formulations across the reviewed literatures.

Among these, the majority of formulations were documented in *Visha Vaidhya Aaruda Noolgal* (n = 19), followed by *Sarabendira Visha Roga Sigichai* (n = 12) and *Visha Vaidhya Sindhamani* (n = 6). Additionally, *Raavana Nanju Murivu Maruthuvam* (n = 2) and *Visha Kadi Mooligai Maruthuvangal* (n = 2) each contributed two preparations. The remaining seven preparations were obtained from other individual literatures, each contributing one formulation.

Analysis of the therapeutic indications described in the reviewed literatures showed that 56% of the Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations were prescribed for the management of all types of poisons. Furthermore, 34% of the formulations were specifically indicated for snakebite, while 4% were recommended for scorpion sting and another 4% for dog or rat bite.

These findings indicate that a majority of the Anjanam preparations were intended for broad-spectrum use in toxicological conditions, while a considerable proportion were specifically indicated for envenomation, particularly snakebite.

The current review provides; a total of 59 plant species were identified from the listed Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations. Among these, the most frequently used plants were Nervalam (n = 15), Milagu (n = 14), and Perungayam (n = 12). Other commonly used ingredients included Thippili (n = 6), Kuntri (n = 5), Magizh (n = 5), and Chukku (n = 5).

Moderately represented plants were Peipeerku (n = 4), Vellai Poondu (n = 3), Kadugu (n = 3), and Vasambu (n = 3). Less frequently reported ingredients included Pugai Ilai (n = 2), Peikumatti (n = 2), and Azhinjil (n = 2).

These findings indicate that certain medicinal plants are repeatedly employed in Anjanam formulations described in the Siddha toxicological literatures, suggesting their perceived therapeutic importance in the management of toxic conditions.

This review highlights, certain animal-derived substances (seevam) were identified among the listed Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations. These included Pichchi (bile) (n = 4), Moonjuru (shrew rat) (n = 2), and Pambu sathai (snake flesh) (n = 2). Other less frequently reported ingredients were Katterumbu (Indian black ant) (n = 1), Sangu (conch shell) (n = 1), and Eesal (winged white ant) (n = 1).

The presence of these seevam indicates the incorporation of animal-origin materials in certain formulations described in Siddha toxicological literatures, reflecting their traditional therapeutic significance in the preparation of Anjanam.

Evaluation of the mineral and metallic constituents in the compiled Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations demonstrated a prominent inclusion of such ingredients. Rasam was the most frequently reported metal/mineral (n = 19), followed by Thurusu (n = 12) and Thuththam (n = 12). Aritharam was documented in 10 formulations, while Indhuppu (n = 9) and Venkaram (n = 9) were also commonly incorporated. Kanthagam was identified in 8 preparations.

Other comparatively less frequent ingredients included Manosilai (n = 2), Sembu (n = 2), Garudakkal (n = 2), Anjanakkal (n = 2), and Vellai Padanam (n = 2).

The predominance of these metals and minerals reflects the integral role of herbo-mineral and mineral components in Anjanam formulations described in Siddha toxicological literature.

In the present study, the botanical classification of the plants used in the listed Anjanam (medicated eye salve) preparations was analysed. The majority of the plant species belonged to the family Fabaceae (n = 7), followed by Piperaceae (n = 4) and Euphorbiaceae (n = 3).

Several families were represented by two species each, including Poaceae, Combretaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Amaryllidaceae, Lamiaceae, Rutaceae, Aristolochiaceae, Sapotaceae, and Apocynaceae (n = 2 each). In addition, 27 other plant families were represented by one species each.

This distribution demonstrates the wide taxonomic diversity of medicinal plants employed in Anjanam formulations, with a predominance of species from the Fabaceae family in the reviewed literatures.

In the present study, it was observed that many of the plant ingredients used in the Anjanam preparations are commonly available medicinal plants. This widespread availability suggests the practical feasibility of preparing and implementing these formulations in clinical or traditional practice. The use of easily accessible plant materials may have contributed to the continued use and transmission of these preparations in Siddha toxicological therapeutics.

CONCLUSION

The findings of the present study indicate that classical Siddha literatures contain a substantial body of information on Anjanam (medicated eye salve) as a therapeutic modality in the management of toxic states. The compiled formulations demonstrate

considerable diversity in composition, with the use of herbal drugs, metals, minerals, and certain animal-derived substances, reflecting the broad pharmacological approach adopted in Siddha toxicology.

It was also observed that many of the frequently used plants and raw drugs are commonly available and traditionally well known for their antidotal properties, suggesting the feasibility of preparing and utilizing these formulations in practical settings.

Nevertheless, further pharmacological, toxicological, and clinical studies are necessary to scientifically evaluate the safety and efficacy of these Anjanam preparations in the treatment of toxic conditions. Such investigations may contribute to the validation, standardization, and potential integration of these classical formulations into contemporary therapeutic practice.

Declaration by Authors

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