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Review Article

A comparative clinical study on *Vyoshadi Guggulu* and *Bilwadi Kwath* in the management of *Sthoulya*with special reference to physical parameters of Obesity

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Abstract-

Introduction-Obesity is a condition in which the body weight disproportionate to height of a person. And this is due to the deposition of fat over body. Worldwide prevalence of obesity has been got tripled by 1975 to 2016.

Obesity can be correlated with *Sthoulya* as per *Ayurvedic* perspective. As obesity becomes as a threatening condition around worldwide, it is indeed to find out an effective *Ayurvedic* formulation to treat *Sthoulya*.

Aims - The primary aim of this study was toassess and compare the effects of *Vyoshadi Guggulu* and *Bilwadi Kwath* in the management of *Sthoulya* (Obesity) with the help of physical parameters.

Materials and Method-30 obese patients were enrolled who were randomly divided into three groups, 10 obese patients in each group. In Group A,500mgVyoshadi Guggulu was given with

luke warm water twice a day. In Group B 20ml *Bilwadi Kwath* was givenwith *madhu* twice a day and in Group C, *Vyoshadi Guggulu* (500 mg) twice a day with luke warm waterand *Bilwadi Kwath* (20 ml) twice a day with *madhu* was given. Intervention was continued for 45 days with all three groups. Total three visits were done at an interval of 15 days. Assessment was done for reduction in weight (Kg) and Body Mass Index (B.M.I.) of all the subjects who had participated in the study.

Result-In weight, 5.86% relief was found in Group A; 2.54% relief was found in Group B whereas 7.55% relief was obtained in Group C. In BMI, 6.53% relief was found in Group A,3.70% relief was found in Group B while 8.45% relief was obtained in Group C.

Conclusion-Thus it was concluded that administration of *Vyoshadi Guggulu* and *Bilwadi Kwath*together(Group C)has shown better result in reduction of weight (Kg) and B.M.I than the interventions done in Group A and Group B respectively.

Key words-Vyoshadi Guggulu, Bilwadi Kwath, Obesity, Sthoulya.

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda -one of the most ancient medical sciences of the world; advocates a complete promotive, preventive and curative system of medicine. Ayurveda treats the patient as a whole rather than treating his ailment as separate entity. According to Ayurveda, Dosha, Dhatu & Mala are the base of bodyⁱ. So better understanding about knowledge of Dosha, Dhatu and Mala is necessary to familiarise withthe natural physiological processes occurring in our body. The paradigm of Ayurveda treatment therapy is based on principles rooted by Dosha, Dhatu and Mala. Prakruta or basic gunas/qualities of dosha, dhatu and mala and it's normal functioning in our body explained under the branch Kriya sareera. Acharya Charaka described that equal distribution of Mamsa (muscular tissue) and a properly distributed build-up of the body as one of the prime features of healthy bodyii.

At present, we can find that majority of people are not in Sama Samhanana ratio (well distributed body build up). Overweighing & obesity is the chief complaint of the man of present era. Obesity is a chronic disease with high prevalence ratio and serious risk factors where paving way for manifestation of number diseases like diabetes mellitus, hypertension, cardiovascular diseases osteoarthritis, and certain forms of canceriii,iv.

According to World Health Organization, the prevalence of obesity got tripled by 1975 to 2016. It states that obesity is a most alarming condition and majority of group of people suffering from the same. About 13% of the world's adult population were obese in 2016. The double burden of the disease was more observed on lower and middle income countries. Overweight and obesity are linked each other to cause death worldwide^v.

In ancient literature of *Ayurveda*; *Acharya Charaka* has listed eight types of

censurable persons of which *Atikrisha* (very emaciated) and *Atisthula* (very corpulent) are more significant. *Atisthula* or obese person need more attention because it is considered as *Krichchhrasadhya* – as difficult to treat and has more complications than very emaciated person^{vi}.

According to *Ayurveda*, vitiated *Rasa*^{vii} and *Meda*^{viii} *dhatu* are the main cause of *Sthoulya*. Both these *Dhatus* dominantly belong to *Kapha Varga* where *Guru* and *Snigdha Guna* observed dominant in *Sharira Samhanana*. Today's sedentary stressful lifestyle, irregular dietary habits, increased use of fast food and fatty diets are the main cause for obesity. Therefore, overweight is more prone in young population worldwide. These lifestyles increase *Snigdha* and *Guru Guna* in body resulting in obesity and overweight which is considered as *Sthoulya* in *Ayurveda*.

Aim: - The primary aim of this study was to assess and compare the effect of *Vyoshadi Guggulu* and *Bilwadi Kwath* in the management of *Sthoulya* (Obesity) with physical parameters.

Materials and methods: The study was open label, randomized, interventional type comparative clinical study. Total 30 patients were selected and randomly divided into 3 groups of 10 patients each. These patients were selected from O.P.D. of Arogyashala NIA and SSBH Jaipur. A detailed case

proforma was prepared to include the Avurvedic and modern aspect disease.Protocol was approved by the institutional ethical committee (IEC) [Letter No. IEC/ACA/2017/100; dated 26.4.2017] Prior written informed consents were taken from each patient. The trial was registered in prospectively **CTRI** [Reg. no. CTRI/2018/09/015855].

Inclusion Criteria: Patients with both gender and age between 16-70 years and who suits with clinical signs & symptoms of *Sthoulya* as per classical *Ayurvedic* literature.

Exclusion Criteria: obesitydue to hereditary predisposition, hypothyroidism, with severe hypertension and diabetes mellitus, lactating women, with evidence of renal, hepatic and cardiac involvement and patient having drug induced obesity.

Observation and Results

Assessments were done with regards to relief in weight (Kg) and B.M.I. Results were statistically analysed using Stat Graph Pad 3.1 software. Paired t test parametric test was used for the assessment of the improvement in objective parametric tests of group 'A', 'B'& 'C'. One-way Analysis of (ANOVA): Variance Tukey-Kramer Multiple comparisons Test was used for comparison of results objective parameters of Group A, B & C.

Table No.1 Content of trial drug Vyoshadi Guggulu and Bilwadi Kwath

	GROUP-A	GROUP-B	GROUP-C
Intervention	Vyoshadi Guggulu	Bilwadi Kwath	Vyoshadi Guggulu and Bilwadi Kwath
Dose	500 mg BD With Luke warm water	20 ml BD With Honey	500 mg BD and 20 ml BD

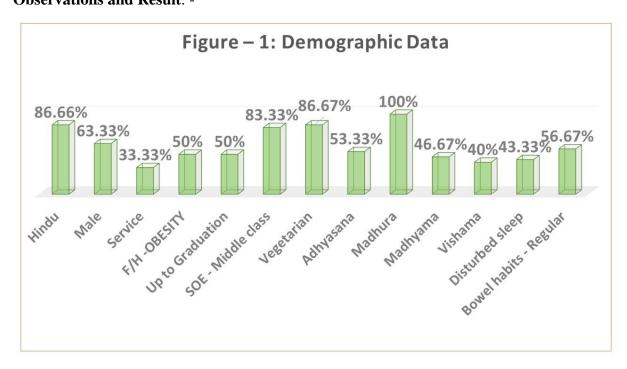
Table No.2 Contents of Vyoshadi Guggulu

Sr.No	Drugs Name	Rasa	Guna	Virya	Vipaka
1	Shunthi	Katu	Laghu, Snigdha	Ushana	Madhura
2	Maricha	Katu	Laghu, Tikshna	Ushana	Katu
3	Pippali	Katu	Laghu, Snigdha Tikta	Anushna sheeta	Madhura
4	Haritaki	Panch rasa	Laghu, Ruksha	Ushana	Madhura
5	Vibhitaki	Kashay	Laghu, Ruksha	Ushana	Madhura
6	Aamalaki	Pancharasa	Guru, Ruksha, Sheeta	sheeta	Madhura
7	Chitrak	Katu	Laghu, Ruksha	Ushana	Katu
8	Vidang	Katu, Kashay	Laghu, Ruksha, Tikshna	Ushana	Katu
9	Mustak	Katu, Kashay,Tikta	Laghu, Ruksha	Sheeta	Katu
10	Guggulu	Katu, Tikta	Laghu, Ruksha, Tikshna	Ushna	Katu

Table No. 3 Detail Contents of BilwadiKwath

Sr.No	Drugs Name	Rasa	Guna	Virya	Vipaka
1	Bilva	Kashay,	Laghu,	Ushna	Katu
		Tikta,	Ruksha		
		Katu			
2	Agnimanth	Katu,	Laghu,	Ushna	Katu
		Kashay,	Ruksha		
		Madhura,			
		Tikta			
3	Shyonak	Kashay,	Laghu,	Ushna	Katu
		Madhura,	Ruksha		
		Tikta			
4	Patala	Kashay,	Laghu,	Ushna	Katu
		Tikta	Ruksha		
5	Gambhari	Kashay,	Guru	Ushna	Katu
		Madhura,			
		Tikta			

Observations and Result: -



Maximum 86.66% patients were from Hindu community, 63.33% were males, 33.33% were in service by occupation,50 % had Family History of Obesity, 50% were educated up to graduation, 83.33% were from socio economically from middle class, 86.67% were vegetarian, 53.33% had *Adhyashana*, 100% had *MadhuraRasa Satmya*, 46.67% had *MadhyamaKoshtha*, 40% had *Vishamagni*, 43.33% had disturbed sleep and 56.67% had regular bowel habits. (Fig - 01)

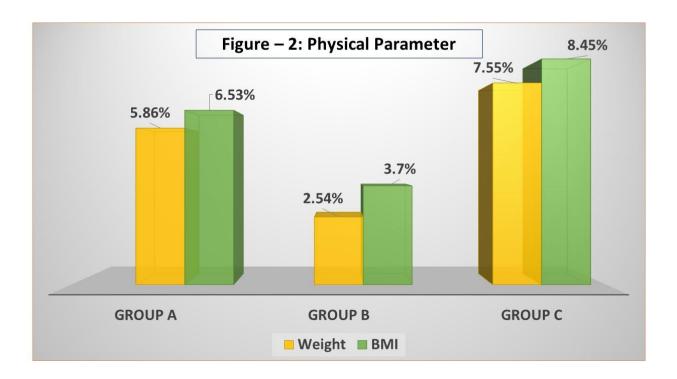


Table No. 4 Effect of the therapy on physical parameters in Group A, B and C

	Parameter	Mean		Dif.	% of	SD	SE	P	R
Group		BT	AT		Change				
Group A	Weight	88.70	83.50	5.20	5.86	0.92	0.29	P<0.0001	ES
	BMI	33.70	31.50	2.20	6.53	0.42	0.13	P<0.0001	ES
Group B	Wt.	90.40	88.10	2.30	2.54	0.67	0.21	P<0.0001	ES
	BMI	32.40	31.20	1.20	3.70	0.42	0.13	P<0.0001	ES
Group C	Wt.	96.70	89.40	7.30	7.55	1.57	0.50	P<0.0001	ES
	BMI	36.70	33.60	3.10	8.45	0.57	0.18	P<0.0001	ES

Result of *Sthoulya* in reduction of weight in Group A - 5.86%, at p value (p<0.0001) in Group B - 2.54% at p value (p<0.0001) whereas in Group C - 7.55% at p value (p<0.0001) which were also extremely significant. Result of *Sthoulya* in reduction of BMI in Group A - 6.53% at p value (p<0.0001) in Group B - 3.70% at p value (p<0.0001) whereas in Group C - 8.45% at p value (p<0.0001) which were extremely significant. (Table – 03 and Fig - 2)

Table No. 5 – Effect on haematological parameters in Group A

Haematological	Mean		Diff.	%	SD	SE	P	Level
Parameters	BT	AT		Change				of
								signific
								ance
НВ	14.10	14.10	0.00	0.00	0.47	0.15	1.0	NS
НСТ	42.70	42.90	-0.20	-0.47	2.20	0.70	0.7804	NS
TEC	5.40	5.40	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.000	NS
TLC	7340.00	7467.00	-127.00	-1.73	1329.48	420.4	0.7695	NS
PLATELET	2.50	2.70	-0.20	-8.00	0.42	0.13	0.1679	NS
M.C.V	81.80	83.40	-1.60	-1.96	3.27	1.03	0.1565	NS
М.С.Н	26.60	27.60	-1.00	-3.76	1.25	0.39	0.0319	NS
M.C.H.C	32.80	33.00	-0.20	-0.61	0.79	0.25	0.4433	NS
NEUTROPHILS	59.90	58.70	1.20	2.00	6.29	1.99	0.5609	NS
LYMPHOCYTES	18.95	18.53	0.42	2.22	4.79	1.10	0.8161	NS
EOSINOPHILS	2.91	2.09	0.82	28.13	1.50	0.32	0.8723	NS
MONOCYTES	3.22	2.43	0.78	24.32	1.54	0.32	0.5763	NS
BASOPHILS	1.53	0.74	0.79	51.72	1.03	0.24	1.0	NS

Table No. 6 Effect on haematological parameters in Group B

Haematologica	Mean		Diff.	%	SD	SE	P	Level of significance
l Parameters	BT	AT		Change				
НВ	14.30	14.20	0.10	0.70	0.57	0.18	0.5911	NS
НСТ	43.00	43.30	-0.30	-0.70	1.64	0.52	0.5763	NS
TEC	4.90	5.00	-0.10	-2.04	0.32	0.10	0.3434	NS
TLC	8060.	8210.0	-	-1.86	1401.78	450.1	0.7428	NS

	00	0	150.0					
			0					
PLATELET	3.00	2.70	0.30	10.00	0.48	0.15	0.0811	NS
M.C.V	88.00	86.30	1.70	1.93	3.47	1.10	0.1553	NS
М.С.Н	29.30	28.60	0.70	2.39	1.25	0.40	0.1108	NS
м.с.н.с	33.00	33.30	-0.30	-0.91	1.42	0.45	0.5203	NS
NEUTROPHI	56.10	53.20	2.90	5.17	10.98	3.47	0.4252	NS
LS								
LYMPHOCYT	21.26	21.21	0.05	0.25	4.99	1.15	0.5893	NS
ES								
EOSINOPHIL	3.68	2.55	1.14	30.86	0.94	0.20	0.0528	NS
S								
MONOCYTES	2.96	2.17	0.78	26.47	1.48	0.31	0.5414	NS
BASOPHILS	1.68	0.68	1.00	59.38	0.94	0.22	0.1039	NS

Table No. 7 Effect on haematological parameters in Group C

Haematological	Mean		Diff.	%	SD	SE	P	Level
Parameters	BT	AT		Change				of
								signific ance
НВ	14.20	14.30	-0.10	-0.70	0.57	0.18	0.5911	NS
НСТ	42.70	43.00	-0.30	-0.70	2.83	0.90	0.7452	NS
TEC	4.90	5.20	-0.30	-6.12	0.95	0.30	1.0	NS
TLC	8300.00	8430.00	-130.00	-1.57	1971.49	623.4	0.8395	NS
PLATELET	2.60	2.90	-0.30	-11.54	0.82	0.26	0.2789	NS
M.C.V	85.20	81.50	3.70	4.34	13.72	4.34	0.4159	NS
М.С.Н	28.60	27.10	1.50	5.24	5.54	1.75	0.4143	NS
M.C.H.C	33.60	33.20	0.40	1.19	1.35	0.43	0.3732	NS
NEUTROPHILS	58.40	57.90	0.50	0.86	8.44	2.67	0.8555	NS
LYMPHOCYTES	18.84	18.89	-0.05	-0.28	4.89	1.12	0.5183	NS
EOSINOPHILS	3.73	2.32	1.41	37.80	3.19	0.68	0.3816	NS
MONOCYTES	2.87	2.09	0.78	27.27	1.28	0.27	0.3434	NS
BASOSPHILS	1.58	0.74	0.84	53.33	1.01	0.23	0.5911	NS

Statistically non-significant (p>0.05) result were found on haematological parameters by group A, B and C. (Table 04, 05 and 06)

Objective	M. diff.	M. diff.	M. diff.	P Value	Result
Parameters	Gr. A	Gr. B	Gr. C		
НВ	0.00	0.10	-0.10	0.7105	NS
НСТ	-0.20	-0.30	-0.30	0.9936	NS
TEC	0.00	-0.10	-0.30	0.5054	NS
TLC	-127.00	-150.00	-130.00	0.9994	NS
PLATELET	-0.20	0.30	-0.30	0.0755	NS
M.C.V	-1.60	1.70	3.70	0.3745	NS
М.С.Н	-1.00	0.70	1.50	0.2534	NS
М.С.Н.С	-0.20	-0.30	0.40	0.3937	NS
NEUTROPHILS	1.20	2.90	0.50	0.8218	NS
LYMPHOCYTES	0.42	0.05	-0.05	0.9509	NS
EOSINOPHILS	0.82	1.14	1.41	0.6411	NS
MONOCYTES	0.78	0.78	0.78	< 0.0001	ES
BASOPHILS	0.79	1.00	0.84	0.3003	NS

Non-significant results were found in Objective parameters after doing intergroup comparison except monocytes where results were extremely significant (p<0.0001). (Table - 07)

DISCUSSION:

As mentioned in Samhita, *Samprapti* (pathogenesis) of *Sthoulya* (obesity) occurs due to *NidanaSevana* (reason), *Tikshna Jatharagni* (intensive digestive fire) and *Medodhatvagnimandya* (decrease *Agni* of *MedaDhatu*)^{ix}. As, per Figure no. 1, maximum number of subjects (86.66%) were from Hindu community. From this observation it can't be concluded that Hindus are more prone to this disease, because maximum number of subjects attending the hospital are Hindu and this region has got the Hindu community

dominance. And maximum number of patient were male because subjects were selected randomly in this study. This trend may be contradictory to the incidence level that obesity is more prone to female which confirms the findings of National family health survey, 2007. On considering the nature of occupation, it has been found that 33.33% subjects were in service by occupation category and this is showing the highest prevalence of obesity in service persons. The reason behind this might be lack of exercise with long hours of desk work; increased use of tea/coffee in office

which are factors affecting digestion. In these study maximum 50% subjects had family history of Obesity which is the genetic factor and susceptibility towards obesity in the subjects. In the present study maximum number of subjects i.e. 50% subjects were graduates and this shows that there is more awareness about losing weight. Even it can be seen that by higher level education, life becomes more sedentary that lead to obesity. In these study maximum 83% subjects belonged to middle economical class while 13.33% subjects were from Upper class. It is believed that obesity is a disease of only upper socioeconomic class. Above observation clarifies that the prevalence of obesity is not related with quantum of money, but today it depends upon mode of life style & eating habits. So obesity widespread in all classes. It is generally believed that obesity is more prevalent in affluent class of society, due to luxurious life, less mental work and physical activity. While middle classes of society is growing fast and easy availability equipment leads to sedentary life style. This may also be due to the regional habits where there is dominancy of oily and fried foods in all classes. In these study diet reveals that majority of 86.67% subjects vegetarians. This can be because maximum

numbers of subjects belonged to Hindu religion which prefers vegetarian food than non-vegetarian food. Choice of food and habit of diet timings may cause of obesity. 53.33% of patient had Adhyashana. As per Ayurvedic principles; Adhyashana is a major cause Agnivaishamya as well as Sthoulya^x. In the present study maximum number of Subjects i.e.100 % consumed Madhur Rasa Pradhana Ahara, 73.33% consumed Amla Rasa, 70% consumed Lavan Rasa, 43.33% Katu Rasa. 36.67% Tikta Rasa. In Ayurvedic texts, it is clearly mentioned that dominancy of Madhura, Amla and Lavana Rasa responsible for production of Kapha Dosha and diseases related to itxi. In these study, 46.67% subjects maximum were Madhyam Koshtha, followed by 33.33% subjects were of Krura Koshtha and only 20% subjects were reported with Mridu Koshtha. The behind reason these observations might be that Madhyama Kostha is found in Kapha predominance Prakriti, which increases prevalence of Sthoulya^{xii}. In these study 40% subjects were having Vishamagni whereas 26.67% subjects were having Mandagni. Deranged Agni is the main cause for diseases xiii. The reason behind these observations might be that Agnisandushanas due to Samana Vayu Prakopa & Dushyas involved i.e. Kapha*Medas* showed this varied nature in *Agni* i.e. Vishamagni in some cases^{xiv}. This study reveals that maximum 43.33% subjects were having disturbed sleep and they have habituated with day nap after food which is the prime cause of Obesity as per Ayurvedic texts^{xv}.16.67% subjects had *Atinidra*. Excess sleep is one of the main causative factors of obesity which causes Kapha Prakopa, increases the Meda Dhatu thereby serving as an etiological factor for obesity^{xvi}. In these study majority of subjects (56.67%) were having Regular bowl habits, 13 subjects (43.33%) were having Irregular bowl habits. 23.33% subjects with loose stools & 20% subjects were in constipation. Both loose and constipated kind of stool is mentioned as Saama type of Mala. Due to Gura and SnigdhaGuna of Kapha; sticky and loose found commonly stool subjects. Trial drugs are having Laghu, Ruksha Guna; Ushna Virya and Katu Vipaka Pradhana along with Ama Pachaka & Kaphavatahara properties of Shunthi, Maricha, Pippali, Chitraka, Panchmoola, Madhu etc. Samprapti Vighatana (pathogenesis breakdown)of disease has been done with these trial drugs having properties of Kasaya Katu Tikta- Rasa and Unushna-Virya Pradhana which decreases Meda by its Deepana, Pachana, Lekhana,

Sroto Shoshana and Kaphanashaka properties. This indirectly helps in reduction ofbody weight and BMI parameters. The ingredients contained in both Vyoshadi guggulu and Bilwadi Kwath are capable to annihilate the condition obesity. Foremost, all the contents of Vyoshadi guggulu are *Katu rasa* predominant and then followed by Tikta rasa. And considering Bilwadi Kwath, those contents are Tikta and Kashay Rasa predominant followed by Katu Rasa. According to Acharya Sushruta, Katu Rasa has Sthoulya, Alasya, Kaphaghna and Medonashak effect. Katu. Tikta Rasa posses*Deepana*, Pachana, Ruchikara, Shodhana, Srotansi Vivrunoti (Prasaryati Srotansi–Arundatta) and Kaphaghna actions. It enhances Jatharagni Deepana due to their deepana property and thereby Dhatvagni Deepana also. Sthaulva is one of Dhatvagnimandya Janyarogas Medodhatu is the main factorinvolved in Samprapti. Tikta Rasa has been mentioned of Lekhana, Meda-Vasa-Sleshma Upashoshana properties where indicates for its Medohara As it is attributed with Pachana Karma, it helps in Ama Pachana which is main cause for Samprapti Vighatana. Bilvadi kwath having ushna veerya property and because of this action, Sang of Srotas will be removedthereby regulates the function of Medovahasrotas correctly. .Medo Kshaya and Sneha Kshaya properties attenuates excessive medo dhatu kshaya. As Kapha is one of the main Dosha involved in the Samprapti of Sthoulya, so Kaphaghna action will be administered to treat the condition and these both drugs forward kaphahara action and thereby medohara action. Ruksha and Laghu gunas of contents of Vyoshadi Guggulu andBilvadi like Dhatu kwathpropounds actions Shoshaka, Kapha Shamaka, Lekhana Karma where as Laghu Guna has Kaphashamaka, Krishtakaraka and Srotoshodhaka properties. Thereby it paves for Medokshaya and Sneha Kshaya properties which helpful in Samprapti Vighatana of Sthoulya. The main pathological factors in Sthaulya are Kapha and Meda (both Snigdha Pradhana) and they are Jala and Prithvi dominant. Administered drugs are Agni, Vayu and Nabhasa dominant because of its Katu, Tikta Rasa (Ruksha *Guna*). Ultimately Panchabhautik constituents of Kapha and Meda (Snigdha Guna) verses Vyoshadi Guggulu and Bilvadi Kwath (Ruksha Guna) counteracts each other. Maximum contents of Vyoshadi Guggulu have Katu Vipaka which is responsible for Ama Pachana and Srotoshodhana by enhancing Jatharagni and Dhatwagni.Ushna Virya of ingredients

digests Ama by enhancing Medo Dhatwagni. Digestion of Ama clears the obstruction of Rasavaha Srotas and Medovaha Srotas which results in *Vata Shamana* too. It helps in Samprapti Vighatana of Sthoulya. The known pharmacological action of majority of the drug contents is Kapha Vata Shamaka followed by Tridosha Shamaka Karma. Drugs are having Deepana, Pachana, Amapachan, Lekhana, Srotoshodhan etc. properties. The effect of the study drugs can be attributed to the above mentioned properties of its ingredients. All the contents target with Deepana, Amapachana, Lekhana and Srotoshodhana properties primarily and cleanses away the excess medas from body. This results in *medokshaya* and reduction in weight (Table No.2 & 3).

CONCLUSIONS:-

The data obtained after the treatment was statistically computed, and it was found that the results were statistically extremely significant in Group A, B and C. While comparing the results, Group C (*Vyoshadi Guggulu* and *Bilwadi Kwath*) has shown more significant result than Group A and B respectively. Both the formulations are contained with drugs which can act against Sthoulya. The *rasapanchaka* of both medicines exhibits *Amapachana*, *deepana*,

Medohara, lekhana and Srotoshodhana actions. This aids in reduction of Kaphadosha and medodhatukshaya and

thereby leads to manage the condition *Sthoulya* (obesity).

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