



## A Spectroscopic and FTIR analysis of Siddha Mineral drug Appalakara Chooranam

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### Abstract

**Background:** The Siddha system of medicine is one among part of the AYUSH system. The siddha medicine is using various clinical conditions, especially in degenerative diseases and gastro intestinal disorders. Almost it has prepared the medicines from Herbals, Minerals salts and Metals as well as the marine and animals products also used in the system. The drug Appalakara chooranam is basically salt in taste and crystal powder in nature which is widely used in siddha medicine for Gastro-intestinal disorders.

**Objective:** To explore the morphology and elemental characterization of the mineral salt *Appalakara chooranam*

**Methods:** The structural morphology and characteristic features using SEM, determination of trace elements by Energy dispersive X-ray analysis and Functional Group through FTIR study. It can be correlated in WHO recommended parameters for confirmed the standardizations in above drug.

**Results:** The results correlated in SEM analysis showed Average Particle Size ranges from 296  $\mu\text{m}$  to 2792  $\mu\text{m}$ . In FTIR studies should markedly increase value from 3462.22 to 3695.61 respectively, which is indicated it contains most of them in Phenolic compound, Halo compound and Isothiocyanate. In EDAX experiment results showed most of them contains Sodium & Potassium.

**Conclusion:** All the modern scientific parameters provide it is minimal size particles and good characteristic nature of the drug. So *Appalakara chooranam* is highly therapeutic and bio availability value used cured in gastro intestinal tract diseases.

### Keywords

### Introduction

The World Health Organization (WHO) is estimated that 80% of populations were used traditional medicines in developing countries for primary health care needs (WHO Guidelines-2007). In that way, Siddha medicine has profound vital role in disease, prevention and prophylaxis through its herbal medicine and other form of medicine like chendooram, Parpam and other 32 types of preparation (Thiyagarajan.R-2006).

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The standardization of drug and clinical efficacy of study in Appalakarachooranam (Kandasamy Pillai, S- 2012), here performed the Spectroscopic standardization of appalakarachooranam, which is collected from coastal area. The spectroscopic standardization Scanning electron microscopy, Energy Dispersion X-ray Spectrometric analysis and Infra-red (FTIR) studies were used and results was documented.

The spectroscopic standardization to help the reducing the adulteration and definitely helps to understand the characterization of selected ingredients. Modern parameters are very useful to find out the drug adulteration and misidentification. The unidentified chemical compounds, physiochemical compounds were produced hazards to human health. so, Indian system of medicine is needed to standardization. so, saint siddhars were used purification methods (sutthimuriga) in ancient periods, The structural standardization will be proved via spectroscopic studies and FTIR analysis. As per guidelines of WHO and AYUSH insisted the guidelines for quality control to better standardization of the drugs as per the Pharmacopoeia Laboratory of Indian Medicine (PLIM)

The Systematic steps should be taken to standardization of traditional drugs by using modern technique like SEM, EDAX and FTIR etc

## Materials and Methods

The Appalakararam (Sodium carbonate) is available in three varieties of carbonates. The drug appalakararam is mentioned Gunapadamthathujeevavakuppu in siddha text. The appalakararam was collected from Madurai siddha traditional medical shop. The collected drug is experimental for modern diagnostic analysis. Appalakararam was confirmed by siddha pharmacologist.

## Review and literature

In siddha text "Gunapadamthathujeevavakuppu" page no. 368 is mentioned the indication of appalakarachooranam

### General Characteristics (பொதுக்குணம்)

"குடல்வாதஞ் குலை கொடிதான வாதம்  
அடல்புரியு மைய மடுக்கும்-நெடுவயிற்றின்  
உப்புசத்தி னோட உயர்குணம் நோயகற்று  
மப்பளக் காரமது."

### Constituents of appalakararam (Sodium carbonate):

Based on literature review, chemically it consists of Sodium bicarbonate reduced hyperchlorhydria, GERD and acid peptic disorders. so, the clinical drug is acted in good antacid. (WebMD - Sodium bicarbonate)

### Physio chemical characters of appalakararam (Sodium carbonate):

It occurs in porous granular masses of a greyish white in colour or heavy hard pieces with a strong alkaline taste of soda. It is an antacid and a diuretic (WebMD - Sodium bicarbonate). The Properties of Indhuppu (rock salt) generally like those of Appalakararam. Rock salt is useful for dyspepsia, vomiting, diarrhoea, flatulence and urinary disease etc (In siddha text Thiyagarajan, R2006 and Bellisola G, Sorio C. 2012). This is mentioned in classical text book ("Gunapadamthathujeevavakuppu" page no. 371) in below lines,

### General Characteristics (பொதுக் குணம்)

"அட்டகுணம் மந்தம் அசிரக்கரஞ்சூர் சீதபித்தந்  
துட்டவையம் நாடிப்புண் டோடங்கள்-கெட்டமலக்  
கட்டுவிட விந்தையக் காமியநோய் வன்கரப்பான்  
விட்டுவிட விந்துப்பை விள்."

### Scanning electron microscopic study (SEM)

Scanning electron microscopy is a complementary technique and shows the nature of Appalakarachooranam and its particle size. Sample for SEM analysis were mounted on the specimen stub using carbon adhesive sheet. Small sample were mounted with 1sq. cm glass slide and kept in carbon adhesive sheet (Yashvanth, S et al 2013) Samples were coated with gold to a thickness of 100 Å using Hitachi vacuum evaporator. Coated sample were analyzed in a Hitachi Scanning electron Microscope 3000 H model. Then the electronic image was captured and noted.

### Elemental analysis by EDAX

EDAX is a non destructive technique and can be used for evaluation in physiochemical properties of Appalakarachooranam. This is very useful for the characterization of trace elements in Appalakarachooranam (AKC). The small pieces of salt of (3-4 mm) and 5-6mm<sup>2</sup> pieces of salt were fixed in 4% glutaraldehyde in phosphate buffer (Viz PH value 0.02 M, 6.9 M respectively). The sample was air dried and coated with gold in Hitachi HUS-5 GB Vacuum evaporator. SEM-EDAX analysis was carried out using INCA X-sight Oxford detector fitted to Hitachi S-520 Scanning Electron (Tortoriello, J et al - 2006) Microscope at an acceleration voltage of 20 KV.

**Results and Discussion****Fourier Transform – Infra Red Spectroscopy Study (FTIR)**

IR data acquired with Spectrum one FT-IR Spectrometer by means of KBr Pellet was used,. about 1/8th of the solid powder of Appalakarachooranam was taken on a microspatula and about 0.25-0.50 teaspoons of KBr was added and thoroughly ground in an agate mortar with the pestle until AKC. The sample was pressed at 5000-10,000 psi and the sample was removed carefully from the die and placed in the FTIR sample holder (Tortoriello.J et al 2006)

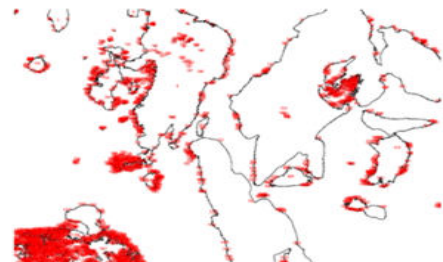
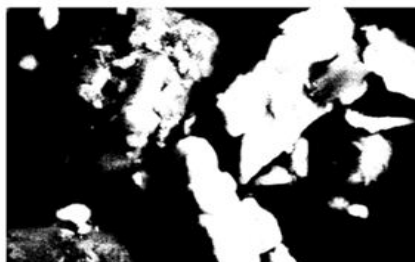
The sample was placed on Zn,Sel crystal with a spatula until the pressure marker noted.

**Results and Discussion**

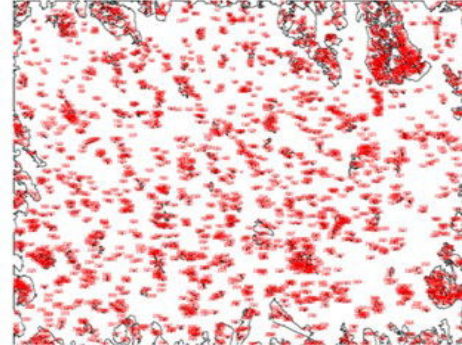
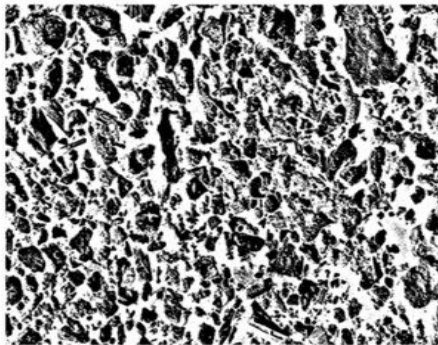
The results of Scanning electron microscope in two different view and EDAX Trace elements profile & FT-IR data has compiled as follows.

**Scanning Electron Microscope Analysis**

The SEM (Fig.No.1 a) under 1.00 KX resolutions and the examining area of 800x800µm and 2 surface were taken. The surface of the AKC grains is uniformly arranged in agglomerates. Particle Size of the desired drug particle ranges from 3µm to 1613 µm in 2 µm (Figure 1 b).

**Fig. No.1 a****Fig. No.1 b**

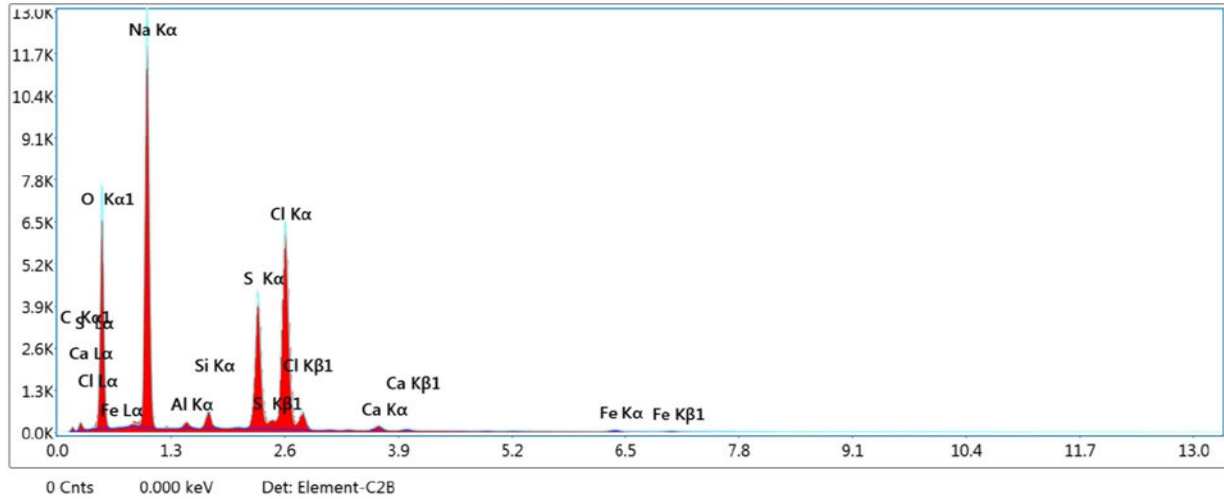
In 100µm view, the surface of the sample grains is uniformly agglomerated. Particle Size ranges from Particle Size of the desired drug particle ranges from 296µm to 2792 µm. (Figure. 2 a &b) SEM image and plotting diagram of Appalakarachooranam in 20µm

**Fig. No.2 a****Fig. No.2 b****Elemental Quantification of Appalakarachooranam by EDAX**

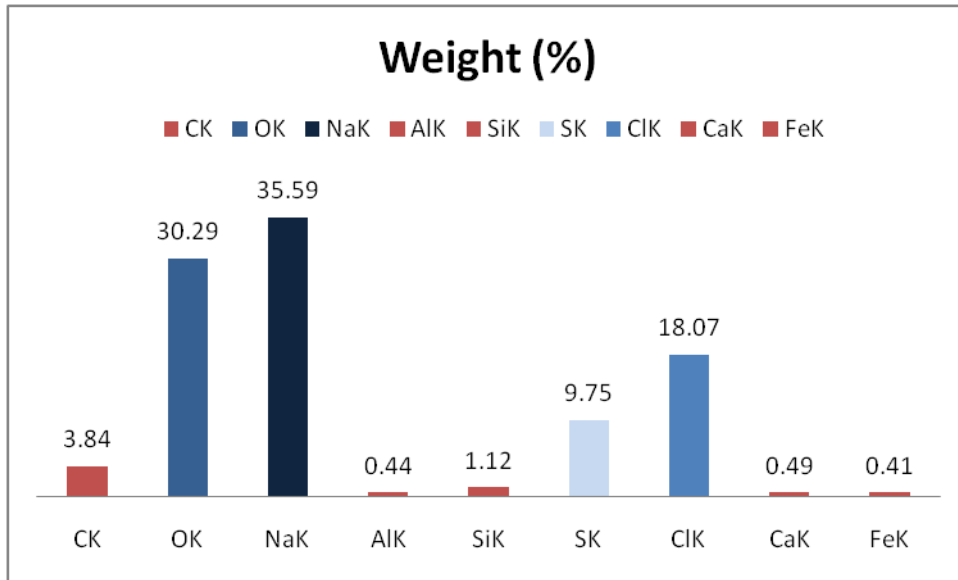
The elemental quantification of *Appalakarachooranam* was carried by the SEM-EDAX methods. The overall trace elements like Sodium, potassium, Chlorine and oxygen viz 35.59%, 30.29%, 18.07, 30.29% respectively.

In FT-IR Spectra analysis, the values are recorded in **table no 1**. The peak value is 3462.22 to 3695.61 on O-H stretching, 2520.96 has C-H stretching, 2380.16 has N-H stretching, 2254.79 has C≡N stretching, 2108.20 has N=C=S stretching, 1635.64 has C=C stretching, 1460.11 has C-H bending, 1336.67 has O-H bending. Thus the corresponding peak value has separate functional groups viz Alcohol, Alkene, Amine salt, nitrates, Isothiocyanate, Alkenes, and Phenolic compound etc.

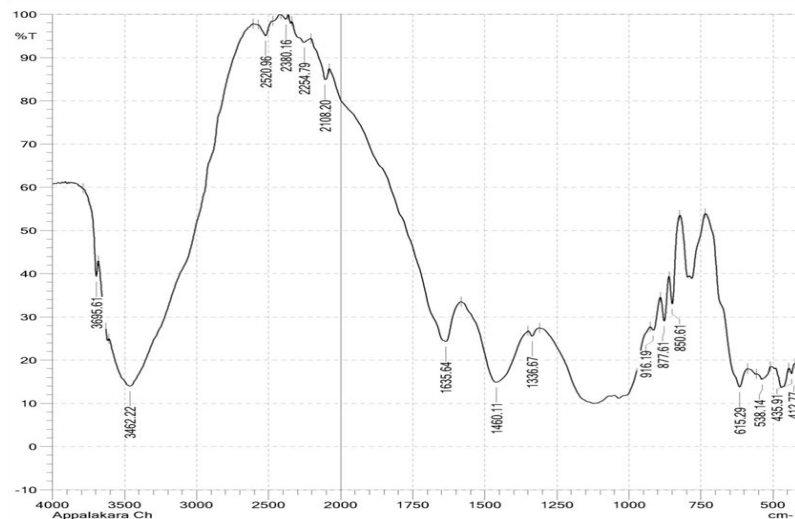
**Figure 3** Identification of trace elements through EDAX



**Figure 4** Graphical representation of EDAX Profile



**Figure 5** FTIR Spectra of Appalakara Chooranam



**Table 1. FTIR observed Peak value of Appalakara chooranam**

Wave number	Intensity of the bond	Strength	Functional groups
3695.61	O-H stretching	variable	alcohol
3462.22	O-H stretching	Variable	intermolecular bonded
2520.96	C-H stretching	Medium	Alkene
2380.16	N-H stretching	Strong	amine salt
2254.79	-C≡N stretching	Weak	nitrile
2108.20	N=C=S stretching	Strong	Isothiocyanate
1635.64	C=C stretching	Medium	Alkene
1460.11	C-H bending	Medium	Alkane
1336.67	O-H bending	medium	Phenolic compound
916.19	C=C bending	Strong	Alkene
877.61	aromatic C-H bending	medium	Alkane
850.61	C-Cl stretching	Strong	halo compound
615.29	C-Br stretching	Strong	halo compound (alkyl)
538.14	C-Br bending	Week	Alkyl

## Conclusion

In Siddha System of medicine is bioeffective and safe therapeutic potentials of AKC. On the line, the drug Appalakarachooranam lies on the track and the above data showed that the spectroscopic standardization of the AKC. Final conclusion is FTIR, EDAX and SEM analytical studies showed no harmful chemicals and minerals etc.so, applakarra chooranam is safe to use in long period. The further research works has to be carried out for the development of scientific data to hold the drug in a scientific manner.

## Source of Support

Nil

## Conflict of Interest

None declared

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