

## **Rationalization of applying the human blood in Sri Lankan traditional medicines for burns as a first treatment in chemical ocular burns**

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### **Abstract:**

Chemical injury to the eye accounts for a significant portion of ocular trauma. Alkali injuries occur more frequently than acid injuries. Chemical injuries of the eye produce extensive damage to the ocular surface epithelium, cornea, anterior segment and limbal stem cells resulting in permanent unilateral or bilateral visual impairment. Proper management in the acute stage and an extensive follow-up is crucial in limiting adverse effects of secondary ocular tissue damage. Eye burns are difficult to treat and may result in impaired function even after treated with conventional medicine. Rajasekara family line of traditional medicine for burns uses a special treatment method in treating chemical eye burns. Patients were treated by applying three drops of fresh human blood to the burnt eye before starting other treatments. The blood was taken from the patient's perforated finger. The physician claims that the patients who were treated by this method recovered rapidly than those who received other treatments. These patients regained their normal visual acuity and no adverse effects are recorded. This study aims to explain the above treatment method using the fundamentals of Ayurveda and conventional medicine. The author of the research concludes that blood, which is a seat of *pitta dosha* may replace the diminished *alocaka pitta* in eye. Blood may act a sterile buffer solution which might protect the eye from further damage until proper treatment is received.

**Key words:** Ocular burns, *alocaka pitta*, human blood, traditional medicine

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