

VISCUM ALBUM

(*Vis. alb*)

Common Name	:	Hindi	:	Ban, Banda
		German	:	Mistel
		English	:	Mistletoe
		French	:	Guide Chene
Family	:	Loranthaceae		
Botanical Name	:	<i>Viscum album</i> Linn		

Introduction

Viscum album Linn. Commonly known as Ban, Banda; in Hindi, it mentioned in Homoeopathic literature in 1863 by Huber, Zeit, d.v.d.Hom. A. Cost, II 3, 87. Allen's Encyclopedia. Mat. Med., Vol. X, 154. The berry is sweet, sour; laxative, tonic, cardiac tonic, useful in inflammations, biliousness, lumbago, piles, tumors, diseases of the spleen, mental weakness and fatigue, removes bad humors from the body. Enlargement of spleen, wound, tumor, diseases of the ear, Epilepsy.

It is believed to have undoubted healing qualities, esp. in gout, rheumatism, nerve pains of various kinds neuralgias esp. of the rheumatic and gouty varieties.

Description

An evergreen, bushy, forming tufts 0.6-0.9m. diameter; stems 2.5 cm diameter, round even yellowish-green, branches jointed, dichotomous. Leaves variable, usually 2.5-5cm. long, oblong, broad or narrow, usually with obtuse tip and cuneate base glabrous, thick & fleshy, obscurely 3-5 nerved, sessile. Flowers dioecious, sessile, in clusters of 3 or 5 in the forks of the branches, supported by cum-shaped slightly ciliate bracts; terminal flower solitary, the lateral in opposite or decussate pairs. Berry 7.5mm. diameter, subglobose, white translucent. Fruit, a small white glutinous, 1 seeded berry. Emits a peculiar, disagreeable odour; taste sweetish, acrid, bitter and nauseous.

Distribution

India (Temperate Himalayas, from Kashmir to Nepal) and Europe.

Part Used: Fresh leaves and berries.

Clinically Verified Symptoms

Name of Drug : <i>Viscum album</i>		Potency : 6, 30		
Location	Symptom	Source	No. of patients prescribed	No. of patients relieved
Vertigo	(Vertigo with anxiety)	-	2	2
	Vertigo (while standing > sitting)	1,4,9	1101	760
	- with dullness	9	81	54
	- with giddiness	1,9	30	26 ✓

Location	Symptom	Source	No. of patients prescribed	No. of patients relieved
	(with darkness in front of eyes < morning, evening on standing < movement > rest)	-	2	2
Head	Headache, temporal region	9	48	31
	- throbbing	1	32	26 ✓
	(Frontal headache with heaviness)	-	4	4
	Headache with low blood pressure	4	6	4
	Numbness feeling in head	1	25	20
	(with darkness before eyes)	-	15	15
	Headache (> bending forward)	4	3	3
	Headache forehead with vertigo	1	10	8
Eyes	Blurring of vision	9	1	1
	(Burning in eyes with irritation and restlessness)	-	3	3
Ear	(Otorrhoea)	-	190	190 ✓
	(Sticky whitish discharge)	-	134	134 ✓
	(Otorrhoea, thin sticky and offensive)	-	142	142 ✓
Abdomen	(Flatulence with heaviness in abdomen)	-	5	5
Rectum	Stool constipated	1,3	11	11
	(irregular and scanty)	-	4	4
Urinary	Frequent urination	1	47	25
Bladder				
Genitalia	Pain, lower abdomen as if menses Coming	1,9	9	3
Female	< during menses			
	(Menses early, profuse, bright red with dots)	-	1	1
	Menopausal - Climacteric complaints	4	79	72 ✓
	Leucorrhoea, thin white	4	24	19
	(< movement)	-	4	4
	(with vertigo)	-	2	2
Respiratory	Dyspnoea	4	16	13
	< lying on left side (ascending stairs, exertion & running)	1,4	2	2
	Spasmodic cough (with vomiting)	4	45	25
Chest	Violent palpitation	1,9,4	374	234
	low blood pressure with weak pulse	4	201	134
	- chest pain	1	25	14
	- high blood pressure	4	1	1
	Palpitation during coitus	4	31	16
	Tickling sensation in cardiac region	4	38	18
	Palpitation (with anxiety <motion >rest)	1,4,8	16	3

Location	Symptom	Source	No. of patients prescribed	No. of patients relieved	
Back	Pain in back	1	61	43	
	worse on movement (better by rest) < lying down	1	3	1	
	Backache, lumbo-sacral region <walking	1	16	12	
	Lumbago with stiffness	1	254	239 ✓	
	Pain cervical region with stiffness < movement	1	424	214	
	- (radiating to both arms with numbness of fingers, < exertion > rest)	-	6	6	
	Periodical pain from sacrum to pelvis < in bed, with pain in thighs & upper extremities	4	329	307 ✓	
	Lumbago right sided < movement (> pressure)	1	329	307 ✓	
	Pain in neck & dorsal region	1	307	277 ✓	
	Extremities	Edema legs & fingers	4	4	4
		Tearing pain in joints	4	24	10
		(Pain in leg with tiredness < walking)	-	6	6
		Rheumatic pains in joints < at night, < movement, (> Pressure)	1,4,9	475	315
		Pain knee joints (with swelling & stiffness)	4	61	35
< winters		1,4,9	445	402 ✓	
< Movement		1,4	3	3	
(< ascending stairs)		1,4	440	278	
Tearing shooting pain in both the thigh & legs and upper extremities		-	2	2	
Pain in both extremities (> rest)		1,4	70	49	
Twitching pain in both hands and legs		1	11	9	
Sciatica pain (right side) < walking		1	18	14	
(- Left side) < winter		1,4	632	576 ✓	
< movement		-	1	1	
Pain in right shoulder joint (< first movement > hot formulation)		4	37	32 ✓	
Shoulder pain < raise arms, night		1	17	14	
Tearing pain in both shoulder joints < raising hand & movement		1	6	3	
(With difficulty to take hand back)		1,4	328	291 ✓	
Pain thigh goes down to heel posterior	-	3	3		
Tearing pain in legs < cold & movement	4	5	3		
Left leg < cold damp weather	4	11	10		
(Numbness in right leg < sitting, morning on waking)	1,4	2	2		
	-	5	5		

Location	Symptom	Source	No. of patients prescribed	No. of patients relieved
	(Pain in small joints with swelling of fingers <rainy season, morning)	-	4	4
	(Pain in left hand with stiffness)	-	2	2
	Pain alternate in knee joints, Ankle joints, Shoulder joints, & elbow joints.	4	117	107 ✓
	(Cramps in calf muscles)	-	122	122 ✓
	(Rheumatism in obese persons with excessive perspiration)	-	206	206 ✓
Skin	(Reddish eruptions with itching)	-	2	2
Generalities	Profound prostration	1,3	21	15
	Hypertension with slow weak pulse	4	193	175 ✓
	Weakness with no inclination to do work & tiredness	1,4	10	3
	Epileptic fits, convulsions	4	1	1
	Lassitude	1,3	3	3
	Low blood pressure	4	51	38

Note:- Additional symptoms (which are not present in literature) are in brackets & bold.

Additional Symptoms	No. of Patients Relieved
Vertigo with anxiety.	2
Vertigo with darkness in front of eyes < morning, evening on standing < movement > rest.	2
Frontal headache with heaviness	4
Numbness feeling in head with darkness before eyes	15
Burning in eyes with irritation and restlessness	3
Otorrhoea	190
Sticky whitish discharge	134
Otorrhoea, thin sticky and offensive.	142
Flatulence with heaviness in abdomen.	5
Stool constipated irregular and scanty.	4
Menses early, profuse, bright red with dots.	1
Leucorrhoea < movement.	4
- with vertigo.	2
Pain cervical region radiating to both arms with numbness of fingers, < exertion > rest.	6
Pain in leg with tiredness < walking	6
Pain in knee joints < ascending stairs.	2

Additional Symptoms	No. of Patients Relived
Sciatica pain left side <winter	1
Pain in both shoulders with difficulty to take hand back	3
Numbness in right leg <sitting, morning on waking	5
Pain in small joints with swelling of fingers <rainy season, morning.	4
Pain in left hand with stiffness	2
Cramps in calf muscles	122
Rheumatism in obese persons with excessive perspiration	206
Reddish eruptions with itching	2

Discussion

It has been found efficacious medicine for hypo tension, sciatica, epilepsy, chorea, rheumatic deafness, asthma, and hypertension with albuminuria. Symptoms, that are given in the Homoeopathic literature are verified, some additional symptoms also verified which are not given in homoeopathic literature, those symptoms are mentioned above.