Oils Used in the Treatment of Eye Disease in Siddha Medicine - A Review

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In this modern world, people use many electronic devices which radiate waves and affects our eyes. Eyes are the major sense organ in our body. In Siddha Medicine, which is an ancient Tamil medicine, Siddhars says about 96 eye diseases and treatments with oils, tablets, chooranam, kudineer, *lagium* and *nei*. The author decided to review the books saying about the oils used in the treatment of eye disease. Eight siddha text books were taken for review from library of unit of Siddha Medicine, university of Jaffna, Main library, University of Jaffna & Public library of Jaffna. The result and discussion is based on the review from eight books. In this review, hundred oils were identified and among them 97% of oils were used as external application and 3% of oils were used for internal usage. Kumarith thailam is mentioned in 50% of reviewed books. 90% oil is used for head bath, 8% for nasiyam and 2% of oil is mentioned to apply on the eyes. One book uses 60% of plants materials for oil preparation. Among all ingredients, in plants nelli is mentioned in 88% of books and patchaikatpooram in 63% and cow's milk 88% of books. Two oils namely *El ennai* (gingelly oil) and *Sitramanakku* oil (castor oil) are used as a base oil for all preparations. 50% of books uses combination of both oils. Further lab study and clinical trial is needed to prove the oils internationally.

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