

A Literary Review on Wound Healing Potential of Latex of *Calotropis gigantean* (Wara)

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Calotropis gigantean (Family: Asclepiadaceae; Sanskrit Name: Arka) an erect spreading shrub commonly known as giant milk weed or crown flower. The whole plant is used for external and internal disease conditions. It has been used as a medicinal plant in Ayurveda medical system and in Traditional medical System in Sri Lanka. Various parts of *C.gigantea*; root, rootbark, latex, leaves, flowers are used in medicine. Ayurveda and Sri Lankan traditional medical physicians used latex of *C.gigantea* as either a single drug or as a combination. So it's important to study on wound healing potential of latex of *C.gigantea* which can be clarified by its pharmacodynamic properties. More over other countries as Africa, South East Asia and Nepal have used *C.gigantea* for curing wounds. It has proven the wound healing activity of *C.gigantea* in animal models and pharmacodynamics properties of latex of *C.gigantea* helps the process of wound healing which is consisting by inflammatory stage, proliferative phase, granulation phase and maturation phase. Scientifically it has proven the wound healing, anti-inflammatory, vasodilation, procoagulation, antimicrobial activity of latex of *C.gigantea*. Its ushna veerya (hot potency) alleviates vatadosa which relieve pain, tikta rasa (bitter taste) which spread quickly through sukshma srotas (minute channels), laghu guna (lightness) which causes for amapachana (remove toxins), snigdha guna (oiliness) which increase the healing of the wounds. Details are gathered from Ayurveda and Sri Lankan traditional medical books, books on plant science, traditional physicians, civilians and web search.

Key Words: *Calotropis gigantea*, Arka, wound healing