Department of Rasa Shastra Evum Bhaishajya Kalpana Aligarh Ayurvedic Medical College & ACN Hospital

The word Rasashaastra literally means the "Science of Mercury". It is a specialized branch of Ayurveda dealing mainly with materials which are known as 'Rasa dravyaas'. The products dealt under this discipline are an important component of Ayurvedic therapeutics. They have the following three characteristic attributes: instant effectiveness, requirement of very small doses and extensive therapeutic utility irrespective of constitutional variation.

The following Sloka (verses normally in two lines) describes the above given attributes of rasa.

"Alpamaatropayogitwaat Arucera Aprasangataha. Kshipram Aarogyadaayitwat Aushadhyebhyo Adhiko Rasaha"

Pharmacopoeia of 'Ayurveda' comprises of drugs derived not only from herbs but also from minerals, metals and animal products. According to the principles of 'Ayurveda', there is not a single substance in the Universe which does not have a potential to be used as a drug, provided it is used judiciously by the physician where it is required.

According to the source of origin, the substances in the Universe are classified as 'Jangama' i.e. animal sourced e.g. milk, meat, blood, urine etc, 'Audbhida' i.e. plant sourced e.g. leaves, root, stem etc., and 'Paarthiwa' or 'Khanija' i.e. mineral sourced e.g. gold, silver, copper, sulphur etc.

Vision

- To give the adequate knowledge of the subject in comparison with contemporary sciences.
- Guiding the students to develop the skills of preparing Herbal and Herbomineral formulations with competence.
- Training of the students to develop proper teaching skills to become best teachers in the field.

• Guiding the students to identify the ingredients / contents of a formulation with expertise and to strengthen their skills of formulating a recipe.

Mission

- Transferring the knowledge of Bhaishajya in all aspects including the knowledge of Good Manufacturing Practices by adopting the advanced technology in the pharmaceutical industry of Ayurveda.
- Working in the direction of developing new formulations that will be useful for the sufferings of mankind, strictly on the basis of evidence based research.

Departmental Teaching Pharmacy

Department of Rasashastra and Bhaishajya Kalpana is a branch of Ayurveda which deals with the preparation of medicines by using Kashtaoushadhi (Herbal), Rasoushadhi (Mineral) and Kashta-rasoushadhi (Herbo-mineral). Kasthaoushdhi includes different parts of the herbs both in wet and dry forms. It includes toxic drugs also, but these toxic drugs should undergo specific samskara like shodhana etc. before preparation of any medicines. Rasoushadhi includes minerals, metals, and animal origin drugs. These drugs must undergo proper samskaras like, shodhana, marana, etc. before preparing medicines to avoid toxicity of the drugs.

Different types of formulations i.e. Avleha, Vati, Vatika, Churna, Bhasma, parpati, pottali, Varti, Asavarishta, arka etc. are prepared. UG practicals are taken regularly. The department is well equipped with all instruments which are needed for UG practicals. Well maintained museum containing all the specimens of metals, minerals, herbal drugs, pharmacy model etc. for the benefit of students. For UG Pharmacy visits are organized during the academic year to know about the pharmacy and industrial management regarding manufacturing.

Departmental Museum

For practical training, the Rasashastra & Bhaishajya Kalpana department has many Charts, models, Specimens, instruments and equipments.