

**Medical Glosses and Embedded Variants. Addenda and Corrigenda to Bácskay, A.:
Glosses and Embedded Variants in Therapeutic Texts. (DUBSAR 22) Münster, Zaphon
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My work on glosses in Mesopotamian medical texts and amulet stone lists was published in 2021. Since then, I have identified additional glosses in further medical texts and new publications Mesopotamian medicine also mention glosses not discussed in my earlier work, or refer to glosses I had previously published. The aim of this study is therefore to present newly found medical glosses and to collect references to glosses that have been published in the Assyriological literature in the recent period. I first present the new medical glosses, then discuss their characteristics. I also summarize and discuss glosses and embedded variants preserved on tablets of the Nineveh Medical Encyclopaedia; finally I present the references to glosses in two recent volumes of the BAM series (BAM 10 and BAM 11).

The Newest Medical Glosses

In my earlier volume, I published 147 glosses and embedded variants, of which 135 were in medical texts and 6 were in amulet lists. In the following chapter, I present 16 glosses and embedded variants which are preserved on 12 medical tablets. Some of these glosses are found in previously published medical texts (nos. 111, 112, 113, 119, 120), and I published a medical text with a gloss in 2023 (no. 121). Some of the new glosses are found in unpublished medical tablets, which I have identified using the electronic Babylonian Library project's database of cuneiform tablets (nos. 113, 122, 123, 124). The numbering of the new glosses continues the numbering of the glosses in my book (the last gloss in my book is no. 110b). The table below provides a summary of the new glosses and embedded variants.

no.	Museum number	Origin	Publication	Lines	Reference	Functional type
111.	BAM 159	Aššur, Kišir-Aššur library	Parys 2014, 23 and 35	v 42	<i>tu^{la}tab-bak</i>	pronunciation
112.	BAM 161	Aššur, Kišir-Aššur library	Scurlock, 2005, 624 no. 305	iii 17'	^u A.ZAL ^{sal} .LÁ	phps. variant
113.	BAM 503	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library (EARS 3)	Scurlock 2014, 376 and 384	iii 48'	^d UTU: ^d XXX	variant
114.	BAM	Nineveh,	Simkó 2024a	iii 12'	^r MUN ¹ <i>eme-sal-li</i> [:] MUN <i>kū-</i>	variant

¹ I am grateful to Annie Attia and Mark J. Geller, the editors of JMC for his comments and suggestions. All remaining errors are mine.

	471+	Assurbanipal's library (Neck 2)	plate 10		<i>pad</i>	
115.	BAM 578+	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library (STOMACH 3)	Johnson - Simkó 2024, 172	i 57	ILLU _{pa'x} ¹ .TAR	phps. variant
116.	BAM 578+	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library (STOMACH 3)	Johnson - Simkó 2024, 203	iv 38	IM.SAḪAR.NA ₄ .KUR.RA IM.SAḪAR.BABBAR.KUR.RA	variant
117.	BAM 578+	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library (STOMACH 3)	Johnson - Simkó 2024, 204	iv 41	^u TGI-20 _(eras.)	phps. variant
118.	AMT 1/6	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library	Johnson - Simkó 2024, 44-45	1'	ṽx x x ¹ TIL ṽx ¹	uncertain
119.	BM 78434	Sippar collection	CT 44 36	rev. 4.	ka ^{he-pl}	<i>ḫepi</i>
120.	SpTU 2 no. 50	Uruk	Scurlock 2014, 363 and 364 and Geller - Panayotov 2020, 103	rev. 8	Ī.SAG ^{ḫal-ša}	variant
121.	BM 55516+	Babylon or Sippar	Bácskay 2023, 157 and 160	obv. 6'	¹ (gab) ¹ ṽ(-)bi IM	variant
113.	BM 41373	Babylon collection	unpublished	i 7'	^d XXX : d.XV	variant
113.	BM 41373	Babylon collection	unpublished	i 10'	[...UD]. ⁷ (^u) ^u .KAM ṽUD ^u . 9.KAM : UD.15.KAM	variant
122.	K 15236	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library	unpublished	5'	kaš-ša-te : ṽ ^{sim} LI	variant
123.	Sm. 440	Nineveh, Assurbanipal's library	unpublished	4'	[...] : [...]	uncertain
124.	BM 41289	Babylon collection	unpublished	ii 13'	BU[RU _s .HA]BRUD ^{ru} .DA	pronunciation

Table 1: Main data of new the glosses and embedded variants

In what follows, I present the glosses in each text, using a structure similar to the one used in my book, including the transcription and translation of the relevant medical text, as well as the formal and functional characteristics of the glosses discussed. In the transcription text, the glosses and the glossed terms are presented in bold.

No 111 BAM 159 v 37-47 // BAM 579 iv 1-11 (SUALU 5)

BAM 159 v 37. ^{giš}*e-re-nu* ^{giš}ŠUR.MÌN ^{giš}*dáp-ra-nu* ^{šim}GÍR ŠIM.SAL

BAM 579 iv 1. ^{giš}*e-re-nu* ^{giš}ŠUR.MÌN ^{giš}*dáp-ra-nu* ^{giš}*a-sa* ŠIM.SAL

BAM 159 v 38. GI.DU₁₀.GA ^{šim}BAL ŠIM.^dMAŠ ^{šim}MAN.DU ^uKUR.KUR

BAM 579 iv 1-2 GI.DU₁₀.GA / ^{šim}BAL ŠIM.^dMAŠ ^{šim}EN.DI

BAM 159 v 39. ^{šim}GÚR.GÚR ^{šim}LI ^{šim}ŠE.LI.BABBAR ^{šim}GAM.MA

BAM 579 iv 2 ^{šim}GÚR.GÚR ^{šim}LI ^{šim}GAM. 'MA'

BAM 159 v 40. ^úĤAR.ĤAR ^úsi-*hu* ^{giš}ár-gan-nu ^{giš}LUM.ĤA NAGA.SI

BAM 579 iv 3 ^úKUR.KUR ^{šim}ŠE.LI.BABBAR (^úĤAR.ĤAR ^úsi-*ha* ^{giš}LUM.ĤA NAG[A.SI])

BAM 159 v 41. ^úNU.LUĤ.ĤA MUN *saḥ-lé-e* GAZI^{sar} 23 Ú.ĤÁ ŠEŠ

BAM 579 iv 4 ^úNU. 'LUĤ.ĤA' 19 'Ú.ĤÁ' ŠEŠ

BAM 159 v 42. 1/3 SÌLA TA.ÀM TI-qé *ina* KAŠ *tu-^{la}lab-bak* *ina* GE₆

BAM 579 iv 4-5 *ma-la ši-bu-te-ka* T[I-q]é / *ina* 'KAŠ' [tu-lab-bak in]a GE₆

BAM 159 v 43. *ana* IGI ^{mul}ÚZ *tuš-bat* *ina* še-ri ŠEG₆-šal *ta-šá-ḥal*

BAM 579 iv 5-6 *ana* IGI ^{mul}ÚZ t[uš-ba]t / *ina* š[e-ri] ŠEG₆-šal *ta-š[á-ḥ]al*

BAM 159 v 44. ĤÉNBUR ^úÚKUŠ.ĤAB' Ú.[ĤI]. 'A'.MEŠ SÚD KI 1 SÌLA LÀL

BAM 579 iv 7-9 *ir-r[i x x x x] x* Ú.ĤÁ *u* Ì.GIŠ ^{šim}EN.DI t[a-qàl]-lu / *ma-l[a ši-bu-te-ka TI]-qé* *ina* KAŠ ša ŠIM.ĤÁ' *ina* IZI' ŠEG₆.GA / *ma-l[a ši-bu-te-ka t]u-maḥ-ḥa-aḥ* 10 GÍN LÀL

BAM 159 v 45. *u* 1 SÌLA Ì.GIŠ 'GAZ' *ana* KUŠ *maš-qí-te te-sip*

BAM 579 iv 9-10 1/3 SÌLA Ì *ḥal-ša* *ana* ŠÀ GAZ / *ana* KU[Š *maš-qí-te*] *te-si-ip*

BAM 159 v 46. *ana* DÚR-šú DUB-ak *maš-qí-tu* ša ANŠE.KUR.RA

BAM 579 iv 11 *ana* DÚR-š[ú DUB-a]k SI.SÁ-ma TI

BAM 159 v 47. ša DIŠ-en ANŠE.KUR.RA 4 SÌLA KAŠ SAG *ba-áš-lu*

Cedar, cypress, *daprānu*-juniper, *asu*-myrtle, *šimišallû*-aromatic plant, / sweet reed, *ballukku*-aromatic plant, *nikiptu*-spurge, *suādu*-aromatic plant, *atā'išu*-plant / *kukru*-aromatic plant, *burāšu*-juniper, white juniper seeds, *šumlalû*-aromatic plant / *ḥašû*-thyme, *sīḥu*-wormwood, *argannu*-conifer, *barīrātu*-sagapenum, horned *uḥūlu*-alkali / *nuḥurtu*-plant, salt, *saḥlû*-cress, *kasû*-tamarind / you take 1/3 litre / from each of these 23 drugs, / you soften them in beer, / you leave them out / for the night / under the Goat-star, in the morning you bring them to boil, you filter them, (and then) you pound sprout of *irrû*-colocynth (var. you roast of *irrû*-colocynth ...) (and) drugs (prepared before) together with 1 litre of *dišpu*-syrup / and 11 litre of pressed (var. filtered) oil (and) you skim it off into a leather (bag) for potions, / you pour it into his anus (var. you pour it into his anus, (and) he will void; then he will recover). Potion for the horse(s). / Four litres of boiled fine beer.²

Formal typology: normal script gloss without *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: pronunciation gloss (partial)

Glossed term: verb (*tu-^{la}lab-bak*)

² I followed the English translation of Johnson and Simkó with minimal additions.

Commentary: This gloss belongs to the group of the so-called partial pronunciation glosses which are usually connected to CVC syllabic signs of an Akkadian term. The partial pronunciation glosses are CV or VC syllabic signs and they are linked usually to the first or the ultimate CVC syllabic sign of the Akkadian term orienting the reader to the relevant syllabic reading of the CVC sign. This type of gloss is related mostly to technical verbs in the medical texts; in my former book I collected three references: no. 9 (Bácskay 2021, 41-42), no. 24 (Bácskay 2021, 58-59), and no. 45 (Bácskay 2021, 80-81).³ It is important to note that the glossed term appears elsewhere in the text without any gloss (e.g. *tu-lab-bak* in line ii 47), which raises the possibility that one gloss may be enough in a text.

Literature: Scurlock 2014, 364-367 (transliteration and English translation), Parys 2014, 23 and 35 (§68) (transliteration and French translation), Johnson – Simkó 2024, 245-246 (transliteration and English translation), eBL (transliteration and English translation)

No. 112. BAM 161 iii 16'-18'

16'. ^úLAL NUMUN ^{giš}[*bi*]-*ni* NUMUN ^{giš}MA.NU

17'. ^úIGI-*lim* ^úA.ZAL^{sal}.LÁ

18'. 5 Ú ŠU.GIDIM.MA *ina* KAŠ NAG

ašqulālu-plant, tamarisk seed, seed of *ēru*-tree, / "heals-a-thousand"-plant, *azallū*-plant. / Five plants for "hand of ghost". He drinks (them) in beer.

Formal typology: normal script gloss without *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: perhaps variant.

Glossed term: drug name (^úA.ZAL^{sal}.LÁ)

Commentary: Although similar logographic (^úA.SAL.LÁ) or Akkadian form (^ú*a-sal-lá*) of the plant name is not known to me, the gloss may refer to a phonetic variant of the Akkadian plant name.⁴ The gloss may have originated from another manuscript of the prescription or may refer to an alternate pronunciation of the plant name that differs from the usual Akkadian form. It should be noted that among the references collected in my previous work there are also glosses that provide the Akkadian equivalent of a logogram representing a plant name (e.g. ^{giš}NAM.TAR *pi-li-i* Bácskay 2021, 82-83 no. 47) or present a variant of a syllabic sign of an Akkadian plant name (Bácskay 2021, 55-56 no. 21).

Literature: Scurlock, 2006, 624 no. 305 (transliteration and English translation)

No. 113. BM 41373 i 7'-10' // BAM+ 503 iii 48'-51' // K 15236 1'-2'

BAM 503+^{(iii 48'} DIŠ NA GEŠTU ZAG-šú *ina* KÚM 'x' [... NA.BI *as*]-*rat* ^dUTU :
^dXXX KIN-*ma*

³ For the discussion of this type of glosses, see Bácskay 2021, 152, 164-165.

⁴ The glossed text space is represented in CAD (CAD A/2 p. 5224, which displays the gloss in a similar way to Akkadian syllabic signs, with a final (*sal*). In her publication, Scurlock capitalises the gloss (SAL) but she does not give any explanation.

BM 41373 _i 7'	[...] ^d UTU u ^d XXX : _d xv ⁵ lu KIN- <i>ma</i>
BAM 503 ⁺ _{(iii 49'}	DUG ₄ .GA u GIŠ.TUKU GAR [... MUN E]ME- <i>sal-lim</i> ina Ì+GIŠ ŠUR.MÌN
BM 41373 _i 8'-9'	[...] MUN EME- <i>sal-lim</i> / [...]
BAM 503 ⁺ _{(iii 50'}	Ì.GIŠ ^{šim} GIG' 'SÚD?' [^{sig} ÀKA NIGIN- <i>mi</i> ana ŠÀ GEŠTU ZAG GAR- an Ì.B]ÚR ⁶ <i>el-lam</i> SAG.DU-šú ŠUB- <i>di</i>
BM 41373 _i 9'-10'	[...] GAR- <i>an</i> Ì.BUR <i>el-la</i> / [...]
K 15236 1'	[...] 'x x'
BAM 503 ⁺ _{(iii 51'}	[... U ₄ -x-K]ÁM GUR.GUR- <i>šum-ma</i> TI
BM 41373 _i 10'	[... UD]. ⁷ ² .KAM 'UD' .9.KAM : UD.15.KAM GUR.GUR- <i>šum-ma</i> TI

K 15236 2' [... GUR].¹GUR-*šu*¹-[*ma*]¹TI¹

If a man's right ear [...] due to fever, this man shall find the shrine of Šamaš : Šîn (var.: Šîn : Ištar and then tell (his problem and) hear (the divine answer) [...] you pound *emesallu*-salt in cypress oil, *kanaktu*-aromatic oil [you wrap it in a tuft (and) you place it into his right ear] (Then) you pour pure *pūru*-oil over his head and [...]. You do this continually for [x] days (var.: for seven days : nine days : fifteen days) and he will recover.

Formal typology: embedded variant with *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: variant

Glossed term: deity name (shrine of Šamaš : Šîn and shrine of Šîn : Ištar), duration of treatment (for seven days : nine days : fifteen days)

Commentary: The embedded variants obviously provide different text variants. Different deities may be associated with different diseases,⁷ however, ear problems are usually related to the attack of the ghost.⁸ In my previous work, I identified two glosses related to divine agents of diseases (nos. 14 and 43).⁹

Formal typology: subscript gloss without *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: variant

Glossed term: duration of the treatment (seven days : nine days : fifteen days)

⁵ In the edition of BAM 503 iii 48' Scurlock already mentions that in a text variant Igigi is related to Šîn (Scurlock 2014, 376: "^dÍ-gi-gi"); however, she refers the relevant lines of BM 41373 as a parallel text (Scurlock 2014, 718) of BAM 503 which seems inappropriate.

⁶ The reconstruction of this line is based on the next prescription (BM 41373 i 11'-15' and its parallel BAM 503⁺ iii lines 52-54).

⁷ The canonical Diagnostic omen series also associates certain diseases with specific deities or demons. Among them can be found the patient's personal god, Adad, Gula, Ištar, Marduk, Ninurta, Nergal, Šamaš, Šîn, and Šulpae. Of these, Ištar is mentioned most often, in 73 omens, followed by Šamaš in 42 omens (Heeßel 2000, 49-54).

⁸ Scurlock 2006, 14.

⁹ For discussion of these glosses, see Bácskay 2021, 46-47, 79 and 166.

Commentary: The gloss was written with normal-sized cuneiform signs on a blank line¹⁰ and also includes an embedded variant. It could represent other textual variants of the prescription or alternatives to the treatment. It is important to note that semantic variants regarding the duration of treatment are also known from other medical texts (nos. 1 and 5).¹¹

No. 114. BAM 471+ iii 10'-12' // BAM 472 obv. 4'-7' // BAM 469 obv. 38'-42' // Rm 116 (AMT 33, 3 (2)) obv. 10-12¹²

BAM 471+ iii 10' [DIŠ K]IMIN ʾPIŠ₁₀.^dÍD ʾKUR.KUR¹ [... g]ul-gul LÚ.U₁₈.LU

BAM 472+ 4' [... NAM.LÚ].U₁₈.LU

Rm 116 obv. 10 [... SI DARÀ.MA]Š ŠIKA gul-gul LÚ.U₁₉.LU

BAM 469+ obv. 38' DIŠ KIMIN PIŠ₁₀.^dÍD ʾKUR.KUR ŠIM.^dMAŠ SI DARÀ.MAŠ ŠIKA gul-g[ul ...]

BAM 471+ iii 11' [IL]LU LI.D[UR ... ^{giš}ár-g]a-na ^{giš}LUM.HA

BAM 472+ 4'-5' ILLU LI.TAR {sim}BULUH [...] / [... ^{giš}ár-ga-n]a ʾba-ri-rat

Rm 116 obv. 10-11 ILLU LI.TAR / [... ^{giš}ba-r]i-ra-ta₅

BAM 469+ obv. 39'-40' ILLU LI.DUR Ì.UDU ÉLLAG GU₄ GE₆ šá GÙB ^{giš}si-ḥa ^{giš}x x x / ^{giš}ba-ri-ta₅

BAM 471+ iii 12' ʾA¹.GAR.GAR MAŠ.DÀ UZU M[AŠ.DÀ ...] MUN *eme-sal-lì* [:] MUN (*kù-pad*)

ʾPAP 14¹ [x x x q]u-ta-ru šá ŠU.GIDIM.MA

BAM 472+ 5'-7' A.GAR.GAR MAŠ.DÀ UZU MAŠ.DÀ [...] / [. . . S]I ʾDARÀ¹.MAŠ 14 Ú.MEŠ [...] / [ŠU.GIDIM.M]A ʾ: ÉN *dup-pir lem-nu*¹ [ÉN m]u-šal-lim É.KUR ana UGU ŠID-nu [x x x]

Rm 116 obv. 11-12 A.GAR.GAR MAŠ.DÀ UZU MAŠ.DÀ / [... qu-ta-r]u šá ŠU.GIDIM.MA

BAM 469+ obv. 40'-42' A.GAR.GAR MAŠ.DÀ UZ[U x x x] / UZU NAM.LÚ.U₁₈.LU MUN *eme-sal-lì* : M[UN x x x] / PAP 14 U₂.ḪI.A qu-ta-ri šá Š[U.GIDIM.MA]

If ditto, *kibrītu*-sulphur, *atā'īšu*-plant, [*nikiptu*-plant, stag horn,] fragment of a human skull, / resin from *abukkatu*-tree *baluḥḥu*-aromatic plant, fat from the left kidney of a black ox, *sīḥu*-tree, *argannu*-tree, *barīrātu*-tree, / gazelle droppings, gazelle meat, human flesh (and) *emesallu*-salt *kupad*-salt -altogether fourteen drugs for a fumigation against 'hand-of-ghost'.

Formal typology: subscript gloss with *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: variant

Glossed term: drug name (*emesallu*-salt *kupad*-salt)

¹⁰ For similar type of gloss, see BAM 264 ii 11'-12' (Bácskay 2021, no. 74), BAM 237 i 40'-41' (Bácskay 2021, no. 86).

¹¹ For discussion of these glosses, see Bácskay 2021, 35, 38-39, 166 and 172.

¹² Here, I edited only the tablets from Nineveh, for edition of all parallels see, Bácskay 2021, 132-134 (no. 91). The small fragment (K 20143) with the gloss as a join to BAM 471 was identified by Simkó (Simkó 11/01/2023), the photo of the tablet with the join was published in Simkó 2024a plate 11. I am grateful to Krisztián Simkó, who brought this glossary to my attention during his work on the NinMed project.

Commentary: The gloss provides an alternate type of salt which may originate from another manuscript of the prescription. The unique importance of this gloss is that the same gloss (in the form of embedded variant) is also preserved on a parallel (BAM 469 obv. 38'-42') of this prescription (for discussion of this gloss, see below). Unfortunately, this part of the text is not preserved on another manuscript of this medical series (Rm 116 obv. 10-12).

No 115. BAM 578+ i 57

57. **ILLU** _{pa 'x' [x?]} **LI.TAR** **Ú** **BABBAR** **U₅** **ARGAB**^{mušen ú} **a**[*k-tam* x x x ^{šir}(m)]**ʾBULUH**¹ x x
x [*ina* **KAŠ NA**]*G-ma* **BURU₈**

Resin (gloss: . . .) from *abukkatu* (a tree), *šammu pešû* ('white plant'), *rikibti arkabi* ('bat guano'), *aktam* (a plant) . . . *baluḥḥu* ('ferula gummosa') . . he drinks (*išattī-ma*) in beer, and then he will vomit (*i'arru*).¹³

Formal typology: subscript gloss without *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: perhaps variant

Glossed term: drug name (Resin (gloss: . . .) from *abukkatu*)

Commentary: According to Johnson and Simkó, the gloss is supposed to contain a part of an *abukkatu*-plant, which is an alternative to the juice of the plant, but the meaning of the gloss is uncertain due to the fragmentary nature of the term.¹⁴ The first sign of the gloss on the tablet in question is certainly PA or GIŠ, and the following reading of the subsequent fragmentary sign fragments is perhaps PA^{ʿsim}[BULUH] = “branch of *baluḥḥu*-aromatic plant”. My suggestion is based on another gloss associated with the juice of the *abukkatu*-plant (Bácskay 2021, 132-134 no. 91).

Literature: Johnson-Simkó 2024, 172 (transliteration and English translation)

No 116. BAM 578+ iv 38

38. **DIŠ NA MIN IM.SAḪAR.NA₄.KUR.RA** **IM.SAḪAR.BABBARKUR.RA**
IM.SAḪAR.GE₆.KUR.RA **DIŠ-niš** *ina* **KAŠ** *tara-SUD* **ʾtu-zak**¹-**k**[*a* x x x x x]

If someone DITTO (= is seized by *aḥḥāzu*-jaundice): you steep (*tarassan*) *aban gabî* ('alum') (gloss: *alluḥaru*) (and) *qitmu* (a black mineral) together in beer, you strain them, (and then) ...¹⁵

Formal typology: subscript gloss without *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: variant

Glossed term: drug name ('alum' *alluḥaru*)

Commentary: The gloss provides an alternative drug for alum. It presumably quotes the text of another manuscript of a medical procedure or refers to an alternative drug for use in treatment. Glosses relating to stones and minerals are rare in medical texts, and my earlier

¹³ I followed the transliteration and English translation of Johnson-Simkó 2024, 172.

¹⁴ Johnson-Simkó 2024, 172 fn. 481.

¹⁵ I followed the transliteration and English translation of Johnson-Simkó 2024, 203.

work includes only five such references.¹⁶ One of them perhaps contains a similar gloss: IM. ^{gab?1-bi?} MIN SAḪAR.NA₄.KUR.RA (Bácskay 2021, 91-92 no. 55).

Literature: Scurlock 2014, 517 and 527 (transliteration and English translation but she did not refer to the gloss), Johnson-Simkó 2024, 203 (transliteration and English translation).

No 117. BAM 578+ iv 41

41. NUMUN ^{giš}bi-ni SÚD ina Ì u KAŠ NAG SUḪUŠ ^{giš}šu-ši ina Ì u KAŠ NAG ^uIGI-20 (eras.)
‘SÚD’ in[a KAŠ NA]G.‘MEŠ’

You pound seed from *bīnu* ('tamarisk') (and) he drinks it in oil and beer. He drinks root from *šūšu* ('liquorice') in oil and beer. You pound *imḫur-ešrā* ('faces twenty' plant), (and) he keeps drinking (*ištanatti*) it in beer.

Formal typology: subscript

Functional typology: uncertain perhaps variant

Glossed term: perhaps drug name (erased)

Commentary: The gloss is not preserved but supposedly it provides an alternate for *imḫur-ešrā*.¹⁷ In my previous work I have a fragmentary gloss related to this plant (Bácskay 2021, 55 no. 21 line 1 = Johnson-Simkó 2024 STO 1 line 98) and an embedded variant (^u*im-ḫur-ešrā* : ^uIGI-*lim* Bácskay 2021, 122-123 no. 85).

Literature: Scurlock 2014, 517 and 527 (transliteration and English translation but she did not refer to the gloss), Johnson-Simkó 2024, 204 (transliteration and English translation)

No. 118. AMT 1/6 line 1'

1' [...] 'x x x' TIL 'x' 'ana ŠĀ' D[UB ...]

... complete/finished? ... you pour ... in (the mixture) ...¹⁸

Formal typology: subscript

Functional typology: uncertain

glossed term: -

Commentary: The gloss seems to be a scribal note which refers to the end of a section of the text but its context is not entirely clear.¹⁹

Literature: Johnson – Simkó 2024, 44-45 (copy, transliteration and English translation)

¹⁶ Bácskay 2021, 161 (nos. 55, 75, 84, 86, 87).

¹⁷ The gloss was intentionally erased (Johnson – Simkó 2024, 204 fn. 569).

¹⁸ I followed the transliteration and English translation of Johnson and Simkó.

¹⁹ For further reference to this term in medical text, see BAM 482 (CRANIUM 2) iv 50': [AL³].TIL = finished (in the colophon); BAM 543 (TEETH 2) iv 57': AL.TIL = finished (in the colophon); SpTU no. 18 obv. 18: AL.TIL = finished (as a gloss); K 2542+ (Schuster-Brandis 2008 Text 17 Ms.A) iv 26: NU AL.TIL = not finished (in the colophon, edited in (Schuster-Brandis 2008, 192-193); Tsukimoto tablet (Tsukimoto 1999; Schwemer 2010 41-45; Scurlock 2014, 417-421) obv. 36: : TIL : = finished (last line of the text); BM 78963 (Stadhouders – Johnson 2018) line 86: NU AL.TIL = not finished (in the colophon). BAM 401 rev. 34: NU AL.TIL = not finished (in the colophon).

No. 119. CT 44, 36 obv. 10- rev. 6.

obv.

10 [a]-^rna^r i-ba-ri-^rim^r ħul-lu-qí^úpe-en-zí-ir

11. PA [gí]^šILDAG^rtu-bal ta^r-sàk ina A ta-la-aš

12. [x] an GIG U₄.3.KAM^rta^r-ša-mid ina U₄.4.KAM DU₈-s[u]

rev.

1.[G]A.RAŠ^{sar}tu-šab-šal LAL-ma ina U₄.5¹.KAM ri-ib-ki LAL

2. ina U₄.6.KAM LU.ÚB^{sar}ta-ša-mid šum-ma la in-na-a-ah

3. ILLU ba-lu-hi DUH.ŠE.GIŠ.Ì tu-bal ZÍD ŠE.SA.A

4. ZÍD ŠE.MUŠ₅ ZÍD GIG ka^{he-pi}šur-šu-mi KAŠ

5. ŠE₁₀ TU^{mušen} TÉŠ.BI TI-qí ina GA HI.HI ta-ħaš-<šal> ina KAŠ HI.HI

6. LÁL-ma TI.LA

In order to remove *ibāru-lesion*, you dry and pound pinzir-plant / ¹¹leaf of *adāru*-tree, knead (them) in water, / ... tie (it) on for three days. On (the) fourth day untie him (and) / boil leek. Bind (it) on, and on the fifth day bandage (him) with (this) concoction. / On the sixth day you bandage (him) with turnip. If (the disease) will not come to rest, / you dry *baluħħu*-resin (and) sesame bran (then) take together flour of parched grain, ¹⁶*šigūšu*-flour, *kibtu*-flour, ka^{broken} beer dregs, ¹⁷dove dung', mix (them) in milk, you crush (and) mix (them) in beer, bind (it) on and he will recover.

Formal typology: subscript gloss

Functional typology: *hepi* gloss

Glossed term: drug (ka^{broken})

Commentary: The gloss relates to a medical substance which was perhaps partially broken on the original tablet. The scribe recognised only the initial sign of the word and he was unable or unwilling to complete it. The colophon on the tablet suggests that the text was copied by an apprentice scribe, and the lack of practice is also attested by scribal errors elsewhere in the tablet.²⁰ Due to the lack of a determinative, the medicinal substance with the broken gloss may have been the logogram of *imbū tāmti* (algae), a common herb in medical texts (KA A.AB.BA). It should be noted that similar passages, i.e. referring to the corrupted part of the term with the gloss *hepi*, also occur on other medical tablets written by a skilled practitioner.²¹

No. 120. SpTU 2/50 rev. 8

8. DIŠ NA IGI^{II}-šú LÜ.LÜ-ħa LÁL Ì.NUN.NA Ì.SAG^{hal-sa}DIŠ-niš KÚM.KÚM-am ta-ša-ħal ana IGI^{II}-šú ŠUB

²⁰ Due to the poor condition of the original tablet from which CT 44 36 had been copied several errors are attested in the text (e.g., obv. 4, 6 and 8, and perhaps also in obv. 17).

²¹ In my previous work I discussed two similar types of *hepi* glosses, each related to a technical term related to the digestion of a medicine (Bácskay 2021, 15-16). BAM 579, one of the manuscripts of the STOMACH series, whose *hepi* glosses in some of the recipes in the first column may refer to missing herbs in the text (BAM 579 i 55 and 56-58 (Johnson-Simkó 2024, 235)).

If a person's eyes are cloudy: you heat up with each other honey, butter (and) ^{filtered} fine oil, (then) you filter (and) pour (it) onto his eyes.

Formal typology: superscript without *Glossenkeil*

Functional typology: perhaps variant

Glossed term: liquid (fine oil ^{filtered})

Commentary: A fine oil (Ī.SAG = *šaman rūšti*) written above *ḫal-ša* probably refers to the term *šamnu ḫalšu* (filtered oil), which is often found in medical texts and may be originated from another manuscript of the prescription or used as an alternative liquid in the treatment. The latter interpretation may be strengthened by the fact that fine oil, produced by cold pressing, may have been among the most expensive types of oil, and thus the practitioner who copied the treatment phps. offered an alternative. However, Panayotov and Geller suggest that the gloss does not refer to any alternative, but it belongs to the normal text which was simply written between the two lines for lack of space. This explanation is supported by the absence of *Glossenkeil* before the gloss and the fact that the text of the line runs out onto the edge of the plate. It should be noted that among the textual references I have previously collected, I have identified a total of 20 oil-related glosses and embedded variants. Most of these references related to cedar oil as an alternative to sesame oil or ghee.²²

Literature: von Weiher, 1983, 195-196 (transliteration and English translation), Scurlock 2014, 361-364 (transliteration and English translation), Geller-Panayotov 2020, 103, 150, 158 (transliteration and English translation), eBL (transliteration and English translation)

No. 121. BM 55516+ obv. 4'-8'²³

BM 55516+ obv. 4 'DIŠ¹ NA KÚM U₄ 1-KAM DAB-*su* U₄ 1-KAM BAR-š[ú IM PA₅ TI-
'qí¹ ina A.PA₅ HI.HI]

BAM 148 obv. 34-35 [...] U₄-1-'KÁM DAB-*su*¹ MIN U₄-1-KÁM BAR-šú IM P[A₅] / [ina]
'A.PA₅)¹ HI.HI]

CTN 4 150 rev. 1 [DIŠ] NA¹ KÚM U₄ 1-KAM DAB-*su-ma* U₄ 1-KAM BAR-š^u 'IM¹ PA₅
TI-'qí¹ ina A.P[A₅ HI.HI]

BM 55516+ obv. 5. SU LÚ.'GIG¹ *tu-kap-par záp-pi* ANŠE šá [15 *záp-pi* ANŠE šá *šumēlu*]

BAM 148 obv. *záp-pi* MUNUS.ANŠE šá '15¹ *záp-pi* MUNUS.ANŠE šá *šumēlu*

CTN 4 150 rev. 2 'záp¹-pi ANŠE 15 *záp-pi* ANŠE.MUNUS GÙB šá 150

BM 55516+ obv. 6 'KI¹ 'gáb(?)^{-b}i¹ IM šú-a-tú HI.HI ^{na4}KIŠIB DÙ-uš ÍB.T[AK₄] *záp-p*[i ...]

BAM 148 (obv. 36-37) [... š]u-a-tu₄ HI.[HI] ^{na4}KIŠIB 'DÙ¹-uš ÍB.T[AK₄ ...] / [DÙ[?].DÙ[?].BÍ[?]
ana] UGU ^{na4}KIŠIB MÚNŠ[UB ...]

CTN 4 150 rev. KI IM šu-a-tu₄ HI.[HI] / [ⁿ]^{na4}KIŠIB 'DÙ¹-uš ÍB.TAK₄ *záp-p*[i] [š]u-a-
tum] UGU ^{na4}KIŠIB MÚN[ŠUB ...]

²² Bácskay 2021, 162 and 171.

²³ Edited in Bácskay 2018: 148 and 153 as No.51 Ms.NA28 lines 34-40. The text edition in this paper was corrected by suggestions of Marten Stol in his review (Stol 2018: 348).

If one day the fever seized him (and) on another day left him, you mix canal clay in canal water, / (and) wipe the ill man's body. (Take) hair from the right (part) of a donkey (var. a female donkey), hair from the left (part) of a donkey (var. a female donkey), mix (them) in that clay^{alum} (and) make a cylinder seal, [put] the remaining animal hair on the cylinder seal, the hair [...]

Formal typology: subscript gloss without *Glosseinkeil*

Functional typology: variant

Glossed term: material of a cylinder seal using as an amulet (^{alum} clay)

Commentary: the gloss offers an alternative to the material of a cylinder seal inscribed with a Lamaštu incantation and used as a magic amulet.²⁴ The gloss may be originated from another manuscript of the procedure.

Literature: Bácskay 2023, 157 and 160.

No. 122. K 15236 line 5'-6'²⁵

5' [...] ʿxʿ *kāṣʷ-ša-te* : ʾšim^{LI}

6' [... U₄.7.KÁM GUR.G]UR-*šu-ma* TI

[...] cold ... : oil of *burāšu-juniper* / [...] You do this continually [for seven days] and he shall recover.

Formal typology: embedded variant

Functional typology: perhaps variant

Glossed term: liquid (cold ... : oil of *burāšu-juniper*)

Commentary: The reading *kāṣ-ša-te* as an unusual form of *kaṣāti* (fem. plural form of *kaṣû* = cold) is quite hypothetical and I do not know of any reference.

Literature: unpublished (transcription on eBL).

No. 123. Sm. 440 lines 1'-5'

1' [...] ʿDUGUD^ʷ-ʿšû^ʷʿxʿ [...]

2' [... *i*]k-ki-ik [...]

3' [...] ʿûʿ gan na [...]

[...] : [...]

4' [...] ʿxʿ n[aʷ ...]

5' [...] ʿxʿ [...]

[...] it is burdensome to him [...] / [...] he scratches [...] / [...] ... (gloss [...]) [...]

²⁴ For clay carved cylindrical amulets see Finkel 2018 and Bácskay – Niederreiter 2022.

²⁵ Small fragment (right edge) with NA script, based on parallel passages in BAM 503 iii 48'-58' it contains medical prescriptions against ear problems. Cf. no. 113 above.

Formal typology: interlinear gloss

Functional typology: unknown

Glossed term: unknown

Commentary: Only the *Glossenkeil* is preserved which was written on the ruling. Due to the poor condition of the fragment the exact context of the gloss is not clear but may be it is connected to the term 'ú' gan na which can be interpreted as D stem of an Akkadian verb *kanû* (ú-kan-na) or as a logographic form of the *bukānu*-plant (úGAN.NA) using the determinative of plant names instead of the usual determinative of tree names. The later interpretation can be confirmed a medical prescription against kidney problems (BAM 7 no. 13 lines 4'-5') which mentions the syllabic form of this drug name using the determinative of plant names (úbu-ka-nu).²⁶

Literature: unpublished (transcription on eBL).

No 124. BM 41289 ii 13' // BAM 503+ iv 19 // AO 6774 (Geller (JMC 14) iii 18'-19')

BM 41289 ii 13' BU[RU_s.HA]BRUD^{ru}.DA NÍTA SAG.DU-su TAR-i[s]
'MÚD⁷1.'ME⁷1rka⁷1-[...]

BAM 503+ iv19. BURU_s.HABRUD.DA NITA SAG.DU-s[u ...]

AO 6774 iii 18'-19' BURU_s.HABRUD.DA^{mušen} NÍTA SAG.DU-su [tanakkis] / MÚD.MEŠ-šú
KÚM-ti ana ŠÀ GEŠTU^{II}-šú tu-[nat²-tak²]

You cut the head of male *iššūr hurri* bird and drip (its) hot blood into his ear.

Formal typology: gloss with normal script followed by the glossed term

Functional typology: pronunciation gloss (partial) or

Glossed term: BU[RU_s.HA]BRUD^{ru}.DA

Commentary: The gloss supposedly provides help for pronunciation of the logogram HABRUD. An Akkadian translation gloss related to the logogram BURU_s.HABRUD.DA is also attested on AO 11447 (Geller 2007) obv. 28.²⁷

Literature: unpublished (transcription on eBL)

Analysis

In terms of their function, a minority of the glosses and embedded variants discussed above are pronunciation glosses (nos. 111, 112 and 124) indicating the suitable reading of the cuneiform signs in the glossed expressions, while the majority are variant glosses containing semantic or orthographic variants of the glossed terms (nos. 113, 114, 115, 116, 117, 120, 121, 122).²⁸ These are usually representing alternatives to medicinal substances (nos. 114, 116, 117, 121) or liquids used in the preparation of the medicine (nos. 115, 120, 122). Thus, for example, in the case of 'alum *alluḥaru*-mineral' (no. 116), the *alluḥaru* is an alternative to alum; or in the case of 'fine oil ^{filtered}' (no. 120), the gloss filtered (oil) seems to be a variant of fine oil. Such medicinal substances and liquids formally presented as glosses or embedded variants may represent variants from different manuscripts of the text describing the same medical

²⁶ Geller 2005, 112-113.

²⁷ Bácskay 2021, 76-77 no. 39.

²⁸ For discussion of the semantic and orthographic variant glosses in medical texts, see Bácskay 2021, 168-172.

procedure or may refer to the interchangeability of certain medicinal substances used in the same medical procedure. Among the medical discussed references, glosses and embedded variants on the cuneiform tablets of the Nineveh Medical Encyclopaedia (NME) have a particular importance because the manuscripts for each chapter of the NME are the result of a careful text-editing process, and in many cases several manuscripts for a specific chapter can be examined, as well as textual parallels from other tablets.²⁹ The table below summarises the glosses and embedded variants preserved on the manuscripts of the NME.

Chapter and Tablet	Prescriptions	Number of Glosses
CRANIUM 1	BAM 480+ ii 61, ii 63 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 1, 2)	2 glosses
CRANIUM 2	AMT 19, 1+AMT 20, 1 iv 3'-6' (Bácskay 2021 no. 4)	1 gloss
CRANIUM 3	K 4023 (AMT 104,1+AMT 105, 1) iv 7'-9' (Bácskay 2021 no. 5)	1 embedded variant
CRANIUM 4 or 5	BAM 494 ii 63, ii 73 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 7, 8) BAM 499+(Simkó 2024a plate 7-8) iii 1'-61' (Bácskay 2021 no. 34) ³⁰ AMT 5, 1 i 5'-9' (Bácskay 2021 no. 35)	1 gloss and 1 embedded variant 1 gloss 1 embedded variant
EYE 2	BAM 515 i 1-7, i 72', ii 28-29 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 10, 11, 12)	3 glosses
EYE 3	BAM 516 ii 8'-11', ii 19'-22' (Bácskay 2021 nos. 13, 14)	2 glosses
EARS 1	BAM 503 ii 54'-57', iii 48', iv 20'-21' (Bácskay 2021 nos.16, 111, 17)	2 glosses and 1 embedded variant
NECK 2	BAM 471+ ii 46'-51', iii 12', iii 27', iii 32'-35' (no. 90) (Bácskay 2021 nos. 88, 114, 89, 90)	4 glosses
TEETH 1	BAM 538+ BAM 542 (Simkó 2024a plate 28-29) iii 13-16 (Bácskay 2021 no. 60)	1 gloss
BRONCHIA 5	AMT 80,1+AMT 81, 1 i 1-3, i 29-30 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 29, 30) BAM 548 i 1-3 (Bácskay 2021 no. 29)	2 glosses 1 gloss
BRONCHIA 6?	BAM 555 ii 16-17 (Bácskay 2021 no. 31) BAM 556 ii 71'-iii 9 (Bácskay 2021 no. 32)	1 gloss 1 gloss
BRONCHIA	AMT 51, 1 line 22'-27' (Bácskay 2021 no. 84) AMT 25, 3 obv. 1'-3' (Bácskay 2021	1 gloss 1 gloss

²⁹ More recently, the editing process of the NME medical series has been investigated by Krisztián Simkó on the basis of the colophons of the medical tablets from Assurbanipal's library (Simkó 2024b).

³⁰ My transliteration and translation were corrected by Simkó on eBL.

	no. 98) AMT 54, 1 (2) rev. 2'-4' Bácskay 2021 no. 99)	1 gloss
STOMACH 1	BAM 574+577 i 4-7, ii 32, ii 33-34, ii 35-37, iii 41-42 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 19, 20, 21, 22, 23)	6 glosses
STOMACH 2	BAM 575 iii 4-5, iii 10-11 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 24, 25)	2 glosses
STOMACH 3	BAM 578+AMT 58, 8 i 57, ii 2-5, iv 38, iv 41 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 115, 27, 116, 117)	5 glosses
STOMACH 5	BAM 579 i 55, iv 12-23 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 26, 27)	2 glosses
ANUS 4	BAM 7 No.24 Ms. Y ii 11-17 (Bácskay 2021 no. 33)	1 gloss
KIDNEY 2	BAM 7 No. 2 i 26, ii 16-17 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 80, 81)	2 embedded variants
HARMSTRING 3?	AMT 70, 7+ i 3'-8' (Bácskay 2021 no. 64)	1 gloss and 1 embedded variant
HARMSTRING 4?	AMT 73, 1+ i 25-29, i 65 , iii 16, 18 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 65, 66, 67, 68)	2 glosses and 2 embedded variants
SKIN	BAM 580 i 1'-2', 3'-6', 7'-10', iii 12-14 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 71, 72) AMT 31, 7 ii 5'-6' (Bácskay 2021 no. 104)	4 glosses 1 gloss

Table 2: Glosses and embedded variants in the NME

The tablets belonging to various chapters or sub-series of the NME contain 49 glosses and 9 embedded variants. The manuscripts in all chapters, except only for two chapters (NOSEBLEED and EPIGASTIUM-ABDOMEN), include glosses and embedded variants. Most of the glosses and embedded variants can be identified in chapters CRANIUM (at least four out of five tables, for a total of 5 glosses and 3 embedded variants) and STOMACH (four out of five tables, for a total of 15 glosses). The highest number of glosses is found in the chapter STOMACH and we can find the highest number of glosses per tablet also in the same chapter (STOMACH 1 = 6 glosses and STOMACH 3 = 5 glosses). The high proportion of glosses in the CRANIUM and STOMACH tables may suggest that the largest number of text variants may have been available for the treatment of diseases related to head complaint and gastrointestinal diseases.

Glosses and embedded variants appear occasionally in the text of the NME and they were not copied in all the manuscripts of the same medical tablet belonging to the NME. The only exception known to me is the two manuscripts of BRONCHIA 5, in which the same gloss is repeated in the same prescription: [...] GAZI^{sar} *haš-la-a-ti : qa-la-ti* (AMT 80,1+AMT 81, 1 i 2,) and GAZI^{sar} *haš-la-a-ti : qa-lu-ti* (BAM 548 i 1-3).³¹ The minor difference between the glosses

³¹ Bácskay 2021 2021, 64 (no. 29).

on the two manuscripts may be explained by the fact that they were the product of two different scribes who did not use the same parallel texts to edit BRONCHIA 5.

Like other medical texts, most of these scribal remarks in the NME are glosses, while the number of embedded variants is small. However, the two methods are also found in the same tablets of the NME,³² it is not yet clear why the author or the copyist of these tablets present both methods to the textual variants. This phenomenon is further complicated by the fact that among the Nineveh text parallels of the NME manuscripts containing glosses, there are also texts in which the gloss in the NME manuscript appears as an embedded variant. Indeed, the gloss preserved in one of the manuscripts containing the text of NECK 2 (BAM 471+) appears as an embedded variant on the BAM 469 plate: 'MUN' *eme-sal-li* [=] MUN *kù-pad* (BAM 471+ iii 12') and MUN *eme-sal-li* : M[UN *kù-pad*] (BAM 469 obv. 41'). The texts of the two tablets show orthographic and textual differences, so that it cannot be stated with certainty that the *kupad*-salt, either as a gloss or as an embedded variant, refers to a textual variant from the same tablet.

Below I have collected references to the glosses in two recent volumes of the BAM which also discussed glosses and embedded variants edited in my book before. The NME Medical Series on Eye Diseases (EYE) was published by Markham Geller and Strahil Panayotov in Volume 10 of the BAM series, which mentions all the glosses I have previously discussed.

Text	Bácskay 2021	Geller-Panayotov BAM 10
BAM 515 i 5	no. 10 line 5, p. 42	IGI 2 line 5, p. 108 ³³
BAM 515 i 72'	no. 12 line 2, p.	IGI 2 line 101', p. 132
BAM 516 ii 9'	no. 13 line 2, p. 45	IGI 3 line 52', p. 166 ³⁴
BAM 516 ii 19'	no. 14 line 1, p. 46	IGI 3 line 62', p. 167 ³⁵

The NME Stomach Disorders Medical Series (STOMACH) was published by Cale Johnson and Krisztián Simkó in Volume 11 of the BAM series, which mentions all the glosses I have previously discussed and identifies additional glosses not included in my book (see Table 1)

Text	Bácskay 2021	Johnson-Simkó BAM 11
BAM 574+ i 6	no. 19 line 3, p. 53-54	STO 2 line 6, p. 60
BAM 574+ ii 32	no. 20 line 1, p. 54	STO 1 line 97, p. 78
BAM 574+ ii 33	no. 21 line 1, p. 55	STO 1 line 98 p. 78 ³⁶
BAM 574+ ii 37	no. 22 line 3, p. 56	STO 1 line 102, p. 79
BAM 574+ iii 41	no. 23 line 2, p. 57	STO 1 line 172, p. 92 ³⁷
BAM 575 iii 5	no. 24 line 2, p. 58	STO 2 line 140, p. 131 ³⁸

³² BAM 494 ii 63, ii 73 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 7, 8) or BAM 503 ii 54'-57', iii 48', iv 20'-21' (Bácskay 2021 nos. 16, 111, 17) or AMT 70, 7+ i 3'-8' (Bácskay 2021 no. 64) or AMT 73+ i 25-29, i 65 , iii 16, 18 (Bácskay 2021 nos. 65, 66, 67, 68).

³³ For the interpretation of the gloss, see Bácskay 2021, 43 and Geller-Panayotov 2020, 272.

³⁴ For the interpretation of the gloss, see Bácskay 2021, 46, 158 and Geller-Panayotov 2020, 288.

³⁵ For the interpretation of the gloss, see Bácskay 2021, 46-47, 172 and Geller-Panayotov 2020, 288.

³⁶ For the interpretation of the gloss, see Bácskay 2021, 56, 162 and Johnson-Simkó 2024, 78 fn. 196 and 197.

³⁷ For the interpretation of the gloss, see Bácskay 2021, 57-58 and Johnson-Simkó 2024, 92 fn. 241.

BAM 575 iii 10	no. 25 line 1, p. 59	STO 2 line 145, p. 132
BAM 578+ ii 4 and 5	no. 27 line 1, p. 59	STO 3 lines 74 and 75, p. 175 and 176
BAM 579 i 55	no. 26 line 1, p. 60	STO 5 line 55, p. 235 ³⁹
BAM 579 iv 15	no. 28 line 3, p. 62	STO 5 line 207', p. 247

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³⁸ For the interpretation of the gloss, see Bácskay 2021, 58-59 and Johnson-Simkó 2024, 131 fn. 361.

³⁹ Johnson and Simkó corrected my transliteration and they interpreted this gloss as *ḫe-pí*.

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