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CONCEPTUAL STUDY ON THE ETIOLOGICAL FACTORS APPLICABILITY IN THE CLINICS W.S.R TO MEDOVAHASROTO VIKARAS

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ABSTRACT:

Trisutra Ayurveda emphasizes mainly on the diagnostics and treatment approach. The applied study on Hetu [etiology of the disease] in every subjects clinically irrespective of the Desha [place of birth/diseased], Kaala [state and stage of the disease], Rutu [seasonal influence], Vaya [age] is significant in today's scenario where the diagnosis of the disease is reliant merely on laboratory findings rather than history taking and clinical valuation of both the diseased and the disease. Understanding Hetu/Nidana considerably with respect to severity in the manifestation of the disease and its anticipation helps in the advancement of fundamentals in the treatment protocol. Medovahasroto Dusti Vikaras [Diseases caused due to atypical Medo Dathu] i.e. Prameha, Sthoulya, Karshya which are acknowledged as lifestyle disorders are apparent in day to day clinics with an upsurge in its percentage in Indian population. Notable previous works has not be done on the analysis of Nidana usage practically in the clinics. Hence, the present literary work is preferred in making an effort to assess the importance of etiological factors influence in Medovahasroto Dusti Vikaras.

Keywords- Nidana, Medovahasroto Vikara

INTRODUCTION

In the current period understanding of health and disease status has turn out to be substantial. This thought varies from one system of medicine to another because of distinctive methodologies and principles it stands on. Accepting the complex human body's structure and function itself varies from contemporary and Ayurvedic Science which pointers the alteration in consideration of health and disease. According to Ayurveda, Vikara [state of abnormality] or Dukha [distress] pertaining to Kaya [body], Vak [speech] and Manas [mind] changes as an resultant of *Dhatu Vaishamyatha* [disturbance in equilibrium of body elements] and Prakruti [state of normal physiological functioning] or Sukha [well-being] is because of Dhatu Samyata [equilibrium of anatomical & physiological body elements][1]. Therefore preserving Dosha -Dhatu Samyata is the definitive aim of the science [2].

Nutrition plays a key role in the restoration of health as well as retrieving a person from disease condition. Every person should receive the right amount of nutrition, both excess and underneath nourishment manifests into disease condition. According to classics these diseases are known as *Santarpanajanya Vyadhis* [diseases due to excess nourishment] and *Apatarpanajanya*

Vyadhis [diseases due to under nourishment]. Classification of disorder especially pertaining to Medodhatu - Prameha, Sthoulya and Karshya are a major concern in present time. Conquering over these diseases and improving the life expectancy and quality of life is the need of the hour.

Materials and Methods

The article is based on literary review collected from classical Ayurvedic texts, contemporary science books. The text from *Brihattrayee* i.e. *Charaka Samhita, Sushruta Samhita, Ashtanga Hridaya* and their respective commentaries in Sanskrit as well as Hindi have been referred for the present literary work.

TRISUTRA AYURVEDA AND IMPORTANCE OF HETU

Ayurveda is obtainable in the system of *Trisutra* [three aphorisms] for the purpose of understanding both *Swastha* as well as *Athura Purusha*. These *Trisutras* are *Hetu* [causative factor for origin of disease], *Linga* [signs and symptoms seen as a result of manifestation of disease], and ultimately *Aushadha* [medications & treatments of disease] [3]. *Hetu* is placed first among the three because of its utmost implication in analyzing the disease indicator.

Scrutinizing Hetu is the first step in understanding a disease. Practice of *Hetu* leads to *Dosha Vaishamyata* [disturbance in equilibrium of body humors] which leads to

Agni Dushti [disturbance in digestion process] which in turn incites and vitiates Dushyas [body structures] after Dosha Dushya Sammorchana [interface between Dosha and Doshya] leading to progression of the pathogenesis. For disease to manifest this interaction should occur at a particular anatomical site which require intensity of vitiation of Doshas. Based on Dosha, Dushya, Agni, Kaala, Bala, Prakruti, Vaya, Satva, Satmya of the subject and the disease, the pathogenesis progresses through various stages of Vyadhi Kriya Kaala- Sanchaya, Prakopa, Prasara, Sthanasamshrava, Vvaktha and Bheda [stages of pathogenesis] [4].

A disease can be diagnosed and treated if a physician is effective in ascertaining the etiological factors for the manifestation of the disease. For example, when a person practices Adharma [unrighteous act] Daivavyapashraya mode of treatment using - Mantra Ucchara, Aushadha Dharana, Mani Dharana, Managala Vachana, Bali, Upahara, Homa, niyama, prayascchitha, upavasa, svasthyayana, pranipatagamana etc. will be adopted [5]. So ascertaining Nidana and advising the patient to constrain the practice of causative factor of the disease itself is considered as a prime approach of Chikitsa [treatment] known as Nidana Parivarjana [avoiding all the etiological factors initiating the disease] [6].

FACTORS RESPONSIBLE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF DISEASE

Acharya Charaka elucidated the concept of Vyadhi Vighatakara Abhava i.e. absence of factors that can hinder the process of disease development, the factors are Nidana [etiological factors], Dosha [physiological elements of the body] and Dushya [systemic functions of the bodyl, interaction between these three factors along with the immune status of the patient constitute a principal part in the pathogenesis. Vikara Vighatakara Bhava and Abhava with the influence of Nidana, Dosha, Dushya and Vyadhikshamatva leads to either non-development of disease or delayed development of the disease condition or development of disease with less severe or minimal symptoms ^[7].

mentioned earlier, Vyadhikshamatva [immunity] offered by the body is also a major determining factor for the extent of progression of a disease. An individual's Vyadhikshamatva depends on various factors like excellence of quality of sperm and ovum of parentages, genetic predisposition, place of birth and livelihood, age, seasonal influence, and maintenance of healthy lifestyle like performing consistent physical exercise, nutritious regimen, undertaking Rasayana [rejuvenation therapy],etc [8] [9].

DIAGNOSIS OF DISEASE

Diagnosis is the paramount segment in the treatment protocol of the disease. Ayurveda gives prominence equally to Rogi Pareeksha [examination of patient] and Roga Pareeksha [examination of disease]. Rogi Pareeksha is conducted by Dvividha, Trividha, Chaturvidha, Ashtavidha Shadvidha, and Dashavidha Pareeksha(types of clinical examination), while Roga Pareeksha is conducted by Nidana Panchakas (etiology, premonitory symptoms, symptoms. diagnostic therapeutics pathogenesis) [10]. A judicious physician will foremost diagnose the disease, and based on the diagnosis determines the appropriate medication. Physician who is skilled in administration of medicine by assessing Desha [place- patient habitat or site of disease] and Kala [time factor e.g. - chronological changes in the functions of *Doshas* with respect to day, night, season and digestion state or stage of disease manifestation] is sure to accomplish the desired objective [11].

NIDANA

Roga Pareeksha is done through Nidana Panchaka. The 5 phases of understanding the pathogenesis are - Nidana [etiological factors], Purvaroopa [premonitory symptoms], Lakshana [symptomatology], Upashaya [diagnostic therapeutics], and Samprapthi [pathogenesis]. Each of the above plays a prominent role in diagnosis, prognosis and

therapeutics of the disease. Out of these five, *Nidana* is the primary diagnostic tool. The contextual meaning of "*Nidana*" is deliberated in two ways- the first implication is *Vyadhijanaka Nidana* and the latter is *Vyadhibhodaka Nidana*. Causative factors for the manifestation of the disease is known as *Vyadhijanaka Nidana*, understanding of the disease by means of *Rogi Pareeksha* and *Nidana Panchaka* is called as *Vyadhibodhaka Nidana* [12].

SYNONYMS OF NIDANA [13]:

- Hetu: initiation of disease with intensification of Vatadi Doshas Guna, Karma.
- Nimitha: certain signs manifested in the body act as causative factor for disease
- 3. Ayathana: place of origin of disease.
- Karta: main culprit for in- equilibrium state of *Doshas*, *Dushyas*, etc. for disease expression.
- Karana: factors which interrupts the normal physiological functions and capable of manifesting the disease.
- 6. Pratyaya: consumption of disagreeable diet unintentionally
- 7. Samutthana: chief fundamental factor for initiation of disease process
- 8. Moola: root cause for initiation of vyadhi.
- 9. Yoni: source of vyadhi.

Table 1. Classification of Nidana [14]

Basis of Classification	Types
Severity, mode of onset, progression of the disease	Sannikrishta
	Viprakrishta
	Vyabhichari
	Pradhanika
Usage of senses, sense organs, Kaala	Asatmya Indriyartha Samyoga
	Prajnaparadha
	Parinama
Specific <i>Dosha Guna Karma</i> involvement, disease causative	Dosha Hetu
factor or both	Vyadhi Hetu
	Ubhaya Hetu
Disease causative and precipitous factors	Utpadaka Hetu
	Vyanjaka Hetu
Mode of causes which are prevalent external and internal of	Bahya Hetu
the body	Abhyantara Hetu
Chaya, Prakopa, Prashama of Doshas in respective Rutu Kriya	Prakrita Hetu
Kala	Vaikrita Hetu
Pradhana(primary) and Apradhana(secondary) Nidana	Anubandha
	Anubandhya
Dosha Gati	Aashayapakarsha

Depending on the severity, mode of onset and time interval in progression of the disease the Chaturvidha Nidana Bheda - 4 fold Nidana classification i.e. Sannikrishta, Viprakrushta, Vyabhichari and Pradhanika has been explained as-

Sannikrushta Nidana: Adjacent source for disease causation. Vatadi tridoshas itself are considered as Sannikrushta Nidana. Doshas indeed undergoes diurnal fluctuations during

day, night, seasonal and in different phases of digestion ^[15]. These *Nidanas* do not require any prerequisite accretion of *Doshas*. For example, *Pitta Dosha* undergoes magnification with respect to its *Guna, Karma, Pramana* in mid part of day, night and digestion.

Viprakrushta Nidana: distant root in disease manifestation, which require preceding accretion of Doshas. For example, in Hemant Rutu [early winter season] Kapha gets hoarded

and is intensified in *Vasanta Rutu* [spring season] to produce *Kaphaja Vikar with respect to its Guna, Karma, Pramana* [diseases predominant with *Kapha Dosha*] [16].

Vyabhichari Nidana: fragile causative factor, which is not accomplished of producing disease individually. These factors are just capable of exaggerating the already ongoing process of disease in the body when combined with other factors like season, place etc. for e.g. *Tamaka Shwasa* gets provoked on cloudy day, by usage of cold water etc^[17].

Pradhanika Nidana: probing etiological factors, which immediately aggregate Doshas and cause life threatening disorders, due to their intense and aggressive nature leads to demise of an individual. For example- poison, allergens and other foreign bodies causing hypersensitivity and anaphylactic reactions, massive body trauma, cessation of body functions, etc.

Depending on the usage of senses, sense organs, *Kala* of the disease the *Trividha Nidana Bheda* - 3 fold *Nidana* classification i.e. *Asatmyaindriyartha Samyoga, Prajnaparadha, Parinama* has been explained as-

Asthmendriyarthasamyoga: Ayoga [diminished use], Atiyoga [excessive use], and Mithyaayoga [deviant use] amongst the Indriyas [sense organs] and its respective Arthas [entity of sense organ] is called

Asthmendriyarthasamyoga. For ex., Sarvasho Adarshanam [not seeing anything] is considered as Ayoga of Indriyartha Roopa [sight] with its Indriya i.e. Chakshurindriya [visual sense organ] [18].

Prajnaparadha: Ayoga, Atiyoga, and Mithyaayoga of Vak [speech], Shareera [body] and Mana [mind] is called Prajnaparadha. For ex., Vegadharana [suppression of natural is considered as Shaaririka urges] Mithyaayoga, Vishama Skhalana [unbalanced dwindling] is considered as Shaaririka Mithyaayoga ¹⁹]

Parinama: Ayoga, Atiyoga, and Mithyaayoga of Sheeta [cold], Ushna [hot], and Varsha [rain] in Hemanth [winter season], Grishma [summer season], and Varsha Rutu [rainy season]. For example, enormous rainfall during rainy season is Atiyoga of Varsha in Varsha Rutu^[20]

Depending on the specific *Dosha Guna Karma* involvement, disease causative factor or both the involvement of *Dosha* and disease causative agent the *Trividha Nidana Bheda* - 3 fold *Nidana* classification i.e. *Dosha Hetu, Vyadhi Hetu, Ubhaya Hetu* has been explained as-

Dosha Hetu: typical Chaya [accretion], Prakopa [intensification] and prashama [reconciliation] of Doshas takes place in respective Rutu

[season]. For example, *Chaya* of *Vata* in *Grishma Rutu* [summer season] [21].

Vyadhi Hetu: explicit causative factors accountable for the progression of specific disease. For example, consistent ingestion of Mrud [mud] manifests Mrudbhakshanajanya Pandu [Pica Disorder] [21].

Ubhaya Hetu: etiological factors that exaggerate Doshas as well as lead to the advancement of specific Vyadhi. For example, factors that aggravate Vata [eg: Excessive traveling on elephant, horse, consumption of ruksha ahara etc] and Raktha [eg: Excessive intake of irritant, hot, sour, alkaline substances etc] can cause Vataraktha disease. [21]

MEDA DHATU

The structure of our body is sustained by Dhosha, Dhatu and Mala [22]. Dhatu organizes the Dharana Karma of Shareera [sustenance]. There are seven *Dhatus* namely *Rasa* [plasma], Raktha [blood], Mamsa [muscle], Meda [fat], Asthi [bone], Majja [bone marrow] and Shukra [reproductive tissue] [23] Each of these seven Dhatus have their own specific physiological and anatmonical functions inside body-Preenana [nourishment], Jeevana [maintenance of life activities], Lepana [sheath], Snehana [lubrication], Dharana [supportive], Poorana [interior of bones] and Garbha Uthpadana [regenerative, conception] respectively [24]

Medo dhatu is the fourth Dhatu among the seven which is molded after Mamsa Dhatu. According to Shabdakalpadhruma "Medati Snehyati Ithi" the derivation of word Meda which means to be unctuous in nature. Because of the unctuous property it is considered to be guru [heavy] and offers strength to the body. It accomplishes functions like Sneha [unctuousness], Sweda [sweat production], Drudatva [compactness of the body] and Asthi Pushti [nurture bone cells] [25]. It is present in diverse anatomical positions of the body -Udara [abdomen], inside Anuasthi [small bones] as Saraktha Meda [red bone marrow], inside Sthoola Asthi [long bones] as Majja and in between muscles as vasa [intramuscular fat] [26] . Medas is Drava Pradhana Dhatu with predominance of Prithvi, Aap and Teja [Earth, water and fire respectively] Mahabhoota^[27]

MEDOVAHA SROTAS

Srotas are structural and functional units of the body that are entitled for derivation, transformation and obliteration of *Dosha*, *Dhatu*, and *Mala*. Word *Srotas* [body channels] has its root as '*Sru Sravane*' which means to ooze, move or flow ^[28]. It symbolizes the macro and micro body channels and pathway. 13 types of *Srotas* are explained by *Acharyas*. Three carrying the vital essentials i.e. *Prana* [respiratory system], *Udaka* [circulating body fluids- blood, lymph, tissue fluids], and *Anna*

[digestive tract]. Seven for respective *Dhatu* transport i.e. *Rasa, Raktha, Mamsa, Meda, Asthi, Majja* and *Shukra*. And the last three which carry the metabolic waste of the body i.e. *Mutra* [urine], *Pureesha* [feces] and *Sweda* [sweat] [29]

Each *Srotas* have *Srotomoola* [source structure]. These *Srotomoola*, apart from being the main site for physiological function, is also the focal position for the pathological manifestation of a disease. Different *Acharyas* have mentioned different *Srotomoolas* for *Medovaha Dhatu* are-

Table 2. Srotomula according to different Acharyas

Acharya	Srotomoola
Acharya Charaka ^[30]	Vrikka [kidney] Vapavahana
	[omentum]
Acharya Sushruta [31]	Vrikka
	Kati [pelvic region]
Acharya Vagbhata ^[32]	Vrikka
	Mamsa [muscle tissue]

MEDOVAHA SROTODUSHTI NIDANA

Vitiation of *Medovaha Srotas* is initiated due to

– *Avyayama* [lack of physical exercise], *Divaswapna* [day sleep], *Atibhakshana* of *Medya Ahara* [excessive consumption of oily

food substances] and excessive consumption of *Vaaruni* [alcoholic drink prepared from toddy

palm or dates palm] [33]

DISCUSSION

The expression of a disease and preservation of health will be determined by practice of etiological factors, *Dosha* and *Dushya*, which is explicated intricately under the direction of *Vikara Vighatakara Abhava* and *Vikara Vighatakara Bhava*. Based on the arrangement

and amalgamation of etiology, Dosha, Dushya ie. Dravataha, Gunataha, Karmataha equality the manifestation of the clinical features and pathogenesis ensues. If the arrangement does not depend on each other or based on Kaala or based on minimal formation then the disease does not marked or manifests later or expresses less severe disease or disease exhibits with good prognosis. On the contrary based on the encouraging etiology, Dosha, Dushya with Kaala leads to severe expression of the disease or bad prognostic disease or manifestation of disease with all clinical features arises. For instance: In *Prameha* Vyadhi etiological factors like Aasyasukha

[consuming excess food only based on taste perception without considering hunger], Swapna Sukha [sleeping for long hours], Kaphavardhaka Aahara [food items leading to Kapha vitiation] leads to Kapha Dosha Vruddhi with its Aashrayee Dhatu Medo, Mamsa Dhatu Vruddhi with favorable Kaala leading to exhibition of Tulyaguna amongst Nidana, Dosha, Dushya sorts appearance of severe disease. Hence, scrutinizing the etiological factors and its position in demonstration of clinical features, severity, prognosis complete pathogenesis of the ailment is substantial.

Assortment of line of management with medications grounded on the above concept is the prerequisite for the hour. *Nidana Parivarjana* is the prime line of *Chikitsa* to be adopted. Hindrance in the practice of etiological factors leads to cessation in the arrangement of *Dosha, Dushya* and *Kaala* with

respect to disease manifestation. Later based on the Dosha and Dushya involved by analyzing the clinical features, severity and prognosis of the disease i.e. State and stage of the disease the management protocol Shadvidha Upakarma - Langhana [deprivation therapy], Rukshana [drying therapy], Swedana [sudation therapy] to be implemented in Santarpanajanya Vyadhi [e.g. Prameha, Sthoulya] and Bruhmana [nourishing therapyl, Snehana **[oleation** therapy], Stambhana [astringent therapy] to be incorporated for Apatarpanajanya Vyadhi [e.g. Karshyal.

Medovaha Sroto Vikaras are Prameha, Sthoulya and Karshya, recognized as Lifestyle disorders which is much prevalent in today's culture. In the present study only 4 fold classification of Nidana is considered with respect to Medovaha Sroto Vikaras as mentioned in classics by different Acharyas in the below table:

Table 3. Medovahasroto Vikara Nidana

Vyadhi	Sannikrushta	Viprakrushta	Vyabhichari	Pradhanika
Prameha	Sheeta, Snigdha, Drava,	Havi Prashana	Kapha Utpadaka	
(EF-2)	Pichila, Guru and Madhura	[consuming excess	Hetu [etiological	
[34] [35] [36]	Ahara Sevana [consumption of	quantity of ghee]	factors leading to	
	cold, oily, fluid, sticky, heavy		Kapha vitiation ex:	
	and sweet food items, ex:		yavaka, masha,	
	pishtanna, anupa mamsa]		sheeta kala,etc	
	Ati Dadhi Sevana [consumption	Aadibala pravruthi(<i>Medho</i> and <i>Mutra</i>	
	of excess quantity of curd]	morbidity of	Kara [factors	
		<i>Shukra</i> and	contributing to	

		Shonitajanya	increased urine and	
		Vyadhi)	fat production, ex:	
			sugarcane]	
	Atidrava Annapana [excess			
	liquid food consumption]			
	Ati Paya Sevana [excess			
	consumption of cow, buffalo or			
	any other animal milk]			
	Consumption of Ikshu and			
	Guda [sugarcane, jaggery and			
	its by- products]			
	Gramya Anupa Audaka Prani			
	Mamsa Ati Sevana			
	[consumption of native, marshy			
	and aquatic animals meat]			
	Nava Dhanya [consuming			
	freshly harvested grains]			
	Vyayama Varjya			
	[not performing physical			
	exercise]			
	Divaswapna [sleeping during			
	day time]			
	Aalasya Prasaktha [laziness]			
	Aasya Sukha [consuming excess			
	food only based on taste			
	perception without considering			
	hunger]			
	Swapna Sukha [sleeping for			
	long hours]			
	Sura sevana [excess alcohol			
	consumption]			
Sthoulya [37]	Atisampoorana [excessive food	Beeja Swabhava		
[ACB-1]	consumption even after	(genetic		
	satiety]	predisposition, ex:		

		Astanindita		
		Purusha)		
	Guru, Madhura, Sheeta,			
	Snigdha Upayoga [heavy,			
	sweet, cold and oily food			
	consumption, ex: ksheera,			
	dadhi]			
	Avyayama [not performing			
	physical exercise]			
	Avyavaya [abstinence from			
	sexual intercourse]			
	Divaswapna [indulging in day			
	sleep]			
	Harshanitya [incessant			
	exuberance]			
	Achintana [absence of			
	uncertainties]			
Karshya	Rooksha Annapana Sevana	Prakruthi	Vikaranushaya	
[AAB-29]	[intake of dry food and drinks,	[Dehajanaka	[unremitting illness,	
[38]	ex: Chanaka, truna dhanya]	Beejam – inherited	ex: Shvasa,	
		conditions, ex:	Jvara, Arshas etc.]	
		Astanindita		
		Purusha]		
	Langhana [fasting]	Jara [old age]		
	Pramithashana [intake of food	Krodha [anger]		
	in inadequate quantity]			
	Kriyathiyoga [excess			
	administration of purificative			
	therapies]			
	Shoka [grief]			
	Vega Nigrahana [suppression			
	of natural urges]			
	Rooksha Udwartana [massage			
	with dry substances]			

Snana Abhyasa		
[repeated bathing for long		
duration]		

Further categorization of the Aharaja, Viharaja and Manasika Nidanas into Sannikrishta, Viprakrushta, Vyabhichari and Pradhanika helps in determining the sternness of a vyadhi with its prognosis. As inferred from the above analysis of Pradhanika Nidana table, contributing development to Medovahasroto Vikara is challenging as in the Upadrava Avastha of Medovahasroto Vikaras, Pradhanika Nidana possibly will play a substantial role. Due to the involvement of either Avarna or Dhatukshaya Samprapti comprising two conjointly contrary Doshas i.e. Vata and Medas. Hence, disease progression and severity are to be understood and addressed decisively. The present effort is grounded on the basis of review of literature and the persistent work of the same as observational study marks weightage in Nidana study.

CONCLUSION

Sequestration of causative factor is the principal step in both curative and prevention of the disease. In recent times lifestyle disorders have amplified significantly, hence analysis of *Nidana* and its practice routinely by *Vaidyas* is the need for the hour. The etiological factors as mentioned in *Prameha*,

Sthoulya, Karshya Vyadhi's are to be gauged in day to day clinics by history taking in the form of questionnaires which in turn supports the valuation of mode of onset, disease progression and severity of the disease. Pathya [do's] and Apathya [don'ts] approach of Aahara [form & processing of food], Kayika-Vachika- Manaiksa Vihara [physical, mental, verbal activities] has to be advised in everyday clinics to the healthy as well as diseased for the betterment.

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