

WORLD JOURNAL OF PHARMACEUTICAL RESEARCH

SJIF Impact Factor 8.074

Volume 8, Issue 2, 1731-1736.

Review Article

ISSN 2277-7105

SAMANYA – VISHESHA SIDDHANT AND ITS CLINICAL IMPORTANCE – A CONCEPTUAL STUDY

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Article Received on 21 Dec. 2018,

Revised on 11 Jan. 2019, Accepted on 01 Feb. 2019

DOI: 10.20959/wjpr20192-14246

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ABSTRACT

Siddhanth refers to basic fundamental principles. In Ayurveda, various siddhanth are postulated. Samanya – Vishesha siddhant is one of them which help in maintaining health as well as for treatment. Samanya is one thing that occurs in all objects and brings them into one group. A thing is same or alike to any constituent always increase that constituent in body in terms of quantity, quality or action. It causes increase in substance or padartha. Samanya theory is used in nourishment and health maintainance. Vishesha explains about the difference between two substances in terms of quantity, quality or

action. *Vishesha* is the root cause for specification or decrease. To manage the *doshas* primarily the *Vishesha* theory is applied. *Samsodhan and Samshamana* is based on *Vishesha* theory. Thus, *Samanya* – *Vishesha siddhanth* explains how *Dravya*, *Guna*, *Karma* are basic for therapeutic actions and it can be said that *Samanya* – *Vishesha siddhanth* is one of the basic line of treatment for *vriddhi* and *kshaya* of *dhoshas*, *dhatus* and *malas*.

KEYWORDS: Siddhanth, Samanya, Vishesha, Vriddhi, Kshina, Samshodhan, Samshamana.

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is not merely the science for treating illness but also the science of life which helps to maintain health. According to Aacharya Sushruta, A person is said to be swastha only if the doshas, malas, dhatus, malas are in state of equilibrium with emotional, mental and spiritual well being. The disequilibrium of these leads to disease. Dhatu vaishmya is a stage of disease and it can be either because of vriddhi or kshina dosha, dhatu or malas. One of the basic lines of treatment for dhatu vaishmya as per ayurveda is Samanya – Vishesha

Siddhanth.

Siddhanth refers to the basic fundamental of principles. In Ayurveda, several siddhanth are given which are Panchmahabhuta, Tridosha, Lok-purusha samaya siddhanth and Samanya Vishesh siddhanth. The concept of Samanya – Vishesha siddhanth helps in basic line of treatment. It can also be said as principle of Similarity – Dissimilarity.

According to Ayurveda, the disease occurs in body either because of *vriddhi* (increase) or *kshaya* (decrease) of doshas and dhatus which disturbs the equilibrium state of body. Treatment involves *samanyavada* by which *kshina dhatu* is increased by similar dravya, guna or karma.

And the *visheshavada* by which *vriddha dhatu* is decreased by opposite *dravya*, *guna* or *karma*.

The basic knowledge of *samanya* – *vishesha siddhanth* is a vital tool in prevention of disease as well as in treating the illness. "*Kshina Vardhavitavyah*, *Vriddha Hraasyitavyah*, *Samaah Palayitavyah*." (as.sa.su.20) is the basic concept of treatment by mean of which *kshina dhatus* should be increased, *vriddha dhatus* should be decreased, and the *sama dhatus* are to be maintained in equilibrium and this can be attained by studying the samanaya viashesha principle.

AIM: Samanya – Vishesha Siddhanth and its clinical importance – A conceptual study.

OBJECTIVE

- 1. To understand the fundamental principle of Samanya Vishesh Siddhanth.
- 2. To understand its clinical importance.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

For this study Ayurvedic literature is collected from Classical text of Ayurveda.

CONCEPTUAL STUDY

Definition of word *Siddhanth, Samanya, Vishesha:* The word *Siddhanth* means established truth, demonstrated conclusion or the basic fundamental principles. *Samanya* means same quality substances & *Vishesha* means opposite quality substance.

How Samanya - Vishesha principle works

Samanya is the basis to classify or group or intellect of unit (*Ekatvakara*) is based on *tulyarth* (analogy or similarity) which result in *vriddhi karanam*. *Samanya* works by increasing the substance by acting either through *Dravya*, *Guna*, or *karma*.^[2]

Vishesha is antagonistic to *samanya* which is based on *prithakatva* or intellect which says this object is different from other leading to *hras-hetu* (decrease).^[2]

Types of Samanya – Vishesha

Samanya is calssified differently by different Aachryas.

Acc.to Aachrya Charak, *Samanya* is classified into 3 types namely, *Dravya samanya*, *Guna samanya*, *Karma samanya*.

- **1.** *Dravya Samanya:* is based on "*sarvada sarva bhavanam samanya vriddhi karanam*" neans same nature of *dravya* increase the same type of *dravaya*. As *kshina manas dhatu* can be increased by the intake of *manas* itself.
- **2.** *Guna Samanya:* is based on "*samanayam ekatavakaranam*" [3] means the substance can be increased on the basis of quality as it is common in the two, like consuming *ghee* corrects depleted *shukra dhatu*. As *ghee* & *shukra dhatu* both resembles in terms of *guna* like *madhur, sheet* & *snigdha* property.
- **3.** *Karma Samanya:* is based on "*tulyartha hi samanyam*" means the substance can be increased on the basis of mode of action like resting for long hours or sleeping causes increase in *kapha* in body due to *sthira guna* of *kapha*.

Aachayas Bhattar Harish Chandra described other types of Samanya^[4]

- **1.** *Atyanta Samanya:* means the drug/substance increase the other substance by all 3 *Dravya, Guna, Karma Samanya* principle.
- **2.** *Madhyam Samanya:* means the drug do its action by either of the two *Dravaya, Guna* or *Karma Samanya*.
- 3. Ekdesha Samanya: the drug does its action with any one of the Dravya, Guna or Karma.

In tarka Sangra, two other type of Samanya is given:

- **1.** *Para Samanya:* refers to the resemblance or connection between more than two things. The existence remaining in *dravya*, *guna*, *karma* & it remains in more.
- 2. Apara Samanya: it's a very rare kind of similarity that found in few. The existence

different to dravya, guna or karma is Apara Samanya.

According to Chakrpani, two more type of Samanya is given [4]

- **1.** *Ubhayavritt Samanya:* where the nourishing agent and the thing which is to be increased are similar in character of *dravya* or *guna*. Like *mansa dhatu* increase with intake of *mansa (Dravya)* & intake of *ghee* increase *shukra dhatu (guna)*.
- **2.** *Ekavritt Samanya:* where the nourishing agent & the thing which is to increased are not similar in character of *dravya* or *guna*. For example use of *ghrita* increases *agni*, here action of taking *ghrita* have no similarity with agni they act by prabhav.

Aacharya Charak has classified Vishesha into three types

- **1.** *Dravya Vishesha:* is based on "harashetu visheshacha" 2 vishesha is the cause of diminution of all things. For example, in the condition where mansa dhatu is increased in body, the use of medicines which contains opposite quality to mansa dhatu will be used. Asthi & mansa dhatu are opposite in nature. so, in obese patients asthi poshak dravya should be used.
- **2.** *Guna Vishesha:* is based on "visheshastu pratakatavkrata" by using oils possessing ushna, snigdha & guru property, vitiated vata is treated. As vata contains opposite quality than oil.
- 3. *Karma Vishesha:* is based on "*visheshaastu viparyaya*" heavy exercise like running, decrease *kapha* in body due to *sthira guna* of *kapha*.

IMPORTANCE OF SAMANYA – VISHESHA SIDDHANTH

- In *Ayurveda*, equilibrium between *dosha*, *dhatu* and *malas* is health & any factor which disturbs the equilibrium leads to disease. Through the application of *Samanya Vishesha* principle *doshas*, *dhatus* & *mala* are strengthened that have become weak & reduces the entities which are increased. So, correct application of *samanya vishesha siddhanth* helps in treatment of various diseases.
- The theories of *dhatu poshan* is also established on basis of *Samanya Siddhanth* in reference of "*tulyaarth hi samanyam*." The similar *bhavas* from aahara rasa is taken by the particular *dhatu* having same *bhavas*.
- Six stages of the *vriddhi* of *doshas* are *sanchaya*, *prakopa*, *prasara*, *sthansamsraya*, *vyakti* and *bheda*. If the increasing *doshas* are not alleviated soon, they can reach the uncurable stage of the disease. For this purpose, substances having the opposite qualities

and action are used. Without knowledge of *Vishesha* the treatment of disease as well as maintainance of health is not possible.

- The basic of six procedure of therapeutics (sadavidhupkrama) which are langhana, brimhana, rukshana, snehana, swedana, stambhana are based on vishesha. Even samshodhana & samshamana is based on vishesha siddhanth.
- According to *Aacharya Charak*, *guna* of *tridosha vata*, *pitta* & *kapha* are given where it is said that if *dravya* of opposite *guna* is taken it leads to decrease in that *dosha*.^[5]
- Person can follow the rules & diet and can attain the health by following samanya vishaesha according to their prakruti. Like vata prakruti people should massage their body with oil daily. so, that the vata dosha remains in equilibrium.

DISCUSSION

To understand the basic principle of treatment, one must know the *samanya vishesha* principle and the way by which it works. The concept of *Samanya – Vishesha Siddhanth* is unique and by increasing the decreased entity and decreasing the increased entity helps in attaining equilibrium which is the basic aim of Ayurveda. When the *sama avastha* (equilibrium) of body is disturbed it results in increase or decrease of that entity leading to disease. So by *samanya vishesha siddhanth* one can attain health. *Samanya* principle causes increased entity in the body due to its similar or uniform features. *Vishesha* principle causes decreased entity in the body due to its dissimilar or non-uniform features.

CONCLUSION

In Ayurveda, it seems impossible to treat various diseases without application of *Samanya* – *Vishesha Siddhanth*. This principle acts as both preventive as well as curative therapy. By rule of *Samanya* – *Vishesha*, a medicine can strength the weak *doshas* & *dhatus*. And at the same time can decrease the *dosha*, *dhatu* which are in *vriddh* state. Hence, it is the key component in treatment of disease in *ayurveda*.

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