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SIGNIFICANCE OF PANCHKARMA THERAPY IN NETRA ROGAS

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ABSTRACT

Panchkarma is a sarvdehika treatment although it is beneficial for those people who are suffering from eye problems. Most of the people work a lot on computers, Laptops and hence have certain eye problems like itchy eyes, red eyes, watering in the eye and sometimes blurred vision. it is necessary to treat these problems before they get severe. A Beautiful world can be seen by the better eyesight. Typical eyesight difficulties and diseases are a result of a hectic lifestyle and the burden of stress on the mind. The eyes as Primary sense organ reflect the stress of the mind and this is turn affects the eye muscles and problems in sight. So, In Ayurveda to treat such eye problems, disorders Panchkarma Treatment is available. The Sarvdehika Panchkarma

Treatment includes mainly 5 karmas like Vaman, Virechana, Basti, Nasya, Raktamokshna, and 2 Purvakarma like snehana and Swedana. Panchkarma has a sarvadehika treatment although has a sthanika effect on eye. Panchkarma is useful to manage the challenging eye diseases of the modern world.

KEYWORDS: Panchkarma, Snehana, Swedana, Netraroga.

INTRODUCTION

Shalakyatantra is an important branch of Ayurveda which deals with the diseases manifesting above clavicular region, Acharya Sushruta has devoted 26 chapters of uttartantra to Shalakya tantra and in its two third part netra rogas and their management have been described. Detailed classification of eye diseases by ancient Acharyas reflects the importance of ophthalmology since ancient time.

Eye is perhaps the only organ in the body whose anatomy, diseases along with their treatment has been illustrated vividly and systematically in *Ayurvedic* literature.

In Ayurveda the eye related disease is not restricted to eyes itself, but is considered as a result of imbalance of the *doshas* in human body. so the *panchkarma* is an integral procedures of Ayurveda which helps achieve the balanced state of *doshas*, body, mind and consciousness through detoxification and rejuvenation. *Panchkarma* is a set of five therapies (*Vamana*, *Virechana*, *Basti*, *Nasya*, *Raktamokshna*.) and *Purvakarma* (*Snehana*, *Swedana*) designed mainly for cleansing the body of toxins. *Ayurveda* considers that the purification of the body is important before the commoncement of any other therapy.

Purvakarma

Refers to the preparation of body for *ayurvedic Panchkarma* Therapy. *Purvakarma* is necessary for the body to achieve the complete benefits of *Panchkarma*.

- Includes

- 1. Snehana
- 2. Swedana.

> Snehana

That which induces *sneha* (unctuousness, oiliness), *Vishyanda* (Liquefaction), *Mardavam* (Smoothness) and *Kleda* (Moistness or Dampness) on consumption(or Application) is called *Sneha*. *Bahya* and *Abhyantara Snehapana* is done in different eye diseases.

- 1. Abhisyanda.
- 2. Timira.
- 3. Kricronmilana.^[1]

Abhyantara Snehapana is advised for Drishtigata rogas according to doshas.

- 1. Jivantyadi ghrita. (Vatahara)
- 2. Tilwaka ghrita.
- 3. Triphala ghrita. (pitta kapha hara).

> Swedana

It is given after *Snehana*.it includes Steam bathing or heating the body to facilitate sweating. There are different types of fomentation like heating the specific area or whole body.

Netra is a sensitive organ so swedana is contraindicated. According to Charaka Netra has given a Mrudu Swedana. [2]

Bahya Swedana is useful in *kaphaja Vartma Rogas* but it should be done very carefully by covering the eyes.^[3]

Swedana with the decoction of kutannata, Asphta, Phanjjiaka, Bilva, Pattura, Pilu, Arka and Kapitha in kaphaja Netraroga.^[4]

• Pradhankarma

Pradhankarma comes after Purvakarma and According to Sushruta it constitutes the 5 procedures.

- 1. Vaman (Induced vomiting)
- 2. Virechana (Induced Purgation)
- 3. Basti (Medicated Enema)
- 4. *Nasya* (Nasal medicine)
- 5. Raktamokshan.(Artificial blood letting).

> Vaman Karma

Vaman is the procedure of eliminating the *doshas* from the body through mouth by inducing vomiting.

Usually *Vamana* is contraindicated in *Dristigata rogas*.^[5] If done it will increase *timira*.^[6] *Vaman* is useful in *Kukunaka Vyadhi*.^[7]

> Virechana Karma

Virechana is a medicated purgation therapy which helps to cleanse toxins that are accumulated in liver, gall bladder and intestine. It removes every toxin from the whole body including the cellular level. *Virechana* is a measure to impart strength to *Indriyas*. ^[8] Most Preferred *Shodhana Karma* in eye diseases.

Indications

- Generally in sira karna Akshi Nasa rogas.
- Akshipaka
- Kacha
- Timira

- Abhisyanda.^[9]

Beneficial in all Maharogadhyayokta pitta rogas in diseases like-

- Netra daha
- Netra Srava
- Netra timira.^[10]

On the Dominance of dosa drugs for Virechana

| 1. | Caster oil with milk | - Vataja. |
|----|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2. | Triphala ghrita | - Pittaja or Raktaja |
| 3. | Trivrut ghrita | - Kaphaja. |

> Basti

Basti denotes the procedure during which a drug is administered through rectum. During the process, various medicated substances in the form of decoction or medicated oils, are released into the rectum of the patient. *Basti* is indicated when vitiated *vayu* abnormally get lodged in the head. *Asthapana Basti* is exclusively indicated for eye diseases.

Indications^[11]

- 1. Adhimantha.
- 2. Timira.

In Ayurveda there are treatments available for every problem related to eye. *Netra Basti* or *Netra tarpana* is the therapy used in *panchkarma* for thousands of years to treat eye related problem. In Sanskrit Eye is termed as *netra* while *Tarpana* means relaxation with nourishment.

Netra Tarpana Treats following eye- related diseases. [12]

- Timira
- Klishta Vartma.
- Squint.

According to Acharya Vagbhata Tarpana Indication^[13]

- 1. Stabdhata 2. Kricronmila 3. Sirotpata 4. Siraharsha 5. Arjuna. 6. Savrana shukla
- 7. Avrana shukla. 8. Abhisyanda 9. Adhimantha. 10. Anyatovata 11. Vataparyaya.
- 12. Shushkakshipaka.

Netra Tarpana nourishes the nervous system of the body and brings a mental piece.

> Nasya Karma

Nasya karma is believed to be best suited for the Eye and ENT ailments. *Nasya karma* indicated in several eye diseases as it eliminates *doshas* from the cranial region.

Vaisheshika Nasya is useful to improve eyesight along with strengthening the neck and shoulders. In procedure of *nasya karma*, there is instillation of herbal medicines like oil, powder, and fresh juices through the nostrils to balance *doshas* from the head region especially head, nose and throat.

The medicine instilled through them easily penetrates the *shrungataka* and spreads to the *siras* of head, eyes, ears, throat and expels out the impurities.

While during *Nasyakarma*, care should be taken to cover the eyes with a cloth piece.

Snehana Nasya - In Vataja Netrarogas.

Indications

- 1. Timira.
- 2. Savrana shukla.
- 3. Avrana Shukla.
- 4. Vartma roga.
- 5. Akshiraji.

Nasya with kaphahara dravyas (Avapidana Nasya) is mentioned in Ashtang Sangraha for following diseases-

- Pakshmashat.
- Kaphotklishta Vartma.
- Lagana.
- Abhisyanda and Adhimantha.
- Shukshakshipaka.
- Hatadhimantha.
- Anyatovata.
- Amladhyushita.
- Dhumdarshi.
- Timira
- Kacha

- Linganasha.
- Nakulandhya.

> Raktamokshana

Raktamokshana is an important therapeutic procedure in *Shalya Tantra*. It prevents Skin diseases, swollen glands, general swelling and diseases of the blood, if done at regular intervals.

Sira Vyadha and Jalaukavacharana are useful in eye diseases.

Indication

- 1. Puyalasa^[14]
- 2. Arma.^[15]
- 3. Savrana Shukla. [16]
- 4. Pittaja Timira. [17]
- 5. Kaphaja Timira.^[18]
- 6. Abhisyanda.
- 7. *Pothaki*. [19]

CONCLUSION

Eye is the important organ of the body. Any pathology of *doshas* in a body reflects her effects on the eye, so that to balance the *doshas* of a body *Panchkarma* therapy is useful. The effect of *sarvadehika panchkarma* seen on a *sthanic* organ *Netra*. which *Panchkarma* can be use according to *dosha* dominance and *vyadhi*. And it is helpful for the various *netravyadhis* according to *Dosha chikitsa siddhant*.

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