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# A REVIEW ON PANCHKARMA PROCEDURES IN PAEDIATRIC AGE

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### **ABSTRACT**

Ayurveda is more than a mere healing system. Ayurveda considers that purification of the body is important before start of any therapy. Kaumarbhritya is one of the branch of Ashtang Ayurveda which deals with care of the infants, children; their diseases and management. It is the branch which describes the methods of bringing up the children, purification of breast milk of mother, diseases arising from taking the vitiated breast milk and their treatment. Kaumarbhritya elaborated various principles related to the physical and mental well being of children. In fact, Panchakarma can be used efficiently in all the branches of Ashtang-Ayurved and it can also be beneficial in Kaumarbhritya for a comprehensive cure for many child disorders. Panchakarma is considered as one of the specialities of Ayurveda

which includes five major therapeutic procedures of detoxification and body purification, along with many other supportive procedures. This review was carried out to study the concept of Panchakarma in children and explore the variations and significance of Panchakarma in Bala-Roga. Panchakarma measures executed with precautions is equally effective in a child as it results in adult. The knowledge and experience of Panchakarma in pediatric conditions is the key to successful administration of *Panchakarma* in children. Increasing and mainstreaming Panchakarma procedures among children in Ayurveda hospitals will definitely provide a new hope in management of child disorders.

**KEYWORDS:** Panchkarma, Kaumarbhritya.

### INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda, the science of life is one of the oldest forms of holistic healthcare science that places great emphasis on prevention and aims at bringing about and maintaining harmony of the body, mind and consciousness. Ayurveda encompasses diet and lifestyle guidelines, yoga, herbal preparations and various therapies. Ayurveda treats diseases by using Shodhana (purificatory; cleansing or detoxification) and Shamana (pacificatory). Shodhana means cleansing or detoxification of the body by expelling the dearranged doshas (morbid materials inside the body causing various diseases). Shamana is pacification of symptoms without eliminating the morbid doshas. Typically, all treatment protocols ought to begin with shodhana, followed by shamana for better outcomes. When the body is saturated with toxins, the toxins interfere with the absorption of herbal medicines. Furthermore, it is necessary to eliminate Ama (accumulated toxins in the channels) and to re-establish the homeostasis. According to Acharya Sushruta the five main procedures within panchakarma are: vamana (emesis), virechana (purgation), nasya (nasal instillation of herbal oils/powders), basti or vasti(medication via anal route), and raktamokshana (bloodletting).<sup>[1]</sup> Primarily, these practices are aimed at eliminating Ama (toxins) from body and cleanse the channels. Each procedure is performed in three phases: Poorva karma (preparatory methods), Pradhana karma (main procedure) and Paschat karma (post cleansing procedures which include dietary and behavioral regimen. [2] The word panchkarma was introduced by Acharya charaka in charak sutra sthana. [3] Panchakarma is a collective term which indicates five major therapeutic procedures of detoxification to cleanse the body channels, along with many other supportive procedures. Literally, Panchakarma is made up of 'Pancha' means 'five' and 'karma' means 'procedure / action' (procedures of purification). It is well known fact that internal medication along with Panchakarma procedures is more effective when compared with only oral medications.<sup>[4]</sup>

Panchakarma is the ultimate mind body healing experience for detoxification of the body, for strengthening the immune system, to restore the balance and wellbeing. It is one of the most effective healing modality of Ayurveda. Prior to Panchakarma, poorva karma like deepana and paachana (appetizers and digestives), snehana (oleation) and swedana (sudation) are given to the patient. Ayurveda considers that the purification of the body is important before the commencement of any other therapy. Shodhana chikitsa (purificatory or cleansing procedures / panchakarma) is considered superior to Shamana chikitsa (treating with internal medicines) because the condition treated with Shodhana therapy will never reoccur, whereas the condition treated with Shamana therapy may reoccur in due course of time.

Health status, growth and nutrition of the child during childhood years are the base for the future life of the child. So to remove the diseases judicious administration of medicines which are Hridhya, Sīta and Madhura Pradhāna along with estimated dose and slight modification of the procedure. As per our Aacharyas Physicians of the Kaumarabhritya has told to remain always alert while treating, as clinical manifestations of the child create confusion in the diagnosis (Duśakara) due to limitations in the presentation and manifestations of the disease in the children.<sup>[5]</sup>

To some extent the alterations in the *Panchakarma* with regards to Pediatric practice has been explained in the classics.  $B\bar{a}la$  is the stage with delicate body and mind with dominance of the Kapha, Kashyapa further explains Vamana as the main stay of treatment in Bāla Rogas due to dominancy of Kapha Dosha by indulging in Kapahavardhaka Āhāra like Kśhīra Ghrita etc. [6] Virechana in a child with Pittaja Rogas, has been also indicated but suggested to avoid it as for as possible reserve the same only in emergency conditions. Indications of Virechana should be substituted by Basti, similarly Marśa Nasya by Pratimarśa. Basti is best indicated for the child and told that it imparts  $\bar{A}rogya$  to the child offspring for parents and name and the fame for the Doctor, and considered as nectar for the child.<sup>[7]</sup>

# TRIVIDHA KARMA<sup>[2]</sup>

Purva karma	Pradhana karma	Paschata karma
Deepana – Pachana	Vamana	Samsarjana
Snehana	Virechana	Rasayana
Swedana	Basti	Shamana
	Nasya	
	Raktamokshana	

### 1. PURVA KARMA

### a) Deepana-pachana(Appetiser and Digestive)

- Should be done prior to *panchkarma* procedure.
- Should be done for obtaining *niramavastha* of *doshas*.
- For this Peya, Churna, kwatha are used.

### Mode of action<sup>[8]</sup>

To obtain the niramavastha of dosha, firstly Ama dosha is relieved by deepan and pachana kriya so that for the further snehana procedure there is agni pradipat awastha and there is increase in pachana shakti. With the help of deepan dravya there is activation of Bodhak *kapha* and then with the help of *pachana dravya* there is secretion of *kledak kapha* and then there is increase in GI tract motility by *Samana Vayu* and there is increase in secretion of *Pachak Pitta* and then there is digestion and absorption of food.

e.g. *Shunti Churna* with hot water can be used in paediatric patient to relieve *amavastha* at the level of *kostha* (abdomen).

### b) Snehana(Oilation)

- It is a purvakarma of panchkarma and it can be used as pradhan karma in many diseases.
- It is the process of oilation of body by using medicated *taila* and *ghrita* internally as well as externally.
- *Ghrita, taila, vassa, majja* are major *snehan* constituents and out of all four more importance is given to *Pravicharana Sneha* with same materials.
- In *Kshirap Avastha* of child does not need compulsory *SnehaPana* due to daily intake of milk and oily substances as the main diet.
- Snehana helps in koshthagaman of shakhagat doshas<sup>[9]</sup>
- The importance of *Sneha* is advocated in *Kashyapa Samhita Lehaadhyaya* and *Navjaat Paricharya Adhyay* where *Madhu Ghrita* is indicated for use. *Snehana* (*Abhyanjana* with *Bala Taila*) is recommended in child soon after birth<sup>.[10]</sup>
- Although Achcha Sneha is the best type of Snehana; however Accha Sneha is most often difficult to be administered in children, and then Sneha Bicharna is practiced. Susruta has mentioned the use of various medicated Ghrita during summer in children of different age group i.e. Ksirada, Ksirannada and Annada. [11]
- Acharya Vagbhatta has described Abhyanga with Bala Taila in Navajat Paricharya during Prana Pratyagamana (resuscitation).

# **Indications and contraindications of** *snehana*<sup>[12]</sup>

Indications	Contraindications
Hikka (Hiccough)	Chardi (Vomiting), Atisara (Diarrhoea),
Krisha balak (Emaciated child)	Jwara (Fever), Galamaya(Throat
	disorder)
Vatarogas (Hemiplegic, Cerebral palsy)	Kaphaja vikara- sthoulya
Rukshata (roughness all over the body)	(Obesity), Raktapitta (Bleeding disorders)
Prior to panchkarma (Biocleansing	Kshirad avastha (breastfed babies)
therapy)	Ashiraa avasina (oleastied bables)

# Mode of action<sup>[13]</sup>

Action of *snehana* is attributed towards the properties present in the *sneha dravyas*. *Dravya* imparts moisture to the *srotas*, that helps in removing obstacles of *doshas*, help in diffusion of *sneha* all over the body. In *Siddhi stana* while dealing with the *snehana karya*, *charaka* very vividly explain them as.

- Sneho Anilam Hanti
- Mridu karoti Deham
- Malanam Vinihanti Sangam

**Abhyantara sneha** - Ghee acts as a good solvent for many metabolic waste products and it enters the cells easily because cell wall is made up of phospholipids and ghee possesses better permeability property. It helps in increasing the watery content of body.

**Bahya sneha**- Effect of *Abhyanga* can assume in two ways i.e. physical manipulations and the effect of drug in medicated oil. Physical manipulations in the form of massage increases the circulation of blood and plasma that stimulate the lymphatic system and helps in removal of waste products.

### C) Swedana (Sudation)

It is a procedure which helps in relieving heaviness, stiffness and coldness of body by artificially inducing sweating(sudation). *Acharya kashyap* has mentioned eight types of *swedana* methods in childhood *panchkarma* practise. Types of *swedana* are *hast*, *pradeha*, *nadi*, *prastara*, *sankar*, *upnaha*, *avgaha* and *parisheka*. [14]

According to *Aacharya kashyap*, *hastha sweda* and *pata sweda* are very useful in neonates and infants especially during abdominal colic. *Hasta Sweda* is recommended upto 4 month of age<sup>[15]</sup> *Nadi*, *prasthara*, *sankara*, *pradeha*, *upanaha*, *avagaha*, *parisheka* are othertypes which are practically applicable in children. *Swedana* may be mild, moderate or strong in nature according to the body parts exposed for *Swedana*. <sup>[16]</sup>

During the process of *Swedana* various articles like pearls, *Chandrakantamani* and pots filled with cold water should be kept continuously in contact of *Hridaya Pradesh* (cardiac region).<sup>[17]</sup>

Mouth should be filled with powder of *Karpura* or with juice of citrus fruits mixed with unrefined sugar or with *Draksha* for easy procedure.<sup>[18]</sup>

**Shashtika Shali Pinda Sweda** is the general method of Swedana commonly used in neuromuscular disorders in pediatric patients. In this specific part or whole body made to sweat by the application of *shashtika shali* (a variety of rice) in the form of *pottalis*. *Shashtika shali* is cooked with milk and decoction of *dashamoola*. These rice are then kept in pieces of cloth to make *pottalis*. [19]

# Indications and contraindications of swedana<sup>[20]</sup>

Indications	Contraindications	
After Snehana and prior to Panchkarma	Dagdha(Burnt), Acute fever, kamala	
After Shenana and prior to Funchkarma	(Jaundice), <i>Pittarogi</i> , <i>Madhumehi</i> (Diabetic)	
Jadya, Kathinya and Ruksha sharira	Chardi (Vomiting), Trishna(Dehydrated),	
(heaviness, stiffness and dryness of body)	Karshya(Emaciated)	
Shwas(Asthma), kasa (Cough), Pratishyaya	Hridaya rogas(Cardiac diseases)	
Rheumatic and degenerative conditions	Raktapitta(Bleeding disorders)	
Obstruction to <i>Mala</i> (stool), <i>Mutra</i> (urine)	Wink mut(Deigon ed)	
and Sukra (semen)	Vishart(Poisoned)	

# Mode of action<sup>[21]</sup>

During Swedana, heating the tissues results in.

- a) Increased metabolism-Heating the tissues accelerates the chemical changes i.e. metabolism. Due to increased body temperature, sympathetic activities are also increased because of increased metabolism, there is an increased demand for oxygen and food stuffs.
- b) Vasodilation If the body temperature raise, a negative feedback action becomes active to reach to normal temperature higher temperature of the blood stimulates thermoreceptors that send nerve impulses to the preoptic area of the brain, which inturn stimulate the heat losing center and inhibit the heat promoting center. Nerve impulses from the heat losing center cause dilation of blood vessels and there is an increased blood flow through the area so that the necessary oxygen and nutritive materials are supplied and waste products are removed.

### 2) Pradhana karma

### A) Vamana

*Vamana* is a bio-cleansing procedure used for elimination of *doshas* (mainly*kapha*) accumulated in the upper gastrointestinal tract.

Acharya kashyap mentioned that babies who emit vitiated milk from stomach repeatedly will never suffer from diseases.

Acharya kashyap explains Vamana as the main stay of treatment in balrogas due to dominancy of kapha dosha of indulging in Kapha Vardhak Ahara like kshira, ghrita etc. [6]

When babies takes first breadth *Acharya* advised that baby should undergone the process of *Garbhodaka Vamanam* using *saindhava* and *ghrita*.<sup>[22]</sup>

Normally 2-3 vomiting are appropriate for children. If vomiting is not appropriate, the child should be given decoction of *Apamarga* (*Achyranthes aspera*), *Pippali* (*Piper longum*), *Sirisa* (*Albizzia lebbeck*) with rice to remove remaining *Kapha*. After emesis, exertional activities shouldbe restricted for few hours.<sup>[23]</sup>

# Indications and contraindications of Vamana<sup>[24]</sup>

Indications	Contraindications
Gastric problems- Ajeerna (Indigestion)	Acute peptic ulcer
Peenasa (Sinusitis)	Bala (Young children )
Madhumeha (Diabetes)	Hridroga (Cardiac disorders)
Unmada (Schizophrenia)	Shranta (Exhausted)
Kushtha (Skin diseases)	Pipasita (Thirsty)
Kasa (Cough), shwasa(Bronchial asthma)	Kshudhita (Hungry)
Shlipada (Filariasis)	Atikrisha (Emaciated body )

Vamana in child is indicated as Garbhodaka Vamana by administering Vacha (Acorus calamus) and Saindhav churna. [22]

In *ksheerad* child, *Vamana Sadhya* diseases, *Vamana* could be done by administering *Madanaphala* on nipple along with areola.

### Mode of action<sup>[25]</sup>

Vamana karma is not merely a stomach wash, it is a complete management of systemic diseases caused by kapha. Urdva Amashaya is the seat of action of Kapha. The active principle of Vamana drug taken orally is absorbed from the stomach into circulatory system wherefrom it is circulated to all over the body. On reaching the site of Dosha Sanghata, which is at cellular level, it breaks the association of doshas and bring back the toxic substances thus released into the stomach, wherefrom they are expelled out of the body by the action of vomiting. Mild inflammation is must for purification action. It is noticed that most

of the drugs employed in *Vamana* have mild irritation effect and produced mild inflammation facilitates the quick absorption of the active principles(*Veerya*) of the drug in the initial stage. Later on it facilitates the excretion of morbid matters, which generally are not supposed to be excreted out.

Inflammation increases the permeability of capillaries, which in turn allow the absorption as well as excretion of the substances. The softening (*Visyandana*) action of drugs may be understood from the example of fatty degeneration. In fatty degeneration, the saturated molecules are chemically inert and do not respond to any chemical reaction. But if suitable catalytic agent is applied, then it will later on react to the other chemicals also to break them in smaller molecules. The smaller molecules thus formed can be driven out of the cell due to normal function of the cell or by the action of drug and thus cell is free from harmful substance leading to the cure of degeneration.

The *Vamana* drugs are given in full stomach when the pyloric end of stomach remains closed and all the local activities of the *Vamana* drugs are limited to the stomach only. As the drugs have irritant action, so a mild inflammation of the stomach mucosa is produced. It will increase the permeability of the capillaries of the stomach which in beginning facilitated the absorption of the active principles of the drug and later on facilitates the excretion of toxins and metabolites into the stomach where from they are thrown out of the body by the process of vomiting. The process of emesis therapy is considered complete as soon as the pyloric valve opens which is evident from the appearance of bile in vomitus due to flux of anti peristalsis set during the process of vomiting.

### c) Virechana (Purgation)

Virechana is best for Pittaj disorders and good for ensuring the growth and development of child. It is a procedure where vitiated doshas (mainly pitta) eliminated from lower gastro-intestinal tract through the anal route. Normally, Virechana should not be given to children, if it's necessary, it can be used as a last option; if all other measure failing to cure the disease. This procedure is done with extreme caution as there is danger of dehydration. We can use mridu virechana dravyas like trivritta, chaturangula. The Vega of virechana is 2, 3 and 4 as kanistha, Madhyama and Ut-tama respectively. It helps in purifying the Amashaya and Pakwashaya by regularising the bowel habits. However Virechana is better avoided in children except in emergencies .Virechana should be given fifteen days after the Vamana

karma. [26] Virechana is better avoided in children except in the emergencies, and is substituted by Basti.

In Ksheerada, VirechanaAushadha is given to mother, however in Ksheeranada and Annada in need one can utilise Mridu Virechna with Trivritta (Operculina turpethum) and Chaturangula (Cassia fistula). Teekshna drugs are not advised.

# Indications and contraindications of virechana<sup>[27]</sup>

Indications	Contraindications
Tamak shwasa (Bronchial asthma),	Navajwara (Acute fevers)
Eczema, Allergic dermatitis	
Pakshaghat(Hemiplegic),	Krisha (Emaciated patients),
Madhumeha(Diabetes), Arbuda(Tumour)	Rajayakshma (Tuberculosis)
Krimi(Worm infestation), Kamala	Coultini (Decomposit vysom se)
(Jaundice)	Garbhini (Pregnant women )

# Mode of action<sup>[28]</sup>

The process and action of *Virechana* is regulated and controlled by specific centre that is situated near medulla oblongata in the brain. This centre is close to respiratory and vomiting centre. When the *Virechana* drugs stimulate the purgation centre, indirectly vomiting centre is relaxed. Sacral plexus of the spinal cord also helps in controlling and regulating the act of purgation and it is also controlled and regulated by local reflex actions. Hence during the action of defecation, the respiration is arrested shortly; diaphragm is activated and presses transverse colon. Simultaneously, the accessory muscles of the abdomen are also activated and help in propelling the faecal matter towards anus along with the diaphragm.

The increased hydrostatic pressure of the matter reached to the large intestine along with the mass peristaltic movements induces a slight mechanical pressure in the sacral plexus and lumbar nerves situated at the lower levels of spinal cord. Because, of these irritations, motor reaction occurs which relaxes the illiosacral valve muscles and anal sphincter muscles. The respiration is arrested momentarily and diaphragm is activated through motor response and it exerts more pressure and presses the transverse colon downwards. As a combination of the mechanical pressure and associated relaxation of anal sphincter muscles, the material as a whole is expelled from the body downwards through anus.

### C) BASTI

It is a procedure where medicine is administered through genitourinary tract using *Bastiyantra*. It is most appropriate remedial measure for *Vatadosha*. *Basti* imparts *Arogya* to the child. The *Niruha basti* can cause the *karshana* in child which leads to the poor development. Where there is association of *Vata*, *Basti karma* should be used.

Basti is effective and safe in children and can also be employed where Virechana is contraindicated. In childhood, Basti acts just like the Amrita (nectar). Basti can be administered to one year baby. Niruha Basti can cause the Karshana in child and thus Acharya Kashyapa has mentioned the use of Anuvasana Basti or Basti in which oil is more than quantity of Kashaya. There are great controversies in Basti Yogya Ayu between Acharyas. [29]

*Gargya, Mathara, Atreya, Parashara* and *Bhela* have stated that *Basti* should be started just after birth, after 1 month, after 4 month, after 3 year, and 6th year respectively. *Kashyapa* has stated that *Basti* should be started at *Annada* (about 1 years of age). [30]

Different *Acharyas* have mentioned various *Basti* preparations of general type and can be used in patients of all age groups; however *Kashyapa* has mentioned specific *Basti* formulations for children.

# Indications and Contraindications of Basti<sup>[31]</sup>

Indications	Contraindications
Amavatta (Juvenile Rheumatoid Arthritis)	Aamatisara (Acute diarrhoea)
Vata rog (Hemiplegic, Muscular dystrophy)	Kasa(Cough), Shwasa (Asthma)
Rajonash (Secondary amenorrhea)	Chhardi (Vomiting)
Jeerna Jwara (Chronic fever)	Krisha (Emaciated body)
Ashmari (Kidney stone, bladder stone)	Madhumeha (Diabetes)
Niram atisara (Chronic diarrhoea)	Shoona payu (Inflammed anus)
Cerebral palsy, delayed milestones	Kritahara(Immediately after taking food)

The 3 types of *Basti* are *Asthapana Basti* (*Niruha*), *Anuvasana Basti* (*Sneha*) and *Utara Basti* (Uterine and urinary). *Basti* is effective and safe in children and can also be employed where *Virechana* is contraindicated. Different Acharyas have mentioned various Basti preparations of general type and can be used in patients of all age groups; however Kashyapa has mentioned specific Basti formulations for children. Various causes and manifestation of under/over dosage of Basti given to children is mentioned.

### Commonly used Basti yogas

Madhutailika basti, bala guduchyadi basti, patolnimbadi basti, vaitarana basti, mustadi yapana basti, tikta kshira basti.

# Mode of action<sup>[32]</sup>

#### Local effects

The *Basti dravya* introduced into the rectum may act by stimulating peristalsis either because of their large volume or they cause osmotic retention of water in the bowel. Therefore *Basti* expels toxins from the body and cleanses colon. The colon is richly endowed with elements of mucosal immune system. So immune system can be stimulated by cleansing the colon.

### **Systemic effects**

The colonic mucosa transports ions, small molecules and water back and forth between the lumen and plasma. Colon maintains fluid and electrolyte balance. The colon differs from small intestine in the tightness and ion selectivity of the mucosa. The tightness allows transport of ions against large concentration gradient and the development of higher electrical potential between the lumen and plasma. Because of these features almost all the sodium can be removed from colonic contents.

### Effects through neural pathways

The enteric nervous system modulates a variety of local reflexes by integrating signals generated by.

- 1) The Chemical nature of luminal contents.
- 2) The mechanical effects of colonic distension, mucosal immune function, circulating hormones and extrinsic nerves.

As rectum has a rich blood supply, the *Basti* drugs probably cross the rectal mucosa like other lipid membranes.

The portion absorbed from the upper rectal mucosa is carried by the superior haemorrhoidal vein into the portal circulation.

### d) Nasya

It is indicated mainly in aggravated and accumulated *Doshas* (disease causing factor) of head andneck. The aggravated *Kapha Dosha*, which usually blocks the upper respiratory tract, is eliminated with the help of nasal instillation of herbal juices, oils, or powders. *Charaka* has

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described five types of *Nasya* in which *Pratimarsha* is mildest one and can be administered in children.<sup>[33]</sup>

*Kashyapa* has described various types of *Nasya*, dosage schedule and mode of administration in children. Two types of *Nasya* are *Brimhana Nasya* (nourishing) and *Karshana Shodhana Nasya* (cleansing). *Nasya* is not recommended in child below 7yrs of age by *Susruta* and *Vagbhatt*. [34]

*Kashyapa* has mentioned that it can be prescribed even in breast feed babies.<sup>[35]</sup> *Nasya* cures certain childhood disorders like *Trishna*, *Shiroroga*, *Pippasa*. During *Nasya* the patient should sit or lie down in a comfortable posture, then applied gentle massage over the head, forehead and face followed by mild *Swedana*.

Taila Nasya has been explained for children along with Madhu and Gomutra.

### Marsha nasya

Uttam - 10 drops

Madhyam-8 drops

Hrisava – 6 drops

# Pratimarsha nasya- 2 drops

# Mode of action<sup>[36]</sup>

Passage of drug through the mucus is the first step in the absorption from the nasal cavity. Uncharged as well as small particles easily pass through mucus while charged as well as large particles are more difficult to cross it. The lowering of head, elevation of lower extremities and fomentation of face, seem to have an impact on blood circulation of head and face. *Nasya karma* has a definite impact on central neurovascular system and likely lowers the blood brain barrier to enable certain drug absorption in the brain tissue.

### Raktmokshana

It is the process of taking out blood from the body to manage diseases caused by *Rakta* and *Pitta*<sup>[37]</sup> The methods of *Raktamokshana* are *Shringa*, *Jalauka*, *Alabu* and *Shira Vyadha*. Children have *Aparipakwa Dhatu* so in first step this procedure not indicated. If disease is not cured by *Shamana* and other method then *Rakta Mokshana* is indicated as in *Kukunaka*,

Ahiputana, Gudakutta, Ajagallika, Mukhapaka, Charmadala. The Jaulaka is the mildest of all the methods therefore Jalauka is the only mean for Raktavasechana in pediatrics cases.

### DISCUSSION

Though children have *Doshas*, *Dushyas*, diseases everything similar to that of adults, it is very essential to consider the respective conditions, age, dosage, drugs, mode of administration, time, frequency and procedure while managing Pediatric conditions. The difference of Child from an adult lies in the physical conditions of a child being Soukumaryata (having soft and tender body structure), Alpakayata (under developed organ systems), Vividha Anna Anupasevanata (GIT not fit to receive all types of food ) Aparipakwa Dhathu (transformation and development under progression), Ajata Vyanjanam (incomplete secondary sexual characters), Aklesha Sahatva (cannot tolerate stress of any kind) Asampoorna Balam (poor strength) Slesma DhathuPrayam (drastic growth and development). This is reason that the fixation of dose and duration of therapy/ procedures which should be smaller/ shorter in pediatric group. Quality of medicines in children should be Mridu (low potency), Madhura and Surabhi (sweet and good odour for better palatability), Laghu (easy to absorb and assimilate). The approach of management in Bala-Roga is mainly limited to medicines. Detailed description of different *Panchakarma* procedure in children in different condition is described in different classical texts. Previous research studies have concluded on the significance of *Panchakarma* in *BalaRoga*.

*Panchkarma* can be very carefully implemented in *Swatantra bala* (healthy child) or a independent child by considering *Bala, desh, kala* etc *swatantra* child refers to that child who does not require any assistance in its day to day activities like eating, talking, walking and explaining good and bad suffering during the course of treatment while *Pratantra bala* is one who is dependent on his parents or caretakers for his day to day activites.

Snehan karma pacifies Vata, regularise bowel movements, and improves digestion, strength and complexion. Swedana is quite beneficial in removing the stiffness of body, heaviness, pain, contractures and constipation, and other Vatakaphaj disorders. In vatapradhan rogas, snigda sweda and in kapha pradhan rogas ruksha sweda is indicated. Virechana is best for Pittaja disorders and imparts the clarity of Indriyas however one should keep in mind the complications of Virechana. Basti has wonderful results in children and it act as Amrit in children.

The review concluded *Panchakarma* as part of *Ayurvedic* management and can't be ignored in pediatric cases. In *Ayurvedic* literature full description of *Panchakarma* in pediatrics is available but not practiced due lack of practical exposure along with improper understanding of principles of *Panchakarma* in pediatrics. *Panchakarma* is the unique therapy of *Ayurveda* System of Medicine which is equally beneficial in the prevention and cure of the disorders thereby improves the lifespan of the individual. In pediatric practice also these therapies are helpful provided administered with due consideration in the stage of the diseases, the dosage of medicines, proper method, for the *Vaya* and *Bala* of the children.

Most of the published works have emphasized on the importance of *Panchakarma* in children. But Very few clinical studies have been published in the procedural efficacy of *Panchkarma* procedure in children. Many *Panchakarma* procedures due to their drastic nature are not readily advisable in children. Hence the medication mentioned for the adults can be made use of in children but in a smaller dosage to reduce its *Teekshnata* to compensate the delicacy, small size of the body and modified dietetic habits. These factors make it necessary to bring about modifications in procedures in children. *Panchakarma* measures done with precautions are similarly effective in a children as they are done in adults. Only very few *Ayurveda* Hospitals have been practicing *Panchkarma* Procedural approach in management of Pediatric conditions. *Panchakarma* should not be grossly overlooked by generalizing childhood as a contraindication for carrying out *Panchakarma*. Lack of co-ordination, limited resources and practical expertise may be the only cause for lacking of practice and research in Panchakarma in Pediatric conditions. Despite of difficulty encountered in understanding disease and feasibility, practice of *Panchakarma* could bring wonders in the management of *Bala-Roga*.

### **CONCLUSION**

Panchakarma practice can be safely and effectively practiced in children following the classical references and updating with recent updates and modifications. The knowledge and experience in Panchakarma and pediatric conditions the key to successful administration of Panchakarma in children. Increasing and mainstreaming Panchakarma procedure in children in Ayurveda hospitals will definitely provide a new hope in management of child disorders.

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