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LITERARY REVIEW OF VIDDHAKARMA IN NETRA ROGA

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ABSTRACT

In Shalakya tantra, among the five sense organs, Siro (head) and Netra (eyes) are the most important. This sense organ acquires utmost importance as this is one of the vital sense perceptions for human beings. While treating Netra Roga (ocular disorders), it is necessary to eliminate all four vitiated doshas for total vyadhi shaman (disease cure). Raktamokshan (blood-letting) is considered one of the essential treatments for vyadhi shaman. In Shalya – Shalakya tantra it is considered as 'Ardha chikitsa' (half treatment). Siravyadha Karma (type of blood-letting) is an ideal Chikitsa (treatment) for pain as well as disease management. Acharya Sushruta has also described Viddha karma (bloodletting) as a treatment modality in Netra Roga (eye disorders). An attempt is made here to emphasize Viddha karma as an essential treatment in various Netra roga.

Keywords: Shalakya tantra, Netra roga, Viddha karma, Raktamokshan

INTRODUCTION

Raktamokshana is one necessary para-surgical procedure. The word Raktamokshana comprises two words viz. 'Rakta' & 'Mokshana'. Rakta - blood Mokshana - Derived from the root 'Moksha,' which means to relive or let out. Therefore, letting out blood is known as

Raktamokshana. Sushrut Samhita and Ashtanga Hridaya describe Vedhana as a treatment modality in Netra roga in Shalakyatantra. Acharya Sushruta explained that Ashtavidha Shastra Karma (8 surgical rocedures), Vedhana is one of them. Viddha is derived

from the word *Vyadha*. *Vyadha* means bore- a hole to drain the vitiated *Doshas* from *the Sira* (veins) thus reducing the pain and inflammation and helping reverse the pathology mechanism in specific possible ways. *Acharya Vagbhata* has stated that *Rakta* is the *Adhishtana* (abode) for all the *Vikara* (diseases), there is no other *Dushya* like *Rakta*. Hence, *Siravyadha* is the first/essential procedure. In *Siravyadh Vidhi Adhyaya* (chapter), there is an explanation of *Raktamokshana* where Acharya *Sushruta* stated that the conditions which do not subside with *Snehana*, *Lepa*, etc. those conditions will subside with proper *Sira*-

vyadha. Acharya Dalhana also has stated - (At the expected site, if there is no blood vessel, and then does Viddha. Bloodletting is not expected or significantly less bloodletting is expected in such cases). In Sushruta samhita Acharya Sushruta has described different points for Viddha karma (bloodletting).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES- To review the use of *Viddhakarma* as a treatment modality in Netra roga.

MATERIAL- Modern medical books, previous studies, research articles, and Google Scholar were referred. 26 number and 1/2-inch needle (*Vrihi pramana*), cotton gauze, spirit for *Viddhakarma* process



Figure 1 & 2-26 and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch needle

Vedhya Vyadhi -

Acharya Sushruta stated 15 Vedhya rogas in Netra that are Sirotpata, Siraharsha, Sashopha-akshipaka, Ashopha-akshipaka, Anyatovata, Puyalasa, Vataviparyaya, four types of Adhimantha and four types of Abhishyanda in all Vedhya Vyaadhi Raktamokshan, i.e. Viddhakarma Chikitsa, is the main Chikitsa.² All six diseases-

(*Drishtigata Rogas*) are curable where bloodletting (*Viddha*) should be done. ⁸

Acharya Vagbhata added some more Netra roga as Vedhya roga – Complications of Arma, Savrana shukra ^{3.}

Pittaja, raktaja and kaphaja timira ⁵ Pilla roga ⁴

Table 1 – Vedhya Vyadhi

SR. NO.	VYADHI	VYADHI STHANA	VYADHI DOSHADHIKYA
1	Sashopha akshipaka	Sarvagat	Sannipataj
2	Ashopha akshipaka	Sarvagat	Sannipataj
3	Puyalasa	Sandhigata	Sannipataj
4	Abhishyanda (4 types)	Sarvagat	Vataj, Pittaj,Kaphaj, Raktaj
5	Timira (6 types)	Drushtigata	Vataj,Pittaj,Kaphaj,Raktaj,Sannipatik
6	Vataviparyaya	Sarvagat	Vataj
7	Adhimantha (4 types)	Sarvagat	Vataj, Pittaj, Kaphaj, Raktaj
8	Sirotpata	Sarvagat	Raktaj
9	Siraharsha	Sarvagat	Raktaj
10	Anyatovat	Sarvagat	Vataj

When other treatments fail, *Siravyadha* has to be done for *Raktaprakopaja Vikaras*.⁶

INDICATIONS - As described above, mentally fit and physically strong patients having *Netra rogas*.

CONTRAINDICATIONS - 1. Rainy or cloudy day

- 2. Extreme cold environment
- 3. Immediately after meal
- 4. Patient who has a history of any skin diseases at the site of puncture
- 6. Pregnant woman

MATRA—The instrument should be inserted as half a Yava in the skin. The muscular parts should be inserted as deep as the measure of a Yava or Vrihi. On the bony part, it should be inserted as a measure of half a Yava with the Vrihimukh instrument.

In diagram 9 –

- 1. Up to skin
- 2. Up to muscle
- 3. Up to bony part/vessels {Sira (veins), Snayu (muscle tendons), Sandhi (joints), Asthi (bone)}

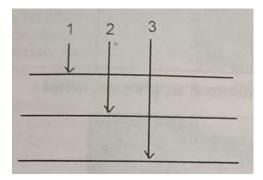


Figure 3 – instrument insertion *Matra* (measure)

Standard Operating Procedure of *Viddha karma* Method –

- 1. Purva karma (pre activity)
- 2. Pradhan karma (main procedure)
- 3. Paschat karma (post activity)
- **1.** $Purva\ karma 1$. Written informed consent was taken.
- 2. The patient was asked to take a suitable position for *Viddhakarma*.

(Lie down / sitting position)

- 3. The patient's BP and pulse were taken.
- **2.** *Pradhan karma* 1.The points of *Viddha karma* (bloodletting) were cleaned with spirit Swab.
- 2. with the help of 26 number and ½ inch needle, a gentle prick of 1.5 -2.5 mm deep was made at Apang (Depression at the lateral end of the eyebrow), Lalata (on the forehead one and a half finger above the eyebrow) and *Upanasika* (lateral aspect of alla). Or at the sites indicated in various *Netra rogas*.

3. *Paschat Karma* - Blood oozed out from the pricked site and was wiped out with the help of a sterile cotton swab.

Site for *Viddha karma* –

According to *Acharya Sushruta*⁷, in diseases like *Akshipaka (Sashopha and Ashopha)* (Ulceration of the eye) and diseases of the eyes, surgery should be done either at the Upanasika (Base of the nose), forehead, or outer angle of the eye.

According to *Acharya Sushruta*¹, in *Timira, Akshi paka*, *Adhimantha*, etc., *Netra rogas*, the indicated sites for Viddhakarma are Upanasika, Lalata, and Apanga Sira (base of nose, forehead, and outer angle of the eyes).

1) Upanasika – Lateral aspect of alla. (Base of the nose)

Vessels - Infra orbital branch of the maxillary artery. Lateral nasal branch of the facial artery.

Nerve - Infraorbital branch of Trigeminal nerve, a zygomatic branch of the facial nerve.

2) *Apanga* – Depression of the Lateral end of the eyebrow.

Vessels - Frontal branch of superficial temporal artery and vein

Nerve - Zygomatic branch of auricular - Temporal Nerve

3) *Lalata - On the forehead, one finger above th*e eyebrow mid-point.

Vessels - Lateral branch of frontal artery and vein Nerve - Lateral branch of the frontal nerve.

In some diseases, one more site is indicated -

4) Bhrumadhya - on the glabella

Vessels - Supraorbital and supratrochlear arteries, which are ophthalmic artery branches.

Nerve - Ophthalmic division of trigeminal nerve

Iris Prolapse (*Ajakajata*) should be punctured with a needle on the outer side to drain the fluid.⁷

Cataract - The puncture for Cataract surgery should be carried out precisely on a natural hole on the *Apanga* side at a distance, leaving a minimum of two parts of the white part.⁸

Mode of action – Stimulation to sensory fibres from peripheral receptors reduces the transmission of irritating signals from the affected area, which is the primary mechanism of action of *Viddhakarma* (bloodletting). The immune system responds to this treatment by releasing endorphins, which helps to reduce pain and inflammation. Also, obstruction removal and reduction in Load of pathogens in blood vessels in establishment of circulation.



Figure 4 – sites of *viddhakarma* ¹⁰

CONCLUSION

Viddha karma (bloodletting) treatment is a simple, economical, and effective procedure without adverse effects. It is proved that the ancient knowledge of Ayurveda is beneficial. As this Viddha karma shows significant results, large-scale clinical studies with all laboratory studies need to be initiated for better understanding.

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