

ANALYSIS OF STATUS OF JATHARAGNI IN VATALA PRAKRUTI WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO KALA

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ABSTRACT

The status of *Agni* varies in different *Prakruti* (Body constitution) and it also depends on the diet, environment, physical and mental status of an individual. The status of *Agni* can be known by examining the *Jarana Shakti* (Digestive capacity) of an individual. The six factors told in *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* (Signs and symptoms of proper digestion) will help in assessing the *Jarana Shakti* and in turn the status of *Jatharagni*. The research was under taken to analyze the *Jatharagni* in *Vatala Prakruti* individuals in *Chaitra* and *Vaishaka Masa*. *Prakruti* of the students was assessed using Standard format and those individuals having *Vata* predominance were selected. A self prepared scale was prepared to assess the *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana*. *Jataragni* status was assessed on a particular day by due consideration of the menu of their three grand meals. The environmental conditions like rain humidity, wind speed was noted down of that particular day.

Number of individuals having *Avara Udgara Shudhi*, *Avara Laghuta* and *Avara Ksut* was comparatively more in *Vaishaka Masa* than in *Chaitra Masa* which may be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in *Vaishaka Masa*, which effected over the body resulting in depletion of the *Jataragni* and also lead in increased number of individuals with *Madhyama Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa* than *Chaitra Masa*. None of the individuals had *Avara* status of *agni* due to presence of *Sthira Upachita Dhatu* and *Pradipta Jatharagni* in *Youvana Avastha* and cold environment.

Keywords: *Prakruti, Jatharagni, Jeerna Ahara Lakshana, Jarana shakti*

INTRODUCTION

Agni is one of the basic concepts of *Ayurveda*. This concept provides fundamental knowledge for understanding the theories of *Ayurveda* viz. *Ahara pacana*, *Dhatu Utpatti* (Tissue formation), etc. The importance of *Jatharagni* is for the maintenance of health as well as manifestation of diseases.¹ It is also an important factor to be considered while prescribing treatment.² In each and every process of transformation, that may be bio-

physical, bio-chemical, the media or agency responsible for all these process is *Jatharagni*. Status of *Jatharagni* varies in different *Prakruti*.³ *Prakruti* is the innate constitution of an individual based on the predominance of *Dosha* determined at the time of conception which cannot be changed till death. Qualities of *Dosha* are expressed on body due to its predominance and it is called *Deha Prakruti*.⁴ It is the enumeration of body features internal as well as external. There are different bodily constitutions

depending on the *Dosha* (bodily humors) that is predominant and we can classify them as *Vatala*, *Pittala*, *Sleshmala*, *Dvandhaja* and *Samadoshaja Prakṛuti*.⁵

Agni is assessed by *Jarana shakti*. *Jarana shakti* refers to the capacity to digest the food. *Lakshanas* like *Udgarasudhi* (clear belching), *Utsaha* (enthusiasm), *Vegotsargayatochita* (proper/regular evacuation of bowels), *Laghuta* (feeling of lightness), *Kshut-Pipasa* (proper hunger and thirst) are considered as the *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* which will aid in assessing the *Jarana Shakti*.⁶ *Jarana Shakti* and *Prakṛuti* are the two important factors mentioned in *Dasha-vidha Pariksha*.⁷ *Vatala* individual will be having *Vishamagni* (irregular digestive power), *Pittala* individual will be having *Tikshagni* (Intense digestive fire), and *Sleshma prakṛuti* individual will be having *Mandagni* (Low digestive fire).⁸ It is very important to examine the *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* in both healthy and diseased individuals. In healthy, those individuals having *Vatala* body constitution will be having irregular digestive fire, *Pittala* body constitution will be having intense digestive fire *Sleshmala* body constitution will be having mild digestive fire, so to assess the *Jarana Shakti* with aid of *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* of *Vatala Prakṛuti* individuals the study was undertaken in two different *Kala*.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

To assess *Jarana Shakti* of *Vatala Prakṛuti* individuals with the aid of *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* in *Chaitra & Vaishaka Masa*

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Source of the data: 150 healthy students of SDM College of *Ayurveda*, Hassan.

Method of collection of data: Healthy students from SDM College of *Ayurveda* and Hospital, Hassan were selected and

there *Prakṛuti* was assessed by Dr. Kishor Patwardhan's standard *prakṛuti* assessment format. Those individuals having *Vata*, *Pitta*, *Kapha pradhanyata* were selected and there *Jaranashakti* was assessed once in *Chaitra & Vaishaka Masa*.

Inclusion criteria: Healthy volunteers of age group of 18 to 25 years, irrespective of sex, caste, religion. Exclusion criteria: Individuals suffering from chronic diseases, systemic disorders, congenital anomalies. Assessment criteria: Scoring of *Lakshana* of *Jeerna Ahara lakshan* was done by self prepared scale.

Designing scale to assess Jataragni

Purpose – Since *Agni* is an important factor responsible for the healthy and diseased state, it should be examined in every individual. *Vatala* individuals will be having *Vishamagni*, *Pittala* individuals will be having *Tikshagni*, *Sleshmala* individuals will be having *Mandagni* and hence there is an importance to assess *Agni* in them.

Generation of scale - The scale consisted of queries for assessing subjective parameters based on the characteristic features of *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* given by *Astanga Samgraha*. The appropriate English meaning of *Lakshana* were referred and it was framed in the sentence form with 3 options to each eg: The *Lakshana Udgarasudhi* says clear belching, it was framed as; After how many hours of food intake you find clear belching in yourself (absence of past eaten foods flavor/taste)? Scale: Subjective symptoms were examined by using a questionnaire framed in close ended likert format with 3 options for each question i.e. Not at all/ after 6hours, after 4hours but within 5hours, within 3-4 hours. Subjective symptoms were graded accordingly as Grade 1 to 3. Table 1 shows the subjective parameters.

Table 1: Jeerna Ahara Lakshana

Udgara Sudhi (clear belching)
Utsaha (enthusiasm)
Vegotsargayatochita (proper evacuation of bowels)
Laghuta (feeling of lightness)
Kshut (proper hunger)
Pipasa (proper thirst)

OBSERVATIONS

Table 2: Weather reports

Chaitra Masa	Vaishaka Masa
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind 5-15km/h • Rain showers 1-3mm • Temperature - 24-28°C; 24-29°C • Wind chill 24- 27 c 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wind 20-25km/h • Rain Showers 3-5mm • Temperature 20-21°C; 23-26°C • Wind chill 25-27c

Demographic Data: In this study maximum numbers (62%) of individuals were female and males were (38%) and individuals of age group 21-25 were 10% and age groups 18-20 were 90%.

Incidence of Lakshana: Among 150 individuals 33 had sleep disturbance, 18 had underwent various kind of physical stress and 48 individuals had mental stress. *Avara Udgara Shuddhi* was found in 69 individuals in *Chaitra masa* and 75 individuals in *Vaishaka Masa*. *Avara Utsaha* was found in 21 individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*. *Avara Vegotsarga* was found in 99 individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*. *Avara Laghuta*

was found in 24 individuals in *Chaitra masa* and 57 individuals in *Vaishaka Masa*. *Avara Ksut* was found in 24 individuals in *Chaitra masa* and 48 individuals in *Vaishaka Masa*. *Avara Pipasa* was found in 30 individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*. *Avara* status of *Agni* was found in none of the individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*. 72 individuals had *Madhyama Agni* in *Chaitra Masa* and 132 individuals had *Madhyama Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa*. 78 individuals had *Pravara Agni* in *Chaitra Masa* and 18 individuals had *Pravara Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa*. Details are shown in table 3 & 4.

Table 3: Incidence of individual Jeerna ahara Lakshana

Avara Lakshana	Chaitra	Vaishaka
Udgara Sudhi	69	75
Utsaha	21	21
Vegotsarga Yatochita	99	99
Laghuta	24	57
Ksut	24	48
Pipasa	30	30

Jeerna Ahara Lakshana Score:

Avara status of *Agni* was found in none of the individuals both in *Chaitra Masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*. 72 individuals had *Madhyama Agni* in *Chaitra Masa* and 132

individuals had *Madhyama Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa*. 78 individuals had *Pravara Agni* in *Chaitra Masa* and 18 individuals had *Pravara Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa*.

Table 4: Incidence of status of Agni

Agni status	Chaitra Masa	Vaishaka Masa
Avara	0	0
Madhyama	72	132
Pravara	78	18

DISCUSSION

The current study was conducted to check status of *Jataragni* with the aid of *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* in *Chaitra* and *Vaishaka Masa*. In the study it revealed that maximum numbers (62%) of individuals were female and males were (38%) this may be because of more female students in the study area. The study also revealed that in 150 individuals 33 had sleep disturbance, 18 had underwent various kind of physical stress and 48 individuals had mental stress, this might be because of the personal problems, academic burden and interest in outdoor sports etc activities.

Study also revealed that *Avara Udgara Shuddhi* was found in 69 individuals in *Chaitra masa* and 75 individuals in *Vaishaka Masa*, this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in *Vaishaka Masa* which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the *Agni* and increase in the number of individuals having *Avara Udgara shuddhi*.

Avara Utsaha was found in 21 individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*, which means maximum number of individuals had *utsaha* in either *Madhyama* or *Pravara* state both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa* which may be due to the predominance of *Vata* in *Vatala Prakṛuti* since normal physiological function of *Vata* is initiating the enthusiasm (*Utsaha*) in an individual.

Maximum number of individuals had *Avara Yatochita Vegotsarga* (99 individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*.), this may be because of irregular food habits

that they follow and consuming junk food which may decrease the fibrous content of the stools and lead to *Anuchita Vegotsarga* (irregular bowel habits, constipation), also shows *Ruksha, Chala Guna of Vata*.

Avara Laghuta was found in 24 individuals in *Chaitra masa* and 57 individuals in *Vaishaka Masa* this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed, wind chills and rain showers (all *sheeta guna*) in *Vaishaka Masa* which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the *Agni* resulting in *Gouravata* of the body increase in the number of individuals having *Avara Laghuta*.

Avara Ksut was found in 24 individuals in *Chaitra masa* and 48 individuals in *Vaishaka Masa*, this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in *Vaishaka Masa* which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the *Agni* and increase in the number of individuals having *Avara Ksut* in *Vaishaka Masa* compared to *Chaitra Masa*.

Avara Pipasa was found in 30 individuals both in *Chaitra masa* and *Vaishaka Masa*, which means maximum number of individuals had *Pravara* or *Madhyama Pipasa*, this may be because of the *Pradhanata* of *Ruksha guna* in *Vatala* individuals and also might be due to continuous study process and recitation of verses of the *Samhita* which cause dryness of the throat and oral cavity hence resulting in *Pravara/Madhyama Pipasa* even though the environment is cold.

Avara status of *Agni* was found in none of the individuals both in *Chaitra* masa and *Vaishaka* Masa since all were of *Youvana Avastha* in which all the functions, entities will be *Prabala* including the *Jarana Shakti/ Jatharagni*. 72 individuals had *Madhyama Agni* in *Chaitra Masa* and 132 individuals had *Madhyama Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa*. 78 individuals had *Pravara Agni* in *Chaitra Masa* and 18 individuals had *Pravara Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa* this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in *Vaishaka Masa* which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the *Jataragni* and increase in the number of individuals having having *Madhyama Jataragni* in *Vaishaka Masa* compared to *Chaitra Masa*.

CONCLUSION

Agni is important for maintenance of health. *Agni* varies in different *Prakṛuti* and also status of *Agni* depends on age, environment, diet, physical and mental condition of an individual. *Agni Parikshana* is done by examining the *Jarana Shakti* of an individual. *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana* is an important aid to examine the *Jarana Shakti*.

Study was conducted in 150 healthy individuals considering the each factor mentioned in *Jeerna Ahara Lakshana*. Number of individuals having *Avara Udgara Shudhi*, *Avara Laghuta* and *Avara Ksut* was comparatively more in *Vaishaka Masa* than in *Chaitra Masa* which may be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in *Vaishaka Masa*, which effected over the body resulting in depletion of the *Jataragni* and also lead in increased number of individuals with *Madhyama Agni* in *Vaishaka Masa* than *Chaitra Masa*. None of the individuals had *Avara status of agni* due to presence of *Sthira Upachita Dhatu* and

Pradipta Jatharagni in *Youvana Avastha* and cold environment.

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Source of support: Nil
Conflict of interest: None Declared