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A CRITICAL REVIEW ARTICLE ON PANDU W.S.R. ANAEMIA

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ABSTRACT

Pandu Roga is one of the diseases mentioned in *Ayurveda* characterized by the changes in the skin colour to white (*Shweta*), yellowish (*Peeta*), greenish (*Harita*) etc. which is one of the "*Varnopalakshita Roga*" i.e., a disease characterized by the change in the colour. The clinical condition of *Pandu* in *Ayurveda* can be co-related with Anaemia described in Modern Medical Science, due to the resemblance in the clinical signs and symptoms. In Modern Medicine, *Pandu* is a pale appearance which may be due to the decreased blood supply to the skin or decreased visibility of oxyhemoglobin. Anaemia is a major global public health problem and the most prevalent nutritional deficiency disorder in the world. This article presents the *Ayurvedic* concept of *Pandu Roga* (Anaemia).

Keywords: Pandu, Vyadhi, Srotas, Anaemia, Pallor,

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is the science of life that is focused on the maintenance of positive health in healthy and eradi-

cation of ailments in diseased through its holistic approach, lifestyle practices, dietary habits, and safer

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medications. Malnutrition either due to inadequate dietary intake or lack of balanced diet and population explosion in today's world has led to the development of various diseases and *Pandu Roga* is one of such diseases. *Ayurveda* described *Pandu* as *Pitta Pradhana Vyadhi* associated with *Rasa* and *Rakta Dhatu. Dhatus* nourishment mainly affects disease due to *Pitta Prakopaka Ahara*. ^[1] *Pandu Roga* is one of the *Varnopalakshita Roga* mentioned in *Ayurveda* characterized by the changes in the skin colour to white (*Shweta*), yellowish (*Peeta*), greenish (*Harita*) etc. ^[2] *Acharya Charak* and *Vagbhatta* accepted *Pandu Roga* as a disease of *Rasavaha Strotas*, while according to *Sushruta* it is of *Rautavaara Srotas*.^[3]

Pandu Roga is characterized by the paleness of the body which may be due to reduced blood flow and oxygen or by a decreased number of red blood cells and Anaemia is one of the most common causes of paleness so *Pandu Roga* can be correlated with Anaemia.^[4] Anaemia refers to a state in which the level of haemoglobin in the blood is below the reference range appropriate for age and sex.^[5]

Anaemia is a major global public health problem having an influence on health as well as social and economic development affecting both developing and developed countries. ^[6] Anaemia is the most prevalent nutritional deficiency disorder in the world. ^[7] Globally, Anaemia affects 1.62 billion people, which corresponds to 24.8% of the population.^[8] In India, Anaemia affects an estimated 50% of the population. ^[9]

In Ayurveda concept of Pandu is abundantly and mentioned in various literature. The knowledge of this concept is very beneficial to treat different disorders where Pandu is a symptom and disease itself. This article presents the Ayurvedic concept of Pandu Roga (Anaemia). Hence, in this article attempt has been made to review various available Samhita, Samgrahagrantha to find out the different descriptions about Pandu and bring all of them in a single place.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES:

To review the concept of *Pandu* Roga from different *Ayurvedic* literature.

MATERIAL AND METHOD:

Material has been collected from ancient *Ayurvedic* texts, Research Journals, and electronic databases.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE: *VYUTPATTI:*

The word *Pandu* is derived from '*Padi Nashane*' *Dhatu* by adding '*Ku Pratyaya* to it, the meaning of which is always taken in the sense of *Nashana* and as *Pandu* has been kept under the group which is classified and named according to the change in colour. ^[10] *NIRUKTI OF PANDU:*

1. According to *Shabdarnava Kosh 'Pandustu Peet-bhagardh Ketaki Dhulisannibham'* means *Pandu* is like the colour of pollen grains of *Ketaki* flower which is whitish yellow.^[11]

2. *'Pandutwenuplakshito Rogah Pandu Rogah'* means the disease which resembles *Pandu Varna* is known as *Pandu*.^[12]

DEFINITION OF *PANDU*: ^[13]

Sarveshu Chaiteshvih Pandubhavo Yatoadhikoatah Khalu Pandurogah. (Su.Ut. 44/4)

It is called *Pandu Roga* because of the predominance of paleness all over the body.

SYNONYMS

According to *Shushrut Kamala, Panki, Laghrak, Alas* and *Kumbhahwa* are the synonyms of *Pandu*.^[14]

In *Rigveda* and *Atharvaveda Pandu* has been described by the name of *Vilohita*, *Halima* and *Haribha*.^[15]

TYPES OF PANDU ROGA

Acharya Charak described the disease under five categories namely Vataja, Pittaja, Kaphaja, Sannipataja and Mridabhakshanajanya^[16] and Acharya Susrutha has accepted only four types of Pandu excluding Mridabhakshanjanya Pandu^[17], they are:

- 1. Vataj Pandu
- 2. Pittaj Pandu
- 3. Kaphaj Pandu
- 4. Sanipataj Pandu
- 5. Mridikabhakshanjaya Pandu

Acharya Harita mentioned eight types of *Pandu* in *Harita Samhita* and described *Kamla, Kumbhakamla, Halimaka* as their Synonyms.^[18]

SAMANYA NIDAAN (CAUSATIVE FACTORS): [19], [20]

The etiological / Samanya Nidana of Pandu Roga mentioned in Charka, Sushruta and other Samhitas can be broadly classified into 3 groups. (Charka Chikitsa 16/8; Sushruta Uttarsthan 44/3)

- 1. Aharaj Nidana.
- 2. Viharaj Nidana.
- 3. Mansik Nidana
- 4. Other diseases i.e., Nidanarthaka Roga.

1) *Aharaj Nidana*- Food or diet plays an important role in the normal development and maintenance of different *Dhatus* as well as in the vitiation of *Dosha*.

- Excess intake of *kshaar* (alkaline), *amla* (sour), *lavan* (salt), *ushna* (hot) and *teekshna* (penetrating) *Ahaar*.
- The food/*Ahara* which is *virudhha* (incompatibles) and *asatmya* (unwholesome)
- Intake of *Nishpav*, *Masha*, *Pinyak* and *Til Tail* in excess.
- Excess consumption of wine (*Madya*), eating mud (*Mrida*) and *Mridu Ahaar*
- 2) Viharaj Nidana:
- Excessive Diwaswapan, Vyayama and Maithun.
- *Pratikarma Vaishmaya* (faulty administration of panchakarma) and *Ritu Vaishamay* (faulty management of seasonal regimen)
- Suppression of natural urge (Vega Dharan)

3) Mansik Nidana:

• *Mansik nidan* i.e., anxiety, fear, anger, and grief have a major role in the manifestation of *Pandu*.

4) Other /Secondary/Nidanarthaka causes – In Ayurvedic literature there is an indication of a correlation between various diseases and Pandu Roga either as a symptom or as Upadrava. So, all these can be causes of Pandu i.e., Nidanarthaka Roga of Pandu. E.g., Raktatipravartana, Raktaarsha, Raktarbuda, Asrigdara or Raktapradara, Rajyakshama, Punaravartaka Jwara etc. which can directly or indirectly vitiate Vata-Pitta Dosha singly or in combination and manifest as Pandu Roga.

PURVARUPA (PREMONITORY SYMPTOMS):

According to Acharya Charak:^[21]

Tasya Lingam Bhavishytah Hridyaspandanam Rokshyam Swedabhavah Shramsatatha. (Ch. Chi. 16/12)

Hridyaspandanam (Palpitation), Rokshyam (dryness of the skin), Swedabhavah (absence of sweating), Shramsatatha (fatigue)

According to Acharya Sushruta: [22]

Twaksphotnam Shthevangatrasadoo Mridbhakshanam Prekshankootsothah.

Vidmutrapitatwamathaavipako Bhavishtasya Purahsarani. (Su.U. 44/5)

Twaksphotnam (cracking of skin), Shthevan (salivation), Gatrasada (sense of lassitude in the limbs), Mridbhakshanam (liking for mud intake), Prekshankootsothhah (swelling over eye socket), Vid-Mutra Pitata (yellow colour of stool-urine), Avipaka (Indigestion) these are mentioned by Sushruta.

RUPA (SYMPTOMS):

Acharya Charak has mentioned the Samanya and Vishesh rupa of Pandu Roga in chapter 16 of Chikitsa Sthaan according to the Dosha involvement which is mentioned below.

Samanya Rupa: ^[23]

- Loss of *Indriye Bala*, *Tej*, *Veerya* and *Oja*.
- Loss of *Bala*, *Varna* and *Agni* (power of digestion).
- *Karnashveda* (tinnitus), *Durbalya* (general weakness), *Annadwesha* (aversion towards food), *Shrama* (fatigue), *Bhramanipidita* (giddiness), *Gatrashula* (body ache), *Jwara* (fever), *Shwasa* (breathlessness), *Gaurva* (heaviness), *Aruchi* (anorexia).
- *Akshikutashoth* (swelling over orbit), *Shirnaloma* (hair fall), *Hataprabha* (body complexion become greenish)
- *Kopana* (dislikes cold things), *Nidralu* (feeling of drowsiness), *Alpawaka* (avoid speaking), *Shtheevan* (spitting frequently)
- *Pindikodweshthana* (calf muscle pain), *Katiuru-Paad Ruka* (pain and weakness in the lumbar, thighs and feet), *Arohaneayasa* (patient feels exhausted on climbing)

Vishishta Rupa: Acharya Charka had classified *Pandu Roga* into 5 types; based on these types *Vishesh Rupas* are described. ^{[24], [25]}

- Vataj Pandu: Krishna-Panduta (black and paleyellow discolouration), Rukshata (roughness), Aruna-Angatam (Reddishness of the body), Angmarda (body ache), Ruja (pain), Toda (Pricking type of pain), Kampa (tremor), Parshvashiroruja (pain in chest-head), Varchashosh (dryness of stool), Aashyavairasya (distaste in mouth), Shopha (edema over body parts), Aanah (constipation), Bala-Kshaya (weakness).
- Pittaja Pandu:- Pita-Haritabhata (complexion become either yellow or green), Jwara, Daha (burning sensation), Trishna (excessive thirst), Murcha (fainting), Pipasa, Pitamutrashakruta (yellowish discolouration of urine and stool), Sweda (profuse sweating), Sheetakamta (increase desire to take cold things), Katukasayta (feeling pungent taste in mouth), Ushnaamlanupashyata (uneasiness for hot and sour things), Vidahe vidagadhe Anne (feeling of burning sensation during indigestion of food), Daurgandhya (foul smell of body), Daurbalya (weakness), Bhinnvarcha (diarrhea)
- Kaphaja Pandu:-Gaurava (heaviness), Tandra (Drowsiness), Chhardi, Shvetavbhasta (whitish complexion), Praseka (excessive salivation), Lomoharsha (Horripilation), Murchha (Fainting), Bhrama (giddiness), Klama (mental fatigue), Sada (looseness of body parts), Kasa, Shwasa (dyspnoea), Alasya (laziness), Aruchi (anorexia), Vaka-swaragraha (obstruction of speech and voice), Shukla Mutra-Akshivarchasa (whitish discolouration of urine, eye and stool), Katurukshoshna Kamta (feeling to take pungent, Hot and dry things), Shwayathu, Madhurasyata (sweetishness in mouth).
- 4. *Tridoshaja Pandu*: Sign and symptoms of all the three vitiated *Doshas* are present, and this is extremely intolerable because of developing complications.
- 5. *Mridbhakshanajanya Pandu: Bala-Varna-Agni Nash* (loss of strength, complexion, and power of

digestion metabolism), *Ganda-Akshikuta-Bhru-Pad-Nabhi-Mehan Shotha* (oedema on cheek, eye socket, eyebrow, feet, umbilical region, genital parts), *Krimi Koshta* (Appearance of intestinal worm), *Atisaryet Mala Sasruka Kapha* (diarrhoea associated with blood and mucus).

SAMPRAPTI (PATHOGENESIS) [26]

Acharya Charaka has mentioned the Samprapti of Pandu in Chikitsa Sthan. According to him, due to consumption of Nidana Pitta located in the Hridaya (Sadhak Pitta) gets aggravated and being expelled from Hridya by powerful Vata and it enters the Dash-Dhamanya (attached to the heart) and circulates all over the body. This aggravated Pitta reaches the space between skin and muscle tissue and brings vitiation in Kapha, Vata, Asrika, Twaka and Mamsa. This leading to abnormal types of colouration like Pandu, Haridra and Harita to the skin.

SAMPRAPTI GHATAKA: [27]

- Dosha Pitta Pradhan Tridoshaja
- Pitta Sadhaka, Ranjaka and Bhrajaka
- Kapha Avalambaka, Kledaka
- Vyana- Vyan Vayu
- Dushya Twaka, Rasa, Rakta, Mamsa and Meda.
- Strotas Rasavaha, Raktavaha
- Stroto Dushti Sanga and Vimarga Gamanam.
- Agni Jatharagni and Dhatvagni.
- Agni Dushti Mandagni
- Udbhavasthaan Amashaya
- Adhishthana Twaka Mamsa Abhyantara
- Vyaktasthaan Twaka
- Sancharasthaan Twaka & Mamsa
- Svabhav Chirkari

SADHYA-ASADHYATVA:

Patient of persistence chronic *Pandu Roga* whose *Dhatu* gets *Khar* does not cure. Also develops oedema observes all the objects yellowish in colour. *Sharir Dhatus* becomes *Ruksha* and a decrease in *Bala* and *Varna* occurs and *Shotha* develops. *Rogi* suffers from constipation and passes loose stools with mucus having greenish discolouration and becomes *Deena*, suffers from *Murcha* and *Trushna*.^[28]

CHIKITSA:

According to Acharya Charak: [29]

Tatra Panduvamyi Snigdhateekshnaurdhvaaranulomikeh

Sansodhyo Mriduvitikteeh Kaamli Tu Viraichne. (Ch.Ch.16/40)

According to Acharya Charak in Sadhya Pandu Rog, Teekshna Vaman and Virechan should be done.

According to Acharya Sushruta: [30]

Harechha Doshan Bahushoalpamatrach Shvayedhhi Doshesvtinirharatesu (Su. Ut.44/22)

Means in *Pandu Roga*, *Dosha* which get situated in *Dhatus*, *Srotas* and *Ashayas* should be removed by *Vaman* and *Virechan* repeatedly if not done so then these *Doshas* cause *Shotha* in the different body part.

Snehana Karma: in Pandu Rogi there is Sneha-Abhava (deficiency) and the Doshas get adhered to Shakhas therefore Snehan is essential to bring the Doshas in Koshtha and correct Rukshata. In Pandu Rogi both Bahya and Abhyantara Snehana are indicated. For Abhyantara Snehana Acharya Charak indicated some medicated Ghee i.e., Panchagavya Ghrit, Mahatiktak Ghrit, and Kalyanak Ghrit etc.

Vamana and Virechana Karma: Samyaka Snehan and Swedana bring the Doshas into Koshtha and by the action of Vaman or Virechana Karma they are expelled out of the body by their action. Virechana is considered as best Shodhanopakarma for Pitta Dosha. So, Virechana is most suitable in Pandu Roga.

Shamana Chikitsa:

- Vishesha chikitsa:
- In *Vatika Pandu Snigdha Guna Pradhan Aushadha* are to be used internally.
- In *Pittaja Pandu Tikta Rasa* and *Shitaveerya Pradhan Aushadha* are to be used internally.
- In *Kaphaja Pandu Katu-Tikta Rasa Yukta* and *Ushna Veerya Pradhan Aushadha* are to be used internally.
- In *Sannipataja Pandu Mishrit Guna Aushadha* are to be used internally.
- In Pandu Poga Vanaspatika and Khanija Yoga, Asava Arishta, Avaleha, Churna Yoga, Vati Yoga are used.

 Mridbhakshana Pandu: The ingested soil should be removed from the body by Tikshna Sansodhan (Vaman and Virechana) by evaluating the Shaaririk and Agni Bala of Rogi. After the Shodhana when the soil gets out of the body then Agnivardhak and Balvardhak medicated Ghrit should be used to bring strength to the body.

UPADRAVA:

According to Acharya Sushruta Aruchi, Pipasa, Vaman, Jwara, Murdharuja, Agnisada Shopha, Kanthagata Abalatwa, Murcchha, Klama and Hrudayapidana are the Updrava of Pandu Roga.^[31]

ΡΑΤΗΥΑ-ΑΡΑΤΗΥΑ

> Pathyahara:

According to Acharya Charak: [32]

- Shalianna, Yava, Godhoom mixed with Yusha prepared from Mudga, Adhaki and Masur
- Jangal Mamsa Rasa
- Panchagavya Ghrit, Mahatiktaka Ghrit and Kalyanaka Ghrit used for Snehan Karma.

According to Acharya Susruta: [33]

- *Pandu Rogi* must use *Arishta* prepared from *Guda, Sharkara* (sugar) and *Shahad* (honey)
- Asava prepared from Mutra and Kshara should be used
- Jangala Mamsa Rasa added with Sneha (fat) and Amalaka Swaras should be used
- > Apathyahara:

In *Bhaisajya Ratnavali* following *Apathya Aahar* are mentioned: ^[34]

- *Rakta Sruti, Dhoompan, Vaman Vega Dharan, Swedan* and *Maithoon* are to be avoided by *Pan-du Rogi.*
- Avoid consumption of *Shimbi*, *Patrashaak*, *Ramath*, *Masha*, *Ambupaan*, *Pindyaak*, *Tambul*, *Sarshapa*, and *Sura*.
- Intake of water of rivers like those originating from *Vindhya* and *Sahyadri* Mountain.
- All types of salt, sour edibles, *Virudhha Anna* (incompatible foods), food that is *Guru* (heavy to digest) and *Vidahi* (cause a burning sensation).

ARISHTA LAKSHANA

Acharya Sushruta mentioned fatal signs and symptoms of *Pandu Roga* in *Sutra Sthana* (S.Su.33/23), which are ^[35]

- Pandu Dhantnakha
- Pandu Netra
- Pandu Shangtadarshi

DISCUSSION

Pandu Roga is Pitta pradhana vyadhi, Pitta is responsible for the normal colour of the body but when it gets vitiated, Panduta (Pallor) occurs. Though Pitta is Pradhana Dosha in Pandu Roga, Vata Dosha also plays a crucial role in the manifestation of Pandu Roga, mainly Vyana Vayu has a relation with Samprapti of Pandu Roga. Pandu is a Rasvaha Srotas Vyadhi from which a lot of people suffer. In Samhitas most of the Acharyas have described five types of Pandu Roga, i.e., Vatika, Paittika, Kaphaja, Tridoshaja and Mridabhakshhanajanya Pandu. The daily faulty routine activity related to mental or physical, faulty dietary habits like Mridikabhakshana, taking food deficient in quality and quantity, Nidanarthaka Roga is some etiological agents of Pandu Roga. Acharya Charaka mentioned three premonitory Symptoms of Pandu Roga i.e., Hridyaspandanam, Rokshyam and Shram which indicate its future presence. Also, in Charak Samhita Samanya and Visheshrupa of Pandu Rog is mentioned. Pandu is Sadhya Roga but in later stages, due to chronicity, it develops some complications. Hence, it is necessary to treat it in the early stage. According to Acharya Charak in Sadhya Pandu Rog medicated Teekshna Vaman and Virechan should be done. For the diagnosis and effective treatment, a physician must have complete knowledge of Pandu Roga by different Samhitas.

CONCLUSION

Now a day, numbers of patients suffering from *Pandu Vyadhi* are seen due to modern lifestyle, improper dietary habits in routine and the use of modern medicines. *Pandu* is a *Varnopalakshita* and *Pitta Pradhana Vyadhi* which is responsible for the normal colour of the body. *Pandu* can be correlated with Anaemia. In *Ayurvedic* literature vast description of *Pandu Roga* and *Chikitsa* is given. To treat a *Pandu Rogi*, a physician must have complete knowledge of different aspects of *Pandu* like *Nidan*, *Roopa*, *Poorvaroopa*, *Samprapti*, and *several Chikitsa Yoga*, *Sadhyaasadhyta*, *Arishtalakshan etc.* from all *Samithas*, *Nighantu*, and other literature.

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