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> **REVIEW ARTICLE** Sept-Oct 2020

Udavarta - Review from Ayurvedic Literature

Kumar Jatinder¹, N. M. Rajarajeshwari²

¹Assistant Professor, Jammu Institute of Ayurveda and Research, Jammu, ²Professor, Department of Samhita and Siddhanta, Sri Dharamasthala Manjunatheshwara College of Ayurveda and Hospital, Hassan, Karnataka, INDIA.

ABSTRACT

Udavarta (reverse movement of Vata) is one among the most common and surprisingly most neglected and misinterpreted clinical condition. The concept of Udavarta takes various stances sometimes as a Nidana (etiology), sometimes as an event of Samprapti (pathogenesis) and also as a Vyadhi (disease). But all the three are somehow interrelated. Prolonged table work, excessive consumption of aerated drinks, fast foods have become a part and parcel of present day lifestyle. In other words to say Vegadharana excessive consumption of tea/coffee, Adhyasana, Viruddhasana has become a routine, leading to disturbed Agni either in the form of Mandagni or Vishamagni and Prakupita Apana Vata leads to disease Udavarta. There is no permanent solution has yet in the modern science for such problem. Hence the patient has pinned his hopes on Ayurveda.

Key words: Udavarta, Vata, Udara Vyadhi.

INTRODUCTION

Changes in lifestyle as a result of keeping up with the fast and competent world have taken a toll on the physical and mental health of people. Rise of new and diverse syndromes require a careful method of approach in both diagnosis and management. Patients present with symptoms of multiple systems, the management of which requires a wholistic approach that enhances quality of life, rather than just relief. Udavarta is one such disease that arises due to improper lifestyle habits and involves multiple systems.

It is a disease occurring because of Dharana of the Adharniya Vega, excess intake Kashaya, Katu and

Address for correspondence:

Dr. Kumar Jatinder

Assistant Professor, Jammu Institute of Ayurveda and Research, Jammu, INDIA.

E-mail: drjeetu.84.85.js@gmail.com

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Tikta Rasa, excessive intake of Ruksha Ahara, excess Upavasa and Ati Vyavaya. This leads to Vataprakopa resulting in the derangement of the function of Apana Vayu situated in the Pakvashaya. This eventually obstructs the Adoghami Srotas. As a result of this, the movement of *Mutra* and *Purisha* are obstructed and give rise to the disease called Udavarta (upward movement of the Vata in the Udara). Clinical presentation is seen with symptoms like severe and frequent pain in Basti, Kukshi, Hrut, Udara, Parshva, Pristha, Parikartika (typical cutting type of pain) in the Guda and Toda. It may also be presented with associated symptoms like Adhmana, Hrullas, Avipaka, Basti Shotha. Due to Vata Prakopa and Srotorodha there will be difficulty in passing of stool which is hard, dry and pellet-like. The stool excreted will be Tanu, Alpa, Khara, Ruksha and Sheeta.^[1]

Untreated or undiagnosed, it can lead to complications such as Jwara, Mutrakrchhra, Hrdroga, Grahanipradosha, Pravahika, Chhardi, Aandhya, Badhirya, Shiroroga, Vatodara, Ashtila, Manovikara, Trshna, Asrapitta, Ardita, Gulma, Kasa, Shwasa, Pratishyaya, Aruchi, Parshvaroga, and other Vatavyadhi. Hence it can be understood that Udavarta, though arising from a simple Nidana such as Vega Dharana, and presenting itself with a simple complaint such as constipation (Adhogami

Srotorodha), can progress to a grave syndrome involving GIT, urinary system, nervous system, respiratory system, sense organs and even the psyche.

Thus, an attempt has been made to expand the understanding of the concept of *Udavarta* by means of literary review regarding its *Nidana*, *Lakshanas*, *Samprapti* and *Chikitsa*.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES

Conceptual understanding of *Udavarta* through *Nidana*, *Lakshana*, *Samrapti* and *Chikitsa*.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

- a) Literature Search search for the term 'Udavarta' in Brihatrayee and Lagutrayee and available commentaries along with online resources, Journals, was reviewed during this work.
- b) Type of Study Conceptual study.

Etymology

उत् +आवर्त्

उदवर्त्ः प्ं, (उत्+आङ + वृत् + घञ्।) (शब्दकल्पद्रम- भाग - १)

Udavarta is a Pullinga Pada and is derived from 'Ut' Dhatu with 'Ang' and 'Vrut' Upasarga which is suffixed by 'Dhaya' Pratyaya. Ut means Urdhva or upper side, Ang means entirely and Vrut means Bhramana. Udavarta means upwards movement.^[2]

Dictionary meaning

To cause to go out, excrete, to secrete, to retain. *Udavarta* is a class of diseases (marked by retention of the feces); disease of the bowels, iliac passion.^[3]

Table 1: Vyadhis in which Udavarta acts as aNidana

SN	Vyadhi	Charaka Samhita	Astanga Hrudaya
1.	Baddhodara	+	+
2.	Vatodara	+	-
3.	Hikka Shwasa	+	-

Table 2: Vyadhis in which Udavarta occurs as aLakshana

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SN	Vyadhi	Ch.Sa	As.Sa	As.Hr		
1.	Vatodara	+	-	-		
2.	Vatajanita Plihodara	+	-	+		
3.	Vataja Gulma	+	-	-		
4.	Vatapradhana Arsha	+	+	-		
5.	Sahaja Arsha	+	-	-		
6.	Vyana Avruta Apana +					
7.	Basti Marma Viddha	+	-	-		
Ch.Sa – Charaka Samhita, As.Sa – Astanga Sangraha, As.Hr – Astanga Hrudaya.						

Definition of Udavarta

उत्ऊर्ध्वंवातविण्मूत्रादीनांआवर्तोभ्रमणंयस्मिन्रोगेसउदावर्त ।।

'Udavarta' is that disease in which there is Avartana (whirlpool movement) and Urdhva Gamana (Upward) of Vata is seen due to retention of Vata, Mootra, Purisha.^[16]

अन्येप्रीषंवायुनावर्तुलीकृतम्दावर्तंमन्यन्ते,लोकप्रसिद्धत्वात् ।।

As per other scholars because of the deranged Vata the hardening of the stool into a pellet (Vartulikarana) form is called as Udavarta.

Acharya Dalhana further elaborates on this that the stool expelled out is hard and round shaped just like the stool of animals i.e. camel, goat etc. That's why this specific disease is given the name Udavarta.^[17]

Madhava Nidana

The disease in which due to suppression of natural urges obstructed *Vata* moves upwards is called *'Udavarta'*.^[18]

Bhava Prakasha

यत्रॊर्ध्वम्जायतॆवायॊरावर्तःसचिकित्सिकैः। उदवर्तइतिप्रॊक्तॊव्याधिस्तत्रानिलःप्रभुः॥

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The condition in which *Vata* begins to move upwards is called as *Udavarta* and in this disease *Vata* is the predominant *Dosha*.^[19]

Etiology of Udavarta

The following are the causative factors of Udavarta

कषायतिक्तोषणरूक्षभोज्यैःसन्धारणाभोजनमैथ्नैश्व

- Intake of Kashaya, Tikta, Katu Rasa Ahara -Kashaya, Tikta and Katu, having predominance of Vayu Mahabhuta, lead to Vata Vrddhi on excessive use.
- Intake of Ruksha Aahara Dravyas Ruksha, being one of Vataguna itself, directly contributes to Vatakopa.
- Dharana of the Adharniya Vegas Vata is responsible for Vegapravartana. External disturbances (voluntary holding of Vegas) in the normal Gati of Vata is bound to derange its physiological function, leading to Prakopa.
- Upawasa habituated fasting disturbs the physiology of digestion and absorption, leading to disturbances in the function of Vata.
- Ati Stree Sevana^[20] Excessive sexual intercourse can be correlated to Atiyoga of Karmendriya (Upastha), which leads to Vataprakopa.

वाय्ःकोष्ठान्गोरूक्षैःकषायकट्तिक्तकैः |

भोजनैःक्पितःसद्यउदावर्तंकरोतिहि ||

Ingestion of food which is *Ruksha, Kashaya, Katu, Tikta* cause sudden increase of *Vata* in the abdomen and produce *Udavarta* instantly.^[21]

मुद्रकोद्रवजूर्णाह्रकरीरचणकादिभिः।रूक्षैःसङ्ग्राहिभिर्वायुःस्वेस्थाने कृपितोबली।

Specific diet like - *Mudga, Kodrava, Jurnahva, Karira, Chanaka* and all food items which are dry and does *Purisha Sangrahana* vitiate *Vayu* (*Vata*) leading to *Udavarta*.^[22]

Suppression of the urges of Vata, Purisha, Mutra, Jrumbha, Ashru, Udagara, Chardi, Shukra, Kshudha, Trishna and Nidra is the cause for the disease Udavarta.^{[23],[24],[25]}

Classification

Table 3: A comparative table showing types ofUdavarta according to different Acharyas

SN	Туре	Ch.Sa	Su.Sa	B.P., M.N.	B.S.
1.	Vata	+	+	+	+
2.	Vit (Purisha)	+	+	+	+
3.	Mootra	+	+	+	+
4.	Jrimbha		+	+	+
5.	Ashru		+	+	+
6.	Kshavathu	+	+	+	+
7.	Udgara		+	+	+
8.	Vami	+	+	+	+
9.	Indriya (Sukra)	+	+	+	+
10.	Kshudha		+	+	
11.	Trishna		+	+	
12.	Shwasa		+	+	
13.	Nidra		+	+	+
14.	Pitta				+
15.	Kapha				+
16.	Apathya Janita		+		

Ch.Sa – Charaka Samhita, Su.Sa – Sushruta Samhita, B.P. – Bhavaprakasha, M.N. – Madhava Nidana, B.S. – Bangsena Samhita

Lakshanas

Table 4: According to Charaka Samhita,[34] AstangaHridaya,[35] Bangsena Samhita,[36] KashyapaSamhita[37] these Lakshanas are being tabulated asfollows:

SN	Sign/Symptoms	Ch.	Ah.	B.S.	K.S.	
Pain related Symptoms						
1.	Koshtha Ruja		+			
2.	Prushtha Ruja	+	+			
3.	Hridaya Vedana	+	+	+	+	
4.	Parshwa Ruja	+	+	+	+	
5.	Basti Vedana	+	+	+	+	

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6.	Kukshiruka	+		+	+
7.	Udara Shoola			+	+
8.	Vankshana Shoola				+
9.	Guda Shoola				+
10.	Shoola			+	
11.	Parikartana		+		+
12	Vikartika	+			
13.	Toda	+			
14	Udaraveshta	+	+		
GIT	related Symptoms				
15.	Adhmana	+	+		
16.	Hrillasa	+	+		
17.	Avipaka	+			
Sym	ptoms of Stool				
18.	Varcho Apravriti	+		+	
19.	Jathare Ganda	+			
20.	Varcha-Kruchchra	+			
21.	Varcha-Shushka	+			
22.	Varcha-Chirat Pravriti	+			
23.	Varcha-Tanu	+			
24.	Varcha-Khara	+			
25.	Varcha-Sheeta	+			
Othe	er Symptoms				
26.	Basti Shotha	+			
27.	Urusada				+
28.	Ganda Shvayathu		+		
29.	Pravritti Dwesha				+
30.	Vaivarnya				+
31.	Sangyanasha				+
32.	Skhalana				+
33.	Patana				+
34.	Vilapana				+

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35.	Hikka		+
36.	Prasweda		+
37.	Angara		+
38.	Daha		+

Figure 1: Samprapti

Nidana Sevana

 \checkmark

Aggravation of Apana Vayu

 \checkmark

Obstructs Adhovahi Srotasa

 \checkmark

Obstructs movement of Vata, Mutra and Purisha

 \checkmark

Upward movement of Vata

 \checkmark

Udavarta

Udavarta^[38]

Nidana \rightarrow Vataprakopa in Pakwashaya \rightarrow Apanavata becomes deranged \rightarrow obstructs Adhoga Srotas \rightarrow obstruction of Vata Mutra Purisha \rightarrow Udavarta \rightarrow further derangement of Vata \rightarrow Upward movement of Vata \rightarrow disturbance to Pranaadi Vata.

Chikitsa

- 1. Shodhana
- 2. Shamana.
- 1. Shodana

It includes following treatments:

- 1. Snehana
- 2. Swedana
- 3. Varti
- 4. Pradhamana
- 5. Niruha
- 6. Virechana

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A) Snehana

Udavarta is produced due to aggravation of *Vata* and *Sneha* is the best treatment for *Vata Shamana*. Therefore *Snehana* is indicated in *Udavarta*.

In Udavarta, Snehana is applied by three ways,

- 1. Bahya Sneha
- 2. Paniya Sneha
- 3. Anuvasana Sneha

B) Swedana

After Abhayanga, Swedana should be administered for the detachment of the adhered *Doshas* in the *Shakha*.

C) Varti (Suppository)

A suppository having the thickness of the thumb should be prepared with drugs like *Shyama, Trivrit, Magadhika (Pippali), Dantimula, Nilimula, Masha, Saindhava, Goumutra, Guda.* All the mentioned drugs will be taken in the *Churna* form, add 5 parts of *Masha* and 2 parts of *Saindhava Lavana.* The paste is made by triturating with *Goumutra,* Add *Guda* in sufficient quantity, A thumb thickness *Varti* is prepared and dried in shade.

D) Pradhamana (Insufflation)

A tube should be inserted into the *Guda* and through this; the powder of the recipes mentioned by *Acharya* should be used for *Pradhmana* (Insufflation).

This *Pradhamana* causes downward movement or voiding of the obstructed *Mutra, Purisha* and *Apana Vayu.*

E) Niruha Basti

If the above mentioned *Varti* and *Pradhamana* therapies fail to produce the desired result, then the patient should be given *Snehana* and *Swedana* followed by the administration of *Niruhan Basti*. For the preparation *Basti* drugs having *Vamaka*, *Virechaka* effect *Gomutra*, *Taila*, *Kshara*, *Amla Dravyas* which alleviates *Vayu* and which are *Tikshna* should be used.

F) Virechana

If Udavarta continues in spite of Niruha Basti, then the patient should be given Virechana along with Gomutra, Prasanna (clear top portion of alcohol), Dadhimanda (upper liquid portion of curd) and Sukta (vinegar).

Virechana should be given with a gap of seven days after the administration of *Niruha Basti*.^[39]

3. Shamana Therapy

The patient should be given food which helps in the downward movement of *Vayu*.

To give proper healing to the *Pakwashaya, Kalpa* of drugs like *Vachadi Churna, Hingwadi Churna, Sthiradi Ghrita, Vatanulomaka Yavagu* etc. should be given.

DISCUSSION

By the literature search it can be seen that Udavarta has been mentioned as both an independent disease and also as a Lakshana of various diseases where functioning of Vata is hampered like Gulma, Arshas, Udara and Basti Marma Viddha or can be a Nidana for various diseases like Udara and Hikka Shvasa or can be a Upadrava of various other diseases like Arsha. Gulma and Prameha. This gives a clue that early assessment and management of the disease is very important for prevention of other diseases. From the literature search it can be seen that Udavarta is a phenomenon which is caused by upward movement of Vata, due to obstruction to the Adhogami Srotas. This upward movement of *Vata* is accompanied by several symptoms involving several systems. The condition Udavarta acts as a causative factor for other diseases, playing a role in their Samprapti. Those Baddhodara diseases Hikka-Shwasa, are and Vatodara. In all these conditions, there is hampered physiological functioning of *Vata*. Correlationally, they are also mentioned as Upadravas of Udavarta itself. They can be seen to be branching out from the basic Samprapti of Udavarta. This implies the link in management of those diseases. Vatanulomana is the prime Karma to be adopted here, after assessing Agni and other vitals.

Udavarta can also be seen as a symptom in several diseases as shown in table. Here, too, there is obstruction of *Vata* and upward movement at some level, but is not the cause of occurrence of the

disease, but rather, an effect exerted by the original Samprapti of that disease. For example in Bastimarmaviddha, the Agantuja cause results in deranged movement of Vata, expressed in the patient as Udavarta (obstruction to urine, here). In Vatajagulma, there is involvement of all three Doshas, but predominantly Vata. This causes Vataprakopa in Koshta, in turn disturbing Pitta and Kapha. All these, consequently cause Srotorodha in Pakvashaya or Pittashaya or Kaphashaya, leading to the formation of a Pindarupa which is termed as Gulma. Being predominantly a Vataja disease and involving Srotorodha in the Koshta and possibly in the Pakwashaya, Udavarta is seen as a Lakshana here and not a cause. When presented clinically, appropriate modality of management can be adopted such as Varti/ Swedana/ Virechana. This improves the understanding of the original disease as well, in terms of both diagnosis and management.

Udavarta as an independent Samprapti has been explained earlier, along with possible symptoms. It is a disease occurring due to Vega Dharana along with Vata Prakopaka Aahara Vihara which disturbs the Apana Vata leading to Pratilomagati and eventually hindering the function of Apana Vata in the form of dysfunction in the eliminatation of Vata, Vit and Mutra.

Vata is the main cause for Udavarta, so the Preliminary treatment is to correct the Vata. It is corrected by Snehana, Swedana, Varti, Pradhamana, Niruha and Virechana. Udavarta is produced due to aggravation of Vata and Sneha is the best treatment for Vata Shamana. Snehana does Vata Shamana. produce Mriduta in the Shareera and removes the Sanaa of Malas from the Srotosas. After Samvak Snehana Swedana should be done, it helps in the removal of the Dravibhoota Doshas from the Sukshma Srotasas. After Snehana when Swadana is done it pacifies Vata and removes the Vibhanda of Mutra and Purisha. After Snehana and Swedana when Doshas are moved in the Kostha then by using Varti these Doshas are removed. Churna is blown in the Guda and this cause the downward movement of Vata and relieves Vibhandha.

If the above treatment doesn't work then *Niruha Basti* should be given. *Vayu* is responsible for *Vikshepa* and *Sanghata* of *Mutra*, *Purisha* and *Pittadi Malas*. So *Prashamana* of this *Ativrudha Vayu* is done only with the help of *Basti Chikitsa*. If *Niruha Basti* doesn't work then *Virechana* is to be done. *Virechana* does *Vata Anulomana* and removes the *Vibhandha* of *Purisha*.

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In present scenario, when the people do not have enough time from their busy schedule, even to give proper attention towards themselves, it is difficult to expect that much of patience, for a time consuming therapy like *Shodhana*. So in such cases *Shamana* therapy is to be advised. *Dravyas* which does *Vatanulomana* should be given. Like *Pippali*, *Haritaki*, *Shunthi* etc. As these *Dravyas* has the properties of *Teekshna*, *Usna*, *Sara*, *Deepana*, *Pachana*, *Rechana* are helpful in treating *Udavarta*.

CONCLUSION

Udavarta has been mentioned as both an independent disease and also as a Lakshana of various diseases where functioning of Vata is hampered or can be a Nidana or can be a Upadrava of various other diseases. Udavarta is disease occurring due to Vega Dharana along with Vata Prakopaka Aahara Vihara which disturbs the Apana Vata leading to Pratilomagati and eventually hindering the function of Apana Vata in the form of dysfunction in the eliminatation Vata, Vit and Mutra. Vata is the main cause for Udavarta, so the preliminary treatment is to correct the Vata. It is corrected by Snehana, Swedana, Varti, Pradhmana, Niruha and Virechana.

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