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A review on Palliative Care in Pakshaghata

Vaishnavi Janardhan Dhande¹, Pournima Rikibe², Varsha Sane³

¹Post Graduate Scholar, Department of Panchakarma, PDEA's College of Ayurved and Research Centre Akurdi Pune, Maharashtra, India.

²Associate Professor, Department of Panchakarma, PDEA's College of Ayurved and Research Centre Akurdi Pune, Maharashtra, India.

³H.O.D., Department of Panchakarma, PDEA's College of Ayurved and Research Centre Akurdi Pune, Maharashtra, India.

ABSTRACT

Add life into days not just days into life, Ayurveda being the most renowned traditional systems of medicine that has survived and flourished from ages till date, guides how to live a healthy life and treat various medical conditions and can be apply on current healthcare issues. Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), also known as chronic diseases, Because of their long duration and slow progression. Pakshaghata means paralysis of one half of the body, here impairment of Karmendriyas, Gnyanendriyas and Manas occurs. Pakshaghata can be correlated with hemiplegia which results from cerebrovascular accident - stroke. Talking about paralyzed patients' poor prognosis, unfruitful efforts, physical dependency, lost hope and mental instability results in worsening condition. Paralyzed patients get affected medically, mentally, morally and socially, to make their life better and convenient here we are trying to explore ayurveda's intervention in improving palliative care practices of paralyzed patients. Care that is aimed at control of these symptoms, whether or not the patient is undergoing ongoing disease-directed therapy to control the Pakshaghata, is thus a key feature of highquality patient-centered care. The treatment of Pakshaghata is time consuming and expensive too. In Ayurveda Pakshaghata treatment schedule adopted according to the Avastha. Hence there is need for Ayurvedic approach to manage the condition by re-establish the circulation and improves guality of life of patient.

Key words: Non Communicable Diseases, Pakshaghata, Stroke, Palliative Care, Holistic Approach.

INTRODUCTION

Palliative care is a care beyond cure. According to WHO- Palliative care - is an approach that improves the quality of life of patients and their families facing the problem associated with life threatening illness, through the prevention and relief of suffering by means of early identification and impeccable assessment

Address for correspondence: Dr. Vaishnavi Janardhan Dhande Post Graduate Scholar, Department of Panchakarma, PDEA's College of Ayurved and Research Centre Akurdi Pune, Maharashtra, India. E-mail: vaishnavidhande1996@gmail.com Submission Date: 16/07/2022 Accepted Date: 24/08/2022 Access this article online Quick Response Code Website: www.jaims.in Published by Maharshi Charaka Ayurveda Organization, Vijayapur, Karnataka (Regd) under the license CC-by-NC-SA

and treatment of pain and other problems, physical, psychological and spiritual.^[1] Only less than 1% of its population is accessible to pain and palliative care.^[2]

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), also known as chronic diseases, are not passed from person to person. These are of long duration and slow progression. There are no limitations for age and religions to affect by NCDs. NCDs are often associated with older age groups, but evidence shows that 16 million of all deaths attributed to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) occur before the age of 70. Cardiovascular diseases (like heart attacks and stroke) are one of the major NCDs. Children, adults and the elderly are all vulnerable to the risk factors that contribute to non-communicable diseases. Its prevalence is about 9 cases/1000 in the global population.^[3]

Patients with *Pakshaghata* often experience symptoms of disease and treatment that contribute to distress

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and diminish their quality of life. Care that is aimed at control of these symptoms, whether or not the patient is undergoing ongoing disease-directed therapy to control the *Pakshaghata*, is thus a key feature of highquality patient-centered care. The initiation of palliative care and discussion of the patients' goals and preferences earlier in the course of disease can lead to improved symptom control, reduced distress throughout the disease-directed therapy, and care delivery that matches the patients' preferences.

Pakshaghata patients gets hampered physically and psychologically due to their disease and treatment. their families also suffer from great emotional distress during care giving. If early palliative care is given to such patients, it can control the disease, improve their quality of life and reduce the cost of care. Early palliative care access can also extend survival. holistic approach in palliative care caters to the physical, psychological, social and spiritual needs of the individual. "Maintain the health of a healthy individual by prevention of disease and to cure the diseased ones." Are what Ayurveda states as the objective. Ayurveda being the foremost life science describes ways to prevent and manage lifestyle disorders. It provides proper dietary management and lifestyle advices through Dinacharya (daily regimen), Ritucharya (seasonal regimen), Panchakarma (Biopurification therapies), and Rasayana (rejuvenation) therapies. The Sadvritta (ideal routines) and Aachara Rasayana (code of conduct) are of utmost importance to maintain a healthy and happy socio-psychological wellbeing of a person. Pakshaghata means paralysis of one half of the body, here impairment of Karmendriyas, Gnyanendriyas and Manas occurs.^[4]

Pakshaghata can be correlated with hemiplegia which results from cerebrovascular accident - stroke. Stroke is heterogeneous group of disorder. Lifestyle disorders are increasing day-by-day, and stroke is the one among them. It is the 3rd most cause of death and disability world-wide. The treatment of *Pakshaghata* is time consuming and expensive too. With advent of modern drugs, the treatment pattern of disease has grossly changed, where the drugs employed counteracts only symptoms temporarily and the underlying pathology goes on progressively to worsen the condition decreasing the quality of life of the patient. In Ayurveda *Pakshaghata* treatment schedule adopted according to the *Avastha* (condition of disease). Hence there is need for Ayurvedic approach to manage the condition by reestablish the circulation and improves quality of life of patient.

Pakshaghata

"Paksha" denotes either half of the body and "Aghata denotes paralysis.^[5] Word Literally means "paralysis of one half of the body. Here impairment of *Karmendriyas, Gnyanendriyas* and *Manas* seen. *Acharya Vagbhata* states about *Pakshaghata,* when *Vata* getting aggravated, dries up the *Srotas* (macro and micro channels) and *Snayu* (tendons) of one side (half) of the body, makes the organ/ parts of that side incapable of functioning and loss of sensation.^[6]

Hemiplegia

It is a condition of total or partial paralysis of one side of the body, with numbness in limbs, slurred speech, etc., Cerebrovascular accidents such as thromboembolism and hemorrhage of cerebral arteries considered to be the major cause for this condition.

Nidana

According to a survey of Ayurvedic literature, no specific etiological cause for Pakshaghata has been identified. As a result, all elements that aggravate Vata Dosha in the body are the fundamental cause of Pakshaghata. In numerous Ayurvedic scriptures, causes are described for Vata diseases. Consumption of dietary goods that exacerbate the Vata Dosha is referred to as Aharajanya causes vitiating Vata Dosha. Behavioural elements that aggravate Vata Dosha are among the Viharajanya factors that vitiate Vata Dosha. Manasajanya elements that vitiate Vata Dosha include factors that impact the mind, such as Chinta, Shoka, Kama, Krodha, Bhaya, and others. Abhighata, Prapatan Marmaghata, and other *Abhighataj* elements vitiate Vata Dosha. Prapidan Vigraha Prahar Balvad Prahar Balvad Vigraha Other elements that vitiate Vata Dosha include seasonal variations, severe

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purificatory methods, and other causes that cause *Vata Dosha* aggrevation.^{[7],[8]}

Poorvarupa

Vata Vyadhi's Poorvarupa can be compared to *Pakshaghata*'s. *Avyakta La*kshana is mentioned by *Acharya Charaka* as the *Poorvarupa* of any *Vata Vyadhi*.^[9]

Rupa

Anyatara Paksha Chesta Nivritti, Anyatara Pakshahanan, Achetana, Akarmanyata, Hasta Pada Sankocha, Sira Snayu Vishosha, Vak Stambha, Ruja Toda, Shoola, Sandhibandha, Vimoksha, Daha, Santap, Moorcha Shaitya, Shopha, Gurutva.^{[10],[11],[12]}

Upashaya

Nidana which contributes in *Pakshaghata* can be taken as *Upashaya* for it.

Samprapti

Vayu, as per *Acharya Charaka*, when it enters either the right or left side of the body, it dries up the *Sira* and *Snayu* of that region, causing loss of movement, constriction of the hand or leg, and *Ruja* and *Vakstambha*^[13]

According to Sushrutacharya, exacerbated Vata passes through the Urdhvaga, Adhoga, and Tiryaka Dhamanis, weakening the Sandhi Bandha and resulting in Vaam or Dakshinpaksha Hanan. The patient's half of the body becomes inoperable, loses sensation, falls down, or dies.^[14]

Vagbhatacharya has incorporated *Charaka's* and *Sushrutacharya's Samprapti,* and he claims that *Vayu* holds half of the body, dries up *Sira* and *Snayu*, loosens *Sandhi Bandha*, and kills either half of the body.^[15]

Samprapti Ghatak

Doshas: Vata (All five types; Prana, Udana Vayu especially), Pitta (Pachak Pitta, Ranjak Pitta especially), Kapha (Shleshak and Avalambaka Kapha especially)

Dushyas: Rasa, Rakta, Mamsa, Meda Dhatu and Manas

Agni: Jatharaagni, Dhatvaagni

Ama: Dhatwaagni-Maandya-Janya

Strotasa: Rasavaha, Raktavaha, Mamsavaha, and Medavaha

Strotodushti: Atipravrutti, Sanga, Siraagranthi & Vimaarga Gamana

Udbhava Sthana: Pakwaashaya

Sanchara Sthana: Urdhwa, Adhah, Tiryak Dhamanis

Adhisthana: Shira

Rogamarga: Madhyam Roga Marga

Vyakti Sthana: Either Dakshin or Vama Paksha.[16]

Sadhya - Asadhyatva

It is essential to understand the curability of any disease before beginning treatment. *Pakshaghata* was categorised by *Charakacharya* as *Kashtasadhya* or *Asadhya*. Only *Sadhya* if the sickness has just started, there are no complications, and the patient is *Balawana*.^[17] According to *Acharya Sushruta Pakshaghata* generated by *Shuddha Vata* is classified as *Kashtasadhya*, *Samsrushta Dosha Pitta* or *Kapha* is classified as *Sadhya*, and *Kshaya* is classified as *Asadhya*.^[18]

According to Acharya Vagbhat Pakshaghata caused by Shuddha Vata is Krichha Sadhyatama, Samsrushta Dosha causes Krichha Sadhya, and Kshaya causes Asadhya.^[19]

"Saadhyam Anyen Samyuktam," says Acharya Maadhava, implying that Pakshaghata, along with other doshas, is easily curable.^[20]

Palliative care in Pakshaghata patients

4 types of patients come in ayurveda OPD in terms of *Pakshaghata* are follow up cases, non-responsive cases, who got undesired effects and who wants solely *Ayurveda* treatment. *Acharya Charaka* has stated treatment principle of *Pakshaghata* as *'Swedanam Snehasayuktam Pakshaghate Virechanam'*. In Ayurveda text treatment of *Pakshaghata* is depend on principles of treatment of *Vatavyadhi*. In any Ayurveda treatment *Nidan Parivarjanam* plays very important role.^[25]

Nidana Parivarjana (avoidance of etiological factors) management of treatable risk factors and diseases like

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hypertension, acute encephalitis, heart disease etc. and avoidance trauma.

Samshodhan Chikitsa

Snehana - *Snehana* is performed in two ways: external and internal. Patient's *Aam Awastha* and *Niram Awastha* are first ruled out. *Acharya Vagbhata* and *Charaka* mentioned basic principle to treat *Vatavyadhi*, when *Vatavyadhi* is caused by alone *Vatadosha*, and patient is in *Nirupstambhit Awastha* then patient should be administered with *Snehapan* (*Ghrita, Vasa, Taila, Majja*) food mixed with *Sneha, Anuvasan Basti* after that *Abhyanga. Dashmuladi Ghruta, Chitrakadi Ghruta, Baladi Ghruta, Nirgundi Taila, Karpas Taila, Rasna Taila, Ashwagandha Taila, Prasarani Taila, Bala Taila, Atibala Taila.*^{[21],[22]}

Sushruta has specially mentioned Anu Taila for Abhyanga.^[23]

In *Upastambhit Awastha* after correct *Deepan, Pachan,* and *Rookshan,* internal administration of *Sneha* (*Taila/Ghrita*) should be performed.

Swedana - patients who are now well administered with *Sneha* should be opt for *Swedan*.

Swedan should be Snehayukta. Mustadi Upanaha, Utkarikadi Upanaha, Awagaha and Parisechan with Vatahar Dravyasiddha Kwath, Dugdha, or Taila. Nadi Sweda, Pradeha or Upanaha of Til, Atasi, Sarshapa mixed with Kanji, Gandhadravya Lepa, Shali Shashtik Pinda Sweda, Shalwan Upanaha in Upastambhit Awastha has been mentioned by Acharya Sushruta, again Acharya Sushruta has given Swedana for rigid or contracted body part is Bandhana with silk, cotton or woollen cloth or Salwan Upanaha.^{[21],[22]}

Virechana - If due to *Maladosha, Snehan Swedan* is unable to eradicate *Vatadosha* then for *Vatanuloman* one should go for *Snehayukta Mridu Virechan* for that one can give *Eranda Tail* mixed with milk, *Tilvaka Siddha Ghutra, Saptala Siddha Ghruta, Gandharvahastyadi Taila*.^{[24],[25],[26]}

Basti - Patients who cannot be treated with *Virechana* procedure, *Niruha Basti* prepared with *Dipan Pachan Dravya* is an option. *Sushruta* has specially mentioned

Bala Taila Anuvasan Basti for Pakshaghata patients. Various types of Yapan Basti mentioned in Charak Siddhisthana can be given for enhance the Bala and Dhatu of the patient. In Amavastha Lekhana Basti Choorna Basti can be given.^[27]

Nasya - Navan Nasya - with Ksheerbala and Bramhi Taila, Dhooma Nasya - with Ksheera, and Bala Churna, Pratimarsha Nasya with Dhanwantar 101 Taila, Anu Taila, Avapida Nasya with Bramhi Swaras, Dhoompan is with Vacha Choorna and Pippali Choorna. When patient approaches in unconscious state Pradhaman Nasya with Vacha, Pippali, Vidanga, Apamarga churna can be administer. According to doshavastha in morning - Pardhman Nasya with Brahmi Churna + Vacha Churna is indicated as Kapha predominancy is there. In evening - Pratimarsha Nasya with Brahmi Ghrita is indicated as Pitta is predominant at evening time.^[23]

Shirovasti - Shirodhara, Shiropichu, Shirobasti, Shiroahyanga are very important part of Panchakarma Chikitsa in Pakshaghata as it relieves stress. with medicated oils such as Baladhatryadi Taila, Mansi Taila, Narayana Taila / Ksheera Bala Taila / Chandana Bala Lakshadi Taila.^[23]

Shodhan Chikitsa in Pakshaghata

Awastha	Nirupstambhit	Upastambhit
Snehapan	Ghrita, Taila, Vasa, Majja. (Taila best as Vataghna)	Contraindicated
Snehan	Anu Taila, Baladi Taila, Chitrakadi Taila, Dashmuladi Taila, Karpasasthyadi Taila	If needed then only by Ushna, Tikshna Dravya. If pain persist then with Vishgarbha Taila, Sarshap Taila, Brihat Saindhavadi Taila
Swedan	Snigdha Sweda, Upanaha, Nadi Sweda, Sankar Sweda, Prastar Sweda	Ruksha Sweda, Patrapinda Sweda, Churnapinda Sweda

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	Ex- Shashti Shali Pinda Sweda	
Virechan	Snehayukta Mrudu Virechan Eranda Tail with Milk, Tilwaksiddha Ghruta, Gandharwa Hastyadi Erand Taila.	Mridu Virechan, Anuloman
Basti	Anuvasan Basti with Bala Taila, Narayan Taila, Balya Dravya	Asthapan Basti with Ruksha Dravya, Lekhan Basti, Churna Basti.

Shaman Aushadhi

Internal medicines should be given after assessment of *Upastambhit* or *Nurupstambhit Awastha*.^[28]

Awastha	Nirupstambhit (Dhatukshay)	Upastambhit (Margawrodhjanya)
Treatment	Dhatuvruddhikar	Margawrodhjanya
Aushadh	Shatavari Kalpa, Kushmandawaleha, Kushmandpak, Mahayograj Guggul, Hemgarbha, Vasantkusumakar	Guggul Kalpa, Yograj Guggul, Kaishor Guggul, Amruta, Rasna, Sinhanad, Rasnadi, Maharasnadi, Ekangaveer, Aampachak Vati, Vaatvidhwansab Ras
Rasa	Madhur, Amla, Lawan	Katu, Tikta
Vipak	Madhur	Katu
Virya	Shita	Ushna
Dravya	Guru And Balya	Laghu, Strotoshodhi, Dipaniya, Pachaniya, Ruksha, Anabhishyandi
Anupan	Dugdha, Ghruta, Sharkara	Madhu, Ushnodak
Aahar	Snigdha, Dugdha, Manmsa, Madhur, Amla Rasatmak	Laghu, Drava, Ushna, Dipan Pachan Dravyasiddha, Lashuna,

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Ardrak, Hingu Siddha Yusha, Kulattha Yusha

Yoga

Practice of Pranayama (Anuloma Viloma, Nadi shodhana, Bhramari and meditation along with the practice of Yama and Niyama. Yoga Nidra, Breath awareness (BAW) and relaxation techniques viz. Instant relaxation technique (IRT), guick relaxation technique (QRT), deep relaxation technique (DRT) and cyclic meditation (CM). Kriyas: Kunjal, Kapalbhati. Selected Asanas: Surya Namaskar, Tadasana, Katichakrasana, Konasana, Pavanmuktasana, Bhujangasana, Uttanpadasana (Ekpad), Vakrasana, Makarasana, Ardhshalabhasana, Shavasana Pranayama: Nadishodhana, Suryabhedi, Bhastrika.

Ahara

Just like medicines diet also plays an important role in management of any disease condition. *Acharyas* has mentioned diet for *Vatavyadhi* are meat soup, pulses soup, milk, *Madhur, Amla, Lawan Rasayukta Ahar, Ghruta,* sweet citrous fruits.^[29]

Counselling

During counselling advise the patient to. Be active and optimum use of affected part. Exercise regularly to affected part. Continue exercises as suggested by the physiotherapist. To increase the practice of exercise gradually. Take balanced diet. Maintain healthy body weight. Limit salt intake and fat in diet. Control of hypertension and diabetes mellitus. Check lipid profile periodically. Avoid over exertion. Avoid smoking and alcohol consumption

DISCUSSION

With Panchakarma we may cure completely or make patient self-abled. Before starting proper Shodhana, Rookshana should be done upto Nirama Avastha. After this we will go for Snehana and Swedana according to condition of patient. Then proper Shodhana by Virechana, Basti and Nasya. Nasya and Basti should not be administered at same time. Nasya, Shamana Aushadhi, other therapies and Pathya Apathya should be followed continuously after Samsarjana Karma.

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Repeated *Shodhana* is mandatory in *Pakshaghata* patient. As well as counselling is important for patients' wellbeing.

CONCLUSION

From above line of treatment stated in Ayurveda we can attain optimum wellbeing of *Pakshaghata* patient that will make patient self-abled and thus patient himself and family will be mentally sound and thus will achieve good palliative care.

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