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Ayurvedic Synergy: Combining Principles for Optimal PCOD Management - A Case Study

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PCOD is like an opera where the ovaries take center stage, but the script gets rewritten, leading to an unpredictable performance. The exact cause is still unknown, but several identified factors that contribute to its development are Hormonal imbalance, Genetic factor, Environmental toxins, Stress, Disturbed lifestyle, Disruption in body's natural rhythms. PCOD is not directly stated in the Samhita, but clinically it is similar to Aartavavaha Strotas Dushti, Nastaartava, Granthi, and Pushpaghni Jataharini. In the present case study, A 24year old married woman came to OPD of PTSR department of IAS&R, Kurukshetra with clinical features such as irregular menses with scanty flow, mood swings, disturbed sleep, Mild acne on face, bloating etc. Patient was a diagnosed case of PCOD as she had already visited allopathic hospitals. Her USG report shows multiple small follicles in Necklace pattern in bilateral ovaries. Hormone test shows LH-FSH ratio value >2.50. Blood reports suggestive of Hb-9.0g%,Vit D3-16.76ng/ml, Vit B12 - 245. She had undergone hormonal therapy for 3 months and later discontinued the treatment. This case was managed by Tab. Sukumaram Kashayam,Tablet Gynocyst, Tila Granules, Dashmoolarishta and Kaumaryasava, Diet &Lifestyle intervention along with Matra Basti of Sahacharadi Taila mixed with Murchhit Tila Taila. This treatment gave very significant result related to overall health of the patient.

Keywords: PCOD, Pushpaghni Jataharini, Aartava Kshaya, Dashmoolarishta, Sahacharadi Taila

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Introduction

Polycystic Ovary Disorder, or PCOD in short is the condition that hijacks the body's delicate hormonal balance, leaving a trail of irregular periods, unwelcome hair growth, and fertility frustrations in its wake. It's like a hormonal rollercoaster that refuses to stop, affecting millions of women worldwide. PCOD is commonest endocrinopathy that cause metabolic changes in women of reproductive age. PCOD is mainly typified by presence of[1] Irregular cycle, Acne, Hormonal imbalance, Difficulty in conceiving, mood swings, Depression, Digestive issues and Mmultiple small cysts in ovary. WHO data suggests that estimated 6-13% [2] of reproductive aged women are affected by PCOD/PCOS globally. Up to 70% of affected women remain undiagnosed worldwide.

As per Ayurveda perspective symptoms of PCOD simulates Pushpaghani jataharini[3], Artavkshaya and Bandhayatva because there is involvement of Tridosha (Vata-Kapha predominance) along with Rasa, Rakta, Meda & Aartava Dhatu so Rasavaha, Raktavaha and Artava-vaahi Srotas are affected due to which above Lakshana are found. PCOD is a predominant disorder; Kapha aggravated by consuming more Kaphavardhak and Sneha containing Ahara and by sedentary lifestyle. The line of treatment in modern medicine is Hormonal therapy. In Ayurveda the line of treatment is according to Dosha predominance, here it is Kaphahara, Strotoshodhaka, Shothahara, Deepan-Pachana and Anulomana.

Pathophysiology

Alteration in GnRH release leads to relative increase in LH AND FSH biosynthesis and secretion. LH stimulates the production of ovarian androgen while FSH prevents adequate stimulation of aromatase activity in granulosa cells. So decreases androgen conversion into Estrogen and Estradiol.[4] Follicular atresia occurs as a result of increased intrafollicular androgen levels circulating androgens also causes abnormality in patient lipid profiles and manifest as hirsutism and facial acne. Increased adipose tissue and genetic abnormalities cause insulin resistance, which in turn causes follicular atresia in the ovaries. The absence of follicular development ultimately leads to anovulation, which in turn causes oligomenorrhea or amenorrhea.

Case Report

A diagnosed case of 24 years old married (ML-2yrs) female came in OPD of Stree Roga evam Prasuti Tantra, Department of IAS&R with following complaints as Iregular menstruation since 1 year along with scanty menses, mild acne on face & Hairfall. She also complained of Mood swings, Disturbed Sleep and Constipation.

History of present illness

According to the patient, she was suffering from irregular menses in the last 1 year. She was also having complaints of scanty menses, acne on face and hair fall.

Also, she is complaining of constipation & bloating after meal intake with mood swing & generalized weakness.

So initially she opted allopathic treatment. She had gone through 1year of allopathic treatment (OCP pills) but no satisfactory result was found. That's why she decided to shift on Ayurvedic treatment.

History of past illness

No significant medical, surgical and psychiatric diseases found.

Past Medical History: No relevant history was present.

Past Surgical History: No surgical illness.

Family History: NIL

Personal History: She has Disturbed sleep, poor appetite with c/o Bloating after meal intake. She experiences constipation quite frequently. Her bladder habit is normal and she is vegetarian. There is no any significant addiction.

Treatment History

For the present illness, patient went to private allopathic Hospital for treatment and got Hormonal therapy but her symptoms didn't subside satisfactory. So, she visited OPD of Stree Roga evam Prasuti Tantra, Department of IAS&R, Kurukshetra.

Menstrual History: 12-year menarche age, initially periods were regular, 30 days cycle with adequate flow for 4 days & without any complaint of pain during cycle.

But since 1 - year periods were irregular with disturb cycle length of 45-60 days, duration for 2 days, quantity - 1 pad/day (Not fully soaked) with mood swings 10 days before menses till 1 week after periods. Patient also c/o pain during menses++, clots - Present (Red-Blackish), foul smell - Absent, Colour of Menses - Blackish Red.

Obstetric History: PoLo Ao

General Examination:

Built - Normal

Height - 160 cm

Weight - 60 kg

BMI - 23.4kg/m2

Pulse - 70/minute

BP - 110/80 mm of Hg

Temp - 98.4°F

Physical Examination:

Ashtavidha Pariksha

Nadi - Vatakaphaj

Mala - Kathina

Mutra - Samvak

Jihva - Malavritt

Shabd - Samanya

Sparsha - Shitoushna

Drika - Samanya

Akriti - Madhyam

Dashvidhpariksha

Prakriti - Pittakaphaja

Sara - Madhyama

Samhanana - Madhyam

Pramana -Madhyam

Satmya - Madhyam

Satva - Madhyam

Vaya - Yuvati

Vyayamshakti - Avara

Aharashakti - Avara

Systemic Examination:

CNS: Patient is conscious & well-oriented to time, person, place.

CVS: Heart sounds (S1S2) Normal, no added sound

RS: B/L chest clear, No added sounds.

GIS: No abnormality in terms of colour, contour,

No scar marks seen, Tenderness + in epigastric

region.

Samprapti Ghatak:

Dosha - Vata (Apana, vyana, Samana), Kapha

(Kledak), Pitta (Pachak, Ranjak)

Dushya - Rasa, Rakta, Meda, Artava

Srotas - Rasavaha, Raktavaha, Medhovaha, Aartavavaha

Artava Strotodushti - Sanga, Vimarggamana

Agni - Jatharagnimandya, Dhatwagnimandya

Rogmarga - Aabhyantara

Udbhava Sthan - Amashaya, Garbhashaya

Vyakta Sthana-Garbhashaya, Beejashaya,

Pratyatma Lakshana- Artavkshaya, Sthaulya etc.

Diagnosis

Diagnosis was done clinically by following symptoms as per Rotterdam criteria.

USG Pelvis scan

Hormonal Profile

Investigations

Hb% - 9.0gm

TSH - 2.860 m IU /mL

Vit D3 - 16.76ng/ml

Vit B₁₂ - 245pg/ml

LH: FSH - >2.50 PRL - 20 ng/ml

RBS - 96mg/dl

USG s/o (Pelvis): Uterus AV/N size

(67.5*41.3*40.9mm), ET - 10mm

Cervix - Normal in size

Rt. Ovary - (36.2*26.4*25.0mm), vol- 12.5cc

Lt. Ovary - (33.4*37.3*21.1mm), vol - 10.1cc

B/L ovaries enlarged in size & shows multiple small follicles in ovaries.

No fluids seen in POD.

Treatment

1. Nidan Parivarjana

Pathya[5] - Purana Ghrita, Purana Shaali, Yava, Godhuma, Mudga, Masoor, Patola, Soaked Dry fruits, Asparagus sticks, garlic, black sesame, Multigrain, fish, Jaggery/Shakkar/Khand, walk for 30-45 minutes everyday, Follow Rajaswala Paricharya.

Yogasana[6] -Bhujangasana, Sarvangasan, Suryanamaskar, Butterfly pose, Meditation daily for 30 mins.

Apathya - Dairy products, Sausages, Preservatives, Junk food, Caned/Packed food, Cold drinks, Maida,

Refined carbs, Sugar, Processed Meat, Caffeine, Alcohol, Smoking, Soy Products, Fries.

2. Drug Regimen

Table 1: Ayurveda Medication for first 15 days

SN	Ayurveda Medication	Mode of administration		
1.	Tab. Gynocyst	1 tablet TDS orally		
2.	Tab.Sukumar Kashayam	1 tablet BD orally (6AM/6PM)		
3.	Dashmoolarishta	2 tsf BD with equal water orally		
4.	Kaumaryasava	2tsf BD with equal amount of water after food		
5.	Brahamrasayan	1tsf HS with warm milk		

3. After 15 days

Table 2: Ayurveda Medication & *Panchakarma* after 15 days.

SN	Medication & Panchakarma	Mode of administration		
1.	Tab. Sukumar Kashayam	1 tablet BD orally		
2.	Tab. Gynocyst	1tablet TDS orally		
3.	Dashmoolarishta	2 tsf with equal water orally		
4.	Kaumaryasava	2 tsf with equal water orally		
5.	Dhanwantari Tail	Sthanika Snehana before Basti		
6.	Dashmool Kwatha	Sthanika Swedana before Basti		
7.	Sahacharadi Tail + Til Tail	Matra Basti for 5 days		
	Palashadi Niruha Basti (On 3rd day)			

4. After 30 days

Table 3: Ayurveda Medication after 30 days

SN	Ayurveda Medication & Mode of administration		
	Panchakarma		
1.	Tab Sukumar Kashayam	1 tablet BD orally	
2.	Tab Gynocyst	1 tablet TDS orally	
3.	Dashmoolarishta	2 tsf with equal water orally	
4.	Kaumaryasava	2 tsf with equal water orally	
5.	Ajmodadi Churna	3gm HS	
6.	Tila Granules	1tsf with Go Ghrita + Guda BD	
		after meals	

5. After 45 days

Table 4: Ayurveda Medication after 45 days

SN	Ayurvedic medication and	Mode of administration		
	procedure			
1.	Tab. Gynocyst	1tablet TDS orally		
2.	Tab. Sukumar Kashayam	1 tablet BD orally		
3.	Dashmoolarishta	2 tsf with equal water orally		
4.	Kaumaryasava	2 tsf with equal water orally		
5.	Dhanwantari Tail	Sthanika Snehana before Basti		
6.	Dashmool Kwatha	Sthanika Swedana before Basti		
7.	Sahacharaadi + Til Taila	Matra Basti for 5 days		
	Palasadi Niruha Basti (On 3rd Day)			

6. After 60 days

Table 5: Ayurveda Medication after 60 days

SN	Ayurvedic medication and	Mode of administration		
	procedure			
1.	Tab. Sukumar Kashayam	1 tablet BD orally		
2.	Tab. Gynocyst	1 tablet TDS orally		
3.	Dashmoolarishta	2 tsf with equal water orally		
4.	Kaumaryasava	2 tsf with equal water orally		
5.	Tila Granules	1tsf with Go ghrita +Guda BD after meals		

7. After 75 days

Table 6: Ayurveda Medication after 75 days

SN	N Ayurvedic medication and Mode of administration		
	procedure		
1.	Tab. Gynocyst	1tablet TDS orally	
2.	Tab. Neurobion forte	1 tablet OD orally	
3.	Dashmoolarishta	2 tsf with equal water orally	
4.	Kaumaryasava	2 tsf with equal water orally	
5.	Dhanwantari Tail	Sthanika Snehana before Basti	
6.	Dashmool Kwatha	Sthanika Swedana before Basti	
7.	Sahacharaadi + Til Taila	Matra Basti for 5 days	
	Palasadi Niruha Basti (On 3rd day)		

8. After 90 days

Table 7: Ayurveda Medication after 90 days

SN	Ayurvedic medication and procedure	Mode of administration	
1.	Tab. Sukumar Kashayam	1 tablet BD orally	
2.	Kaumaryasava	2 tsf with equal water orally	
3.	Tab. Neurobion Forte	1 tablet OD daily	

Results

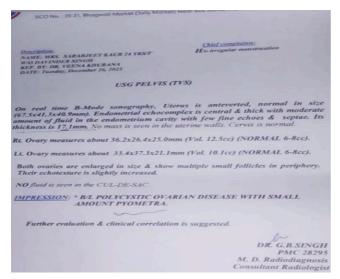
After 60 days of treatment, patient found improvement in flow of menses with relief in pain. Assessment was done on the basis of following points:

Table 8: Improvement before and after the treatment

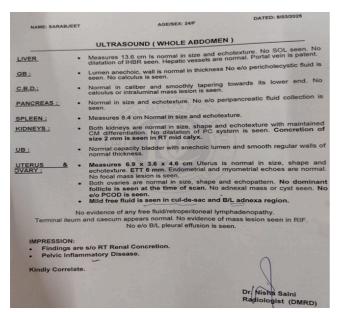
SN	Sign and Symptom	Day 1	Day 30	Day 60	Day 90
1.	Amount of bleeding	1pad/day (Not	1pad/	1-2pad/	2pad/day
		fully soaked)	day	day	(almost soaked)
2.	Interval between two	45-60days	35-40	30-32	28-30 days
	cycles		days	days	
3.	Duration of menses	2days	2days	3days	3-4days
4.	Pain during	++	+	+	Absent
	menstruation				
5.	Weight	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal
6.	Facial hair	+	+	_	_
7.	Mood swings	+++	++	+	-
8.	Dark patches on neck	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

USG (Pelvis) After Treatment -

S/o Uterus - Normal size (6.9*3.6*4.6),ET-6mm B/L Ovaries are normal in size, shape. No e/o PCOD is seen.



Before Treatment



After Treatment

Discussion

PCOD is mainly Vatakapha Pradhana Vyadhi so Chikitsa mainly focuses on Vatakapha Dosha Prashamana including both Shamana and Shodhana Chikitsa. Shamana treatment involves Aahara i.e., intake of Pathya Aahara and avoiding Apathaya aahara, Vihara i.e. Alpa Vyayama and Aushadh i.e., prescribed medication. Shodhana Chikitsa involves Basti which is best treatment modality of Vata dosha and Kapha-Anubandhi Vata, Pitta-Anubandhi Vata.

Basti is easy to perform and Acharya Vagbhata considered it as Ardha chikitsa. The main objective of treatment is to regulate the menstrual cycle and proper flow of Aartava during each menstrual cycle.

Tab. Gynocyst (Myo-inositol, Methylfolate calcium, Vit.D3, Fenugreek seed extract) Myo-inositol-Increases insulin sensitivity, decreases Hyperandrogenism & improves menstrual cycle. L-Methylfolate is the active form of folate, high rate of absorption in body improves insulin sensitivity, restoring normal homocysteine levels (which is usually high in PCOD patients), Vit.D3- Reduce androgen levels, Improves SHBG level, helps in fertility. Fenugreek seed extract mainly (Furocyst) shows significant improvement in reducing ovarian volume, no. Of ovarian cyst, potentially helpful in conceiving.

Dashmularishta[7] is a classical polyherbal Ayurvedic formulation prepared by fermentation process of the decoction and powdered various herbs. It contains more than 50 herbs along with the group of ten herb roots known as Dashamula. Therapeutic uses of which is noted in Vatasaman. According to Ayurveda, Vata plays important role in vitiation of any female related disorders. So, for the suppression of Vata, Dashamularishta plays a major role. Sharangadhar Samhita, it has been indicated in infertility.

Kumaryasavam[7] helps balance Vata and Kapha in the body improves digestion and increases appetite. Primarily used for liver problems, menstrual disorders, abdominal issues. It also has the property of promoting ovulation, which is beneficial in treating PCOD.

Ajmodadi Churna is a polyherbal medicine used as a carminative, antispasmodic, anti-inflammatory. it contains six ingredients, *Trachyspermum ammi*, *Cedrus deodara*, *Piper longum*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Argyreia nervosa*, and *Zingiber officinale*.

Sukumara Kashayam is made of 27 medicinal plants.it contains antioxidant potential. It was observed that the 3 antioxidants namely, DPPH, FRAP and Hydrogen peroxide scavenging activity, have shown very good activities. This could be one of the mechanisms of action of this medicine.[8] Sukumaram Kashayam is useful in treating severe pain during and severe back pain during menstruation.

Used for sensitive Kostha, weak Agni, normalizes Apana Vata function with affinity towards renal system & Reproductive system. Tila Granules [9]is Vata Kapaharam, Lekhana, Anulomna, Deepana as well as Balya. Tila Kwath mentioned in Rakta Gulma Chikitsa in Ashtanga Hridaya, modified into Granule form. The medicines work efficiently in multiple levels in the Samprapthi Vighatana of PCOD. Lekhana Karma brings Medoharatwa and Kapha Haratwa in Artavavaha Srotas. Vata Anulomana is important in Yoni Roga Chikitsa. It is achieved through this medicine very efficiently. The Agneya Ansa of Tila and specific action in Artavavaha Srotas focuses the medicine to the target and improves quality of Artava, taken along with Ghrita. Ghrita is Vatapitta Hara and Deepana. It is Sukravardhaka and Vayasthapanka.

Garbhashya is Moola of Aartavaha Srotas and Aartava Vahini Dhamani which is the main seat of Apanvayu. In PCOD mainly Apanvayudushti is there and Basti is the most effective treatment for Apanavayudushti. So, for this patient we choose Basti treatment as Vatahar Chikitsa. If we do only Lekhan and Bhedan (reducing and disintegrating) treatment it may lead to Vatavruddhi so for that purpose treatment using Sneha is more effective. So, Sahacharadi Tail [10] + Tila Taila Matra Basti is advised to patient.

Sahachara, Devadaru, Nagara, and Tila Taila are all present in Sahacharadi Taila. Cedrus deodara, also known as Devadaru, is a Kapha-Vatashamaka with properties similar to those of Vedana Sthapana, Shothahara, Kusthaghna, Kaphanisaraka, Vranashodhana. Vranaropana. Additionally helpful in Shothahara and Shulahara circumstances is Nagara (Zingiber officinalis), which is a Kapha-vatashamaka and Digestive in nature. Along with being Kapha-Vatashamaka, Sahachara (Barleria prionitis) possesses attributes similar to Vedana Sthapana Shothahara. Kaphanisaraka Kushtaghna Vranashodhana, Vranaropana.[9]

Conclusion

Therefore, in this instance, we can draw the conclusion that the pathogenesis of polycystic ovarian disease is greatly disintegrated by *Chikitsa* in combination with *Sukumar Kashayam, Gynocyst, Dashmoolarishta,* and *Kaumaryasava,* as well as *Matra Basti* with the *Sahacharadi Taila* + *Murchhit Til tail, Palasadi Niruha Basti.*

Throughout the line of treatment, no side effects or complications were observed. Result of study's findings are satisfactory. It suggests that ayurvedic treatment can regulate the disturb menstrual cycle, and relieve PCOD symptoms.

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