

Details Study on Ksharasutra use in Shalyatantra

Dr. Dimple A. Boricha¹, Dr. Shrinivas Turlapati²

¹PG Scholar, Yashwant Ayurvedic College Kodoli

²Guide, Yashwant Ayurvedic College Kodoli

Received : 07 March 2024

Accepted : 20 March 2024

Abstract

Vedas are the oldest writings available to mankind on this earth. Plenty of medicinal uses have been enumerated in these authentic text. But there is no description of Kshara in Vedic literature. In Upanishad, the use of word Kshara is found but nothing has been described in detail. In successive literature like Puranas, there is description of Kshara in two forms i.e. oral and local application. In addition to this there is description of Kshara karma for the treatment of many diseases. In this regard detailed explanation regarding Kshara has been made by Sushruta. No author has dedicated a chapter to Kshara other than Sushruta. Sushruta has detect this chapter in detail. He has narrated Kshara considering its scope in of Shalya tantra due to its actions like Chhedana, Bhedana, Lekhana etc.

Keywords - Kshara, Sushruta, Lekhana, Arsha, Bhedana etc.

Introduction -

The life of living creatures before the Vedic period i.e., before 4000 BC approximately, might have been a disease free one due to purity, piousness and homologous attitudes towards its leading. But after that, due to the dawn of sins and unhomologatory ways in dietary and mode of life regimen, the humanity started suffering from the reveals of diseases and hence, the ancient human literatures – the Vedas, preached by merciful Lord BRAHMA, contain the description of different afflictions of the body and remedies to cure them, along with the wholesome ways of dietetics and behavioural attitudes. Though Ayurveda has been believed to be an offshoot of Atharvaveda, it

seems that as far as the medicinal knowledge is concerned it indicates towards “Rigveda” and in the case of surgical aspect, it inhales “Atharva Veda”

Aims :

Details study on Ksharasutra use in Shalyatantra.

Objectives-

To study concrete study Ksharasutra and focus on Ayurveda evaluation Ksharasutra.

Materials & Methods-

Materials-

Source of Data- Sushruta Samhita, Charaka Samhita, Vagbhata Samhita, Dhallan Commentary, E-Journals, Sharangadhara Samhita, Madhava Nidana

Methods -

To compile available literature on Ksharasutra. Also to compile the literature of Ksharasutra

Author Correspondence

Dr. Dimple A. Boricha

¹PG Scholar, Yashwant Ayurvedic
College Kodoli

Email : payal12boricha@gmail.com

appearance of Conceptual. This is literary research study. In this articles all the references from Ayurveda Samhita and respective commentaries regarding – “Details study on Ksharasutra use in Shalyatantra”

Review of Literature-

Definition-

Kshara are derivatives of plant drug ashes in the form of solutions, powder or crystals, all of which have the basic quality of being alkaline.¹

Etymology-

The term Kshara is derived from two root i.e. „Chana“ „Char“ means „Sathan or destroyer because of its capability to destroy the substance like an unhealthy tissue of the body and vitiated flesh etc. In Amarkosh kshara term is denoted as „Kach“. This give the meaning of movement (Sanchalan)¹.

In Sabadakalpadruma “Ksahra” is derived from Dhatu „Kshara“ and give the meaning of movement (Sanchalan).²

Source of parts used for –

Charaka has mentioned eighteen parts of herbal plants viz which can be used in medicinal purpose and Kshara is one among them.

Bheda of Kshar –

a) On The Basis Of Application-

Sushruta³ : Pratisaraniya (External application)

Paniya (Oral administration)

Charaka : Pratisaraniya (External application)

Paniya (Oral administration)

Vagbhatt : Bahya Pratisaraniya

Antaha Pratisaraniya

b) On The Basis Of Potency-

The Pratisaraniya Kshara has been further sub classified in to tri folds

A. Mridu (Mild) - without additional drug.

B. Madhyama (Moderate) - Contains „Avapa“ dravyas.

C. Tikshna (Acute) - Contains „Avapa“, „Prativapa“ and some other dravyas.

All Ksharas are very penetrating in nature, very hot in potency, destroy worms, easily digestible vitiate Pitta and Asruk and help digestion of other substance ,help in breakup of hard masses, not good for heart, puncture the tissues being pungent and salty in taste are not good to seimen, Ojas, hair and eye.

Mode of Action – (Su.Su. 11/5)

Kshara has been told to be having the topmost place among all surgical and parasurgical measures in Ayurveda, due to its efficacy even in surgical measures through being considered as parasurgical one (Chhedya, Bhedya, Lekhya Karnat). While commenting on the Verse Dalhana clarifies that Chhedana, Bhedana etc. do not come under the preview of Agnikarma or Jalaukavacharna, while Kshara does these actions. In the same way, commentator of Ashtanga Hridaya, Arundutta, clarifies that Kshara is easily applicable and gives result even when Agnikarma and Shashtrakarmas are either contraindicated or difficult to perform in certain diseases.

Chakrapani mentioned about the methodology of Kshara-sutra preparation in his treatise ‘Chakradatta’⁴ to treat the Arsha, Bhagandra.

In twelfth century, Vangsen has enumerated the preparation and application of sutra in his treatise that was used for the treatment of both diseases Arsha and Bhangandra⁵. Later on, Bhavaprakash has also mentioned similar description regarding

Kshara-sutra. Though Chakrapani and Bhavaprakash have mentioned about the methodology of preparation of Kshara-sutra, they have not indicated the name of Kshara-sutra.⁶

SOP preparation -

A-Collection of ingredients-

The ingredients used in preparation of Ksharasutra are- Thread - Linen Barbour No-20 Fresh Snuhi Ksheera Apamarga Kshara
Fine Haridra powder

B- Requirement for Ksharasutra preparation-

Ksharasutra lab Kshar sutra cabinet-fitted with timer, hanger, heater, U.V. light, Bowl, Gloves, Swabs, Oval shaped bowl, Sealing materials

Collection of Snuhi-Ksheera-

Time of collection –

Best time is collection of Snuhi Ksheera is Autumn season in morning hour.

Process of collection-

The collection of Snuhi Ksheera was done by giving a stab to Snuhi plant. The latex which comes out of the stab, was immediately collected in the bottle. It was found that the latex of Snuhi, gets clotted after some time. Use of refrigerator helps in prevention of clotting.

Collection of Apamarga Kshara-

Apamarga Kshara was secured from the pharmacy section and was powdered and sieved through a fine sieve mesh number 120.

Collection of Haridra Churna-

Haridra was secured from the pharmacy section and was powdered and passed through a fine sieve mesh number 120.

Processing of Ksharasutra-

The surgical linen thread was autoclaved, after autoclaving the thread was tied on the hanger. A piece of gauze was taken and folded into a small square. It was then dipped in the fresh Snuhi Ksheera and the thread was coated (i.e. Bhavana was given) with the Ksheera from down to upwards. The second coating was given only when the previous coating dries. The thread is coated 11 times in this manner; one after the other after the previous coating of the Ksheera dries completely. The threads are placed in a Ksharasutra cabinet for drying. The temperature inside the chamber may be increased by passing hot dry air with the help of a fan. The air inside the chamber should be kept circulating to facilitate quicker drying of the threads. After completing the first 11 coatings of Snuhi Ksheera, now proceeding to coat the thread with both Snuhi Ksheera and Apamarga Kshara was done. The thread was coated with fresh Snuhi Ksheera in the way described above. Apamarga Kshara was coated on it immediately (i.e. when the thread is still wet) so that it sticks to the thread properly. This was done by sliding the thread over the heap of Kshara in such a way that the thread passes through the heap of Kshara and the Kshara sticks on the wet thread. The thread was coated in this way 7 times; only when the previous coat got completely dried. The last 3 coating are to be given with Snuhi Ksheera and Haridra. This is done in the same way as the previous coating mixing with substituting Haridra powder in place of Apamarga Kshara. While applying every coating, care should be taken that the drug spreads evenly on all the sides of the thread and does not become thick at one spot to make knot like appearance. The thread should be smooth and even, having the same thickness throughout the length. Care should be taken to

carry out the procedure in a dry atmosphere. After finishing the coating on the threads 21 times, they are dried well in the cabinet and cut to required size and then packed in a glass tube . These tubes are dried and sterilized.

Manufacturing date-

The tube is packed /sealed over a burner so that the Ksharasutra in it remains dry and sterile. These tubes are sent for Gamma radiation after being packed and sealed. The date of preparation, batch no., number of smearings and drugs coated should be mentioned. The tube is broken and the Ksharasutra removed for the use whenever required.

Result & Discussion-

Kshara Karma comes under the scope of Shalya Tantra. While Acharya Charaka has considered it as one of the three fold treatment i.e. Shashtra Pranidhana. In Harit Samhita kshara karma is included in the eight important types of treatment. Acharya Sushruta has narrated Kshara as an Anushastra, Upanyantra, Agropaharaniya and one of the Upakrama of Vrana. Acharya Sushruta emphasizes on the fact that, when the Kshara administered by an ignorant physician can harm the body like Agni, Shastra and Vajra or death itself. While the same kshar when administered by an intelligent and well skilled physician can prove potent enough to subside all serious and most troublesome disease rapidly in which it is indicated. Thus Kshara karma has been considered as a wealth and a strong weapon in Ayurvedic Pharmacopia.

Conclusion -

The knowledge of the Ksharasutra helps in understanding the process of action of drug in disease condition and also helpful for getting proper protocol using Ksharasutra preparation.

References :

- 1) Sushruta Samhita – Uttara Tantra, Hindi commentary, Ayurveda Tatva Sadipikaby Dr. Ambica Dutta Sastry. (Su.Su. 11/4)
- 2) Amarakosha
- 3) Sushruta Samhita – Uttara Tantra, Hindi commentary, Ayurveda Tatva Sadipikaby Dr. Ambica Dutta Sastry. (Su.Su. 11/6)
- 4) Chakradatta arsha chikitsa 48
- 5) Vang sen 370-71
- 6) Bhava prakash khand 2, 5/144
