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CLINICAL IMPORTANCE OF *SHROTAS* IN *KAYACHIKITSA* W.S.R. TO MANAGEMENT OF *SROTODUSHTI*: AN AYURVEDA REVIEW

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ABSTRACT

The Indian system of clinical practice Ayurveda mentioned various aspects related to the normal physiological functioning of body, diseases and their management. In this way ayurveda elaborated concept of *Srotas* means micro-channels of body which performs functions of transportation and circulation. The *Srotas* not only perform important functions of body but also restore normal health status of body. Vitiation and depletion in *Srotas* can lead many pathological events inside the body. *Srotas* nourishes body, maintain metabolic and digestive activities and restore process of detoxifications. The abnormalities in *Srotas* involve disturbances in transportation process. Pathological conditions related to abnormalities in *Srotas* can be managing clinically pacifying vitiation of *Srotas*. Present article described clinical perspective of *Srotas* as per ayurveda considerations.

KEYWORDS

Ayurveda, Srotas, Kayachikitsa, Channels and Pathogenesis.

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INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda mentioned that Antreshu, Hira, Dhamani, Khani, Dwar and Nadi, etc. Perform functions similar to Srotas or contributes towards the functioning of Srotas. As per ayurveda Akashaa Mahabhut forms Srotas thus performs functions of transportation and circulation of different materials. Srotas transport Dhatus, nourishes body and eliminates toxins from body. Improper functioning of Srotas can precipitate pathogenesis of diseases especially diseases of circulatory and metabolic systems. The assimilation and utilization of Anna, Prana, Dhatus, Malas and Jala mainly depend upon functioning of *Srotas* which mainly govern through processes of filtration diffusion, osmosis and transportation.

Clinical and pathological perspective of Srotodushti

Atipravritti, Sanga, Siragranthi and Vimarga Gamana, etc. are abnormalities related to Srotas Dushti. Figure No.1 depicted common pathogenesis of channels/pores of body as per modern science.

Atipravrtti means increase activity of Srota leading to the excessive secretions which can causes excessive discharge. The condition mainly characterizes with increase rate of respiration, high peristaltic movement, excess elimination of urine and feces and high rate of sweating. Atipravrutti of Annavaha Srota can causes Amlapitta, Atipravrutti of Artavaha Srota can leads excessive flow of Rakta or Artava similarly Prameha characterized as Atipravrutti of Mutravaha Srota while Atisara can be considered as Atipravrutti of Purisvaha Srota.

Sanga means Srotorodha which causes holding of materials characterize as obstruction of channels or pores. Obstruction of Srota causes accumulation of fluid leading to the edema and swelling. Malavshtambha occurs as intra luminal obstruction while Mutraavrodha occurs due to the extra luminal obstruction.

Sroto Granthi means unwanted growth or tumors or thickening of specific parts of body leading to the improper size and shape of tissues. Varicose veins, *Arbuda* and *Granthi* are examples of such types of conditions.

Vimarg- Gamana is another example of *Srotodusți* which means movement of materials through *Srota* in wrong direction. *Chardi* and Gastro-Esophageal-Reflux-Disease (GERD) are the examples of such types of conditions.

Srotodushti and clinical manifestations

The *Srotodushti* can cause many harmful effects and specific *Srota* responsible for particular clinical manifestations as mentioned below:

• Dehydration, electrolyte imbalances and excessive thirst resembles vitiation of *Udakavaha Srotas*.

- Improper respiration, lack of breath, muscular fatigue and oxygen deficiency can be correlated with inappropriate functioning of *Pranavaha Srotas*.
- *Prameha* and obesity related with the vitiation of *Medovaha Srotas*. Similarly *Adhidanta, Adhyasthi* and *Asthisula* may occur if *Asthivaha Srotas* not work properly.
- Symptoms of fainting, deterioration of *Majja* and depletion of *Rakta-Dhatu* may observe when *Majjavaha Srotas* get disturbed.
- Visarpa, Raktapitta, Kustha and other Rakta Dushti may be seen if functioning of Raktavaha Srotas becomes abnormal.
- Disturbance of *Mamsavaha Srotas* may initiates pathogenesis of *Galashundika*, *Putimamsa* and *Adhimamsa*, etc.
- Constipation, formation of *Ama*, anorexia and indigestion mainly related with disturbed functioning of *Annavaha Srotas*.
- Dysfunctions of *Rasavaha Srotas* can be manifested as feeling of heaviness, lethargy, blood pressure and depletion of strength.
- Loss of luster, sterility, erectile dysfunctions and lack of enthusiasm, etc. may occur due to the *Srotodushti* of *Shukravaha Srotas*.
- *Srotodushti* of *Mutravaha Srotas* can cause pain, enlargement of urinary bladder, burning sensation and infrequent urination.

Clinical management of disease by pacifying vitiated *Srotas*

Nidanparivarjan means avoidance of causative factors, Srotoshodhan through Panchkarma and Apunarbhava chikitsa provides relief from Srotodushti. The drugs which pacify vitiation of Dhatus, Agni and Srotas can alleviate Srotodushti. Drugs used in specific conditions of Srotodushti mentioned in Table No.1. Sapan Jain. et al. /International Journal of Medicine and Health Profession Research. 7(1), 2020, 9-12.

Table No.1: Srotodushti and their management		
S.No	Srotodushti	Drugs used to pacify specific Srotodushti
1	Pranvaha Srotas	Bhallatak, Amalaki and Kasturi
2	Rasavaha Srotas	Lajamand, Guduchi, Yashtimadhu and Manjistha
3	Raktavaha Srotas	Guduchi, Loha Bhasma, Sarivai and Aamalaki
4	Annavaha Srotas	Kapardik, Shankh Bhasma, Nagkeshar and Hing
5	Mamsavaha Srotas	Ashwagandha and Shatavari
6	Udakavaha Srotas	Abhrak Bhasma, Gudardark and Trifala
7	Medovaha Srotas	Guduchi, Guggulu, Shilajit and Bhunimbha
8	Asthivaha Srotas	Kukkutand Twak Bhasma, Asthishrunkhala and Shankh Bhasma
9	Mutravaha Srotas	Punarnava, Shilajit, Pashanbhed and Gukshur
10	Majjavaha Srotas	Vacha, Brahmi, Shankhpushpi, Bhrungaraj and Jatamunsi
11	Purishvaha Srotas	Bilva, Kutaj, Suvarnapatri and Haritaki

Table No.1: Srotodushti and their management

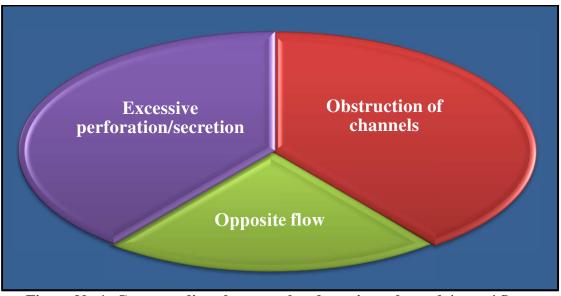


Figure No.1: Common disturbances related to micro-channels/pores/ Srota

CONCLUSION

Srotas one of the vital entities of human body responsible for many important functions and help to maintain normal health status. Srotas nourishes body, control metabolic activities and also perform functions of detoxifications. Srotas helps to produce healthy tissues, provide longevity, immunity, strength and regularizes digestive activities. Vitiation of Srotas can lead many pathological consequences including Atipravritti, Sanga, Siragranthi and Vimarga Gamana, etc. The clinical manifestations of Srotodushti are dehydration, electrolyte imbalances, improper respiration, Prameha, Visarpa, Raktapitta, Kustha, constipation, Ama and infertility, etc. Pathological conditions related to abnormalities in Srotas can be managed clinically by pacifying vitiation of Srotas. Consideration of Nidanparivarian, uses of Shodhan therapies and Ayurveda drugs helps to pacify vitiation of Srotas thus cure many diseases. Drugs which acts on Sukshma Srotas, improves Agni, balances Doshas and boost *Dhatus* provides beneficial effects in case of Srotodushti. Bhallatak, Amalaki, Guduchi, Yashtimadhu, Manjistha, Ashwagandha, Punarnava, Shilajit, Gukshur, Vacha, Shankhpushpi, Bhrungaraj, Brahmi, Kutaj, Bilva and Shatavari, etc. are some drugs can be used to cure pathogenesis of Srotodushti.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

We declare that we have no conflict of interest.

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