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AYURVEDIC MANAGEMENT OF SHWITRA: A CASE STUDY

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ABSTRACT

Beauty of the person is assessed by the complexion and texture of the skin. Healthy skin is determined by its proper structure, natural color and clear appearance. Skin is considered as *Twak* in Ayurveda. *Twak vikara* or disorder are considered under *Kushta Roga* in Ayurveda. *Shwitra* is considered as one of the varities of *Kushta* in Ayurvedic classics. Partial or complete loss of skin pigmentation giving rise to white patch on any part of the body is called as leukoderma or vitiligo. It has an unknown etiology even today but its an acquired condition in which circumscribed depigmented patches develops. This depigmentation results due to destruction of melanocytes, which may be unknown in origin or due to autoimmune endocrinopathies selective IgA deficiency. According to Ayurveda *Shwitra* is caused due to vitiation of *tridoshas* and *dhatus* like *Rakta*, *Mamsa and Meda*. A female patient aged 12 yr has complaint of white patch behind right ear region since 2 year. Patient was treated with both *Shodhan* and *Shaman chikitsa* for period of 3 months with follow up every after 15 days. Patient got relief from the complaint and it is assessed by noting the changes in the size of patch was reduced. Present case study revealed that efficacy of Ayurvedic *Chikitsa* in *Shwitra* management.

KEYWORDS: *tridoshas* and *dhatus* like *Rakta*, *Mamsa and Meda*.

INTRODUCTION

Skin is the largest organ of body by surface area and weight. Total area is about 20 sq.feet. Skin protects us from microbes and the elements, helps regulate body temperature and permits the sensation of touch heat, cold. As skin is exposed to external environment it is more prone to various skin problem. Skin disorder are considered under *Kushta roga* in Ayurvedic classics. The word *Kushtha* is derived from the root '*Kush nishkarsh'e* i.e. to tear or to expel with suffix k. It means the disease which definitely despises and disfigures the skin or body is called *Kushta*.^[1]

Vitiligo is a skin disease with unknown etiology in which skin loses its color in blotches and develops in white patches. Partial or complete loss of skin pigmentation giving rise to white patch on any part of the body is called as leukoderma or vitiligo. The exact cause is unknown but may be due to autoimmune disorder which may destroy melanocytes in skin. Vitiligo can affect people of any age gender.

In Ayurveda vitiligo is corelated with *Shwitra*. In *Charak Samhita Sushruta Samhita Ashtang sangraha* we found the description of *Shwitra* as synonyms etiology types *sadhya asadhyatva* and *chikitsa*. In Ayurveda *Shwitra* is a disease explained in *Khshudrakushta*. It is called as *Kilas Daruna Shweta kushta*.^[2]

Ayurveda states that causes of *Shwitra* may be chardivegadharana atisewan of amla-katu-ushna-lavanmadhur aharsewan, virudhhahar and atimatra bhojan along with navann sevan and dahi sevan. In *Charak Samhita* while explaining the *Nidana* of *Shwitra Acharya Charak* has explained *Virudha aharvihar* (unbeneficial food) and *Paap karma* (bad deeds) are the main cause of *Shwitra*.^[3]

Above etiological factors produces the imbalance of *Doshas*(body humours) like *Vata*, Pitta *Kapha* specially *Bhrajak Pitta* which helps in the formation of and maintain the color of skin. These *Doshas* are vitiated along with *Rasa Rakta Mamsa* and *Meda Dhatus.*^[4] Satisfying treatment is not available in modern science. Various *Panchkarma* procedures and Ayurvedic drug have been proved useful for these manifestation.

A CASE STUDY

Case report

A 12 year old female patient comes in an OPD with complaint of white coloured patch behind the right ear since 2 year. Patient underwent several for several allopathy treatment but got not that much satisfactory relief. Then patient come to the Balroga OPD of Government Ayurvedic college, Nanded. Then patient admitted on the same day for further Ayurvedic treatment.

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History of present illness

Patient was normal before the 2 years she is not aware of the disease. She noticed that she was having a white patch behind right ear which gradually increase in size. She visited dermatologist for the same. She was advised some internal medicines along with topical steroids for that white patch. She took treatment for more than 2 years but not got satisfactory result so she approached for the Ayurveda consultancy for the same.

History of past illness

No history of DM, bronchial asthma. No history of previous other skin disease No any history of major illness

Family history

No any maternal or paternal history of vitiligo

General Examination

Nadi- 74/min Mala- Baddhamalapravrutti Mutra – Samyaka Jivha – Sama Shabda- Spashta Sparsh - Anushnasheet

Druk- Spashta Akriti- Krush

 $Prakriti-Kapha pradhan\ pittanubandhi$

Weight – 20 kg

Temperature -97.2° F

Personal history

Aharaj – Nonveg diet weekly 3-4 times
Fast food like chips, pizza, burger, biscuits, toast more
frequently
Viharaj- Ratri jagran upto 1:00 or 2:00 AM
Manasik- Irritable

Samprapti Ghatak

Dosha- Tridoshaj (Pitta-vatapradhan) Dushya- Rasa, Rakta, Mamsa, Medas Adhisthan- Twak

Treatment

First line of treatment- Deepan- Pachana

Day	Medication	Anupana
1	Amlaki+Musta+Guduchi churna each 2 gram	Koshna jal(warm water)
2	Amlaki+Musta+Guduchi Churna each 2 gram	Koshna jal
3	Amlaki+Musta+Guduchi Churna each 2 gram	Koshna jal
4	Amlaki + Musta +Guduchi Churna each 2 gram	Koshna jal
5	Amlaki+Musta+Guduchi Churna each 2 gram	Koshna jal

Second line of treatment- Mrudu Rechan

Drug	Dose	Duration	Anupana
Erandbhrishta Haritaki churna ^[5] for Mrudu Rechan	5 Gram	5 days	Koshna jal

Third line treatment- Shaman Chikitsa

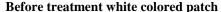
Sr.no	Drug	Dose	Duration	Anupana
1	Mahamanjisthadi Kwath ^[6]	10 ml BD	3 month	Koshna jal
2	Arogyavardhini vati	1 BD	3 month	Koshna jal
3	Vidangarishta	10 ml BD	3 month	Koshna jal
4	Mahatikta ghuruta	1tsp BD	3 month	Koshna jal

Local Application

Bakuchi oil^[7] on the white patch in morning and sun exposure for ½ hour for 3 month.

RESULTS







After treatment of 3 month

DISCUSSION

Amlaki churna is given for deepan pachan because it has Tridoshaghna properties. Musta having Tikta rasa is good for deepan and pachan. Guduchi also has the Tridoshahar properties. That's why combination of above drug *churna* is given for the purpose of *Deepan* and Pachana. Both Castor Oil and Haritaki churna are appreciated as good laxative. Their unique combination is excellent in treating almost all Apanavaat disorder. Castor oil for deep invading and taking out the wide spread vitiated Vata dosha from various channels. The other ingredient Haritaki is proclaimed for its carminative and anti-flatulent effect. Mhamanjisthadi kwath having the Rakta dhatu prasadak properties which helps to remove impurities from blood. Arogyavardhini vati helps to remove Ama toxin from the body. It has antioxidant, antipruritic nature alleviates itching sensation. Vidangarishta posseses properties Krumighna (anti helminth). Mhatikta ghrita tiktarasapradhan Kaphahara and is indicated in Kushta vikara. Bakuchi oil contain psoralen isopsorale, bakuchiol bavchinin and corylin which have antioxidant properties helps in stimulates melanocytes for melanin synthesis immuno-modulatory effect and inhibitory against antigen induced granulation.

CONCLUSION

Shwitra is a disease having high impact on the body and mind. Ayurvedic treatment for this skin disease have given a blissful life by improving the immune system as well as boosting the level of confidence in the individual. The lesion of white patch which was present behind right ear of 12 year old patient was fully recovered after 3 month of treatment. Shodhan therapy helps to remove the root cause of the disease and prevent the disease from its reoccurrence by eliminating aggravated Doshas. This case study on Shwitra conclude that better significant result can be achieved by Shodhan and Shaman chikitsa and also by external application of medicine. Patient

found significant result and thus treatment protocol can be used for management of *Shwitra*.

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