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# A LITRARY REVIEW ON SHWASA WITH SPECIAL REFERNCES TO TAMAKA SHWASA

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#### INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda is an ancient Indian oldest Science on this Planet. The basic concepts of Ayurveda evolved during the vedic period were refined and advanced further in Charaka Samhita. They were also placed on a sound scientific footing so that all physiological and pathological phenomena were interpreted logically. The word Shwas means "difficulty in breathing". Normally shwas word represents to Tamak shwas described in Ayurvedic texts. Tamaka Swasa is mentioned as one of the type among five variety of Swasa. But out of these, Kshudra Swasa present as symptom in many diseases & it does not require any medication whereas Maha Swasa, Urdhva Swasa & Chinna Swasa are present in the terminal stages of various diseases. Tamaka Swasa is a 'Swatantra' Vyadhi & having its own etiology, pathology & Treatment. It is mentioned as Yaapya Vyadhi i.e. chronic in nature. Bronchial asthma as mentioned in Modern Medicine closely resembles with Tamaka Swasa. The feature of this disease is very similar to the disease 'Bronchial Asthma' mentioned in allopathic books. It is characterized by difficulty in breathing, increased breathing rate, cough with thick sputum. Nowadays shwas (Asthma) is one of the major diseases that causes more medical emergencies. Many factors are supposed to be an increasing factors of the disease. Increased industrialization, chemicals used in various factories, overpopulation, pollution are some of them.

According to W.H.O, 100–150 million of global population has been suffering from Bronchial Asthma, out of which 1/10th are Indians and the Prevalence of asthma is increasing every part of the world. This alarming raise in the Prevalence of Tamaka Swasa can be accounted to factors such as Atmospheric pollution, environmental changes, adaptation of newer Deistic preparations and tremendous psychological stress.

# REVIEW OF LITERATURE

#### **Historical Review**

Among all the organ systems in the human body, respiratory systems is very important as the Prana or oxygen of the body at the same time respiratory Systems is more vulnerable to diseases, as it is in direct contact with external environment. Many of the inhaled Substances produces diseases like Tamak shwasa. The history reveals the knowledge of the term 'Shwasa' since the vedic period the information found are recorded below.

# Pre Historic Period - Before 5000 Bc (Pragvadik Kala)

We could not trace any literature, which would suggest the knowledge of the pathology of Shwasa in its any form during the pragvedic or pre historic period.

#### Vedic Period (5000 Bc To 1500 Bc)

The Vedic literature is the oldest knowledge in the world, the word Shwasa is not mentioned by any vedic terms. In Atharvaveda(Ath - 19/6/7)the Prana has been used for respiration. In Rigveda the word Prana is used for vayu (pranadavayurjayta ru.,10/90/3). ayu is because of prana (ayurna pranah ru. 1/66/7). In Yajurveda there is a reference of respiration as vatam prahena nasike (yaj. 15/2).In fourth sukta of fifth kanada of atharva veda there is a description of shwasaroga chikitsa kustha is used here for the treatment of deranged prana and vyana indirectly soma is also indicated for the treatment of shwasaroga by mentioning kustha as a friend of soma.

#### **Upanisad (4000 Bc To 1000 Bc)**

Upanishad are the only first ancient text, which mention the word shwasa. in amanaskopnisada the word shwasa is mentioned for respiration (aman.1: 33) and its derangement leads to death.

# **Etymology of Shwasa**

The word Shwasa has derived from the root word 'swasa' dhatu by applying Ghanj pratyaya. Vachaspatyam page-5/59 part-6. Shwasa-Swasa dhatu and dhanj pratyaya

- 1. Vayu Vyapara.
- 2. Roga Bheda.

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# शिर्षोक्ते वर्णोच्चारान्ते बाह्य प्रयतः ॥

It represents both physiological as well as pathological respiration and used for expression of word. As per Shabda kalpadruma the word Shwasa is derived form 'Swasa' Dhatu by applying ghanj pratyaya. Here word Shwasa denotes air and respiration. In physiological condition the word'Shvasitam' synonymously termed as Praana in Hemachandra commentary.

According to Shabdastoma mahanidhi the word Shwasa has been derived from 'Shwasa' Dhatu by applying 'ghanj' pratyaya.

# उउस्उ + 'घड्.' प्रत्ययः ।

In Halayudha kosha the word 'Shwasa' is derived from 'Shwasa' Dhatu by adding 'lu' pratyaya which means Inspiration and both phases of respiration.(page-676)

# उउस्उ + लु = वायु, पवन

In Vaidyaka Shabdasindhu the word "Shwasa" specially indicates disease has manifested in hollow space. Later it has been defined in Sanskrit Hindi Shabdakosha as

# भूयो भूयो उऌस्उऌत्उ यस्मिन् रोगे स ॥

Asthma is a pathological condition having rapid respiration. In Madhukosha commentary on Madhava nidana, Vijayarakshita has furnished a quotation, describing the feature of Shwasa Roga.

# उस्उत्उछ वस्त्रिका आध्माना सम्वपुर्ध्वगामिता ।.... (मधु. मा. नि.)

By this description it can be clearly differentiated from increased rate of respiration in physiologic condition. In Sanskrit English dictionary the word Shwasa indicates the Hissing, Smoothing and Panting respiration, affection of breath or hard breathing.

### उग्लुष्ड प्राणणे ।

As per Shabdartha Kaustubha, Shabdakalpadruma, Sahitya Darpana, the literary meaning of "Shwasa" is breath which is very much identical with description of Amarakosha.In Vedic Samhita and Upanishadas, Shwasa has been mentioned in the reference of functions of Prana (Air) which is said to be responsible for respiration.

#### **SHWASA**

Therefore It is said that "Tamaka Shwasa" denotes a pathological state where a sense of darkness prevails due to movement of Prana Vayu in reversed direction.

#### DEFINITION OF SHWASA

From above references it is clear that Shwasa word is used to denote respiration and exchange of air in the body. The Word Shwasa is used for both Physiological and Pathological states. Shwasa Roga may be defined simply as a disease in which the respiration and exchange of air is disturbed.

# उस्उत्उछ वस्त्रिका आध्माना सम्वपूर्ध्वगामिता । ...(मधु. मा. नि.)

In Madhukosha commentary, Vijarakshita has described the features of Shwasa Roga.

Sushrutacharya has mentioned the detailed description of Shwasa Roga in Uttartantra.

# विहाय प्रक्रूतिं वायु अथ कफ सम्युताह उस्टउदज्उर्ध्वगो भूत्वा तम् उस्उइ परिचक्षते ॥ ....(सु. उ. ५१/४)

From above description it is clear that when "Prana Vayu" is not performing its normal physiological functions (vitiated) and becomes defiles (Viguna), obstructed by Kapha and moves in opposite direction i.e. upward and unable to perform normal functions this condition is known as Shwasa Roga.

#### **CLASSIFICATION**

Classification of disease helps to understand the prognosis and management of the disease. In Ayurvedic classics diseases are classified on the basis of predominance of Doshas and hence their types are mentioned on the basis of Dosha predominance. But the disease Shwasa is classified on the basis of severity, signs and symptoms and varied pattern exhibited with respect to pathogenesis and symptomatology of disease. Shwasa is classified in following types:

1. Maha Shwasa 2. Urdhva Shwasa 3. Chinna Shwasa 4. Tamaka Shwasa 5. Kshudra Shwasa

#### TAMAKA SHWASA

The disease is called Tamaka as attack of the disease precipitate during night and during the state of attack Dyspnoea becomes so severe that patient feels entering into the darkness.Due to indulgence of Vataprakopa Aahara and Vihara Vayu gets vitiated all over body and Vayu leaves its normal path, takes a reverse course & it reaches the respiratory passages i.e. Pranavaha Srotasa, obstructs the neck and head, increases the secretion of mucus (Kapha)produces coryza, this excess bronchial secretion obstructs the air passage leading to dyspnoea with wheezing sound. Breathing becomes painful, deep and rapid. The patient faints frequently due to severe paroxysms & feels as he enters into darkness. Due to obstruction coughing supervene and while coughing he becomes unconscious frequently. In absence of expectoration he becomes too much distressed and after expectoration gets temporary relief. Due to intense coughing he suffers from hoarseness of voice and difficulty in speaking. In lying down posture Vayu seizes the sides of chest and hence dyspnoea aggravates thus he can't sleep in this position. He feels comfortable while sitting and welcomes hot things. His eyes are always looking in upward direction. Sweating over forehead & dryness in mouth also present he is very much distressed and suffers frequently from paroxysms of dyspnoea which aggravates by clouds, water, cold, wind and Kapha aggravating factors. This condition is palliable but if origin is recent it may be curable. (Cha. Chi. 17/55-62).

#### TYPES OF TAMAKA SHWASA

Charakacharya has mentioned two-allied condition of Tamaka Shwasa known as two types or further complication of disease proper i.e. Pratamaka and Santamaka. Sushruta and Vagbhata have only mentioned the name as Pratamaka, which includes clinical manifestation of Santamaka.

## Pratamaka Shwasa

When Patients are suffering from TamakaShwasa gets afflicted with fever and fainting, the condition is called as Pratamaka Shwasa. It is suggestive of involvement of Pittadosha in Pratamaka Shwasa. It is aggravated by Udavarta, Dust, Indigestion, Humidity (Kleda), suppression of natural urges, Tamoguna, Darkness and gets alleviated instantaneously by cooling regimens. As a matter of fact, cooling regimen is one of the causative factors of Tamaka Shwasa but in Pratamaka Shwasa, the patient gets relief by administering cooling agents due to Pitta Dosha involvement.

#### Santamaka Shwasa

Whenever the patients of Pratamaka Shwasa feels submerged in darkness, the condition is called as Santamaka Shwasa. Though Chakrapani has mentioned these two as synonyms of each other Charakacharya refers them as two different ailments representing two different conditions of TamakaShwasa, these two conditions differs from each other according to intensity of attack.

#### RUPA OF TAMAKA SHWASA

Rupa means signs and symptoms of the disease. It appears in the 5th Kriyakala i.e. Vyaktavastha in which sign and symptoms of a disease are completely manifested. All the symptoms of TamakaShwasa described in Ayurvedic texts are shown as per below: प्रतिलोमं यदा वायुः स्त्रोतांसि प्रतिपद्यते । ग्रीवा शिरश्च संगृह्य इलेष्माणं समुदीर्यं च ॥ करोति पिनसं तेन रुध्दो घुर्घुरूकं तथा । अतीव तीव्रवेगं च ॥ उउस्उड प्राणपीडकम ॥ प्रताम्यत्यतिवेगाच्य कासते सन्निरुध्यते । प्रमोहं कासमानश्च स गच्छति मृहर्मृह ॥ इलेष्मण्यमुच्यमाने तु भृशं भवति दुःखितः । तस्यैव च विमोक्षान्ते मृहर्तं लभते सुखम ॥ अथास्योदध्वंसने कण्ठः ऋच्छात शक्नोति भाषितुम । न चापि निद्रां लभते शयानः उस्उलुप्उलुडब्दउउ ॥ प्उउ॥उत तस्यावगृह्याति शयानस्य समीरणः । आसीनो लभते सौख्यमुष्णं चैवभिनन्दति ॥ उच्छिताक्षो ललाटेन स्विद्दता भुज्ञामार्तिमान । विज्ञुष्कास्यो मुह् उउस्उउग मुहुश्चैवावधम्यते ॥ मेघाम्बज्ञीतप्राग्वातैः ज्लैष्मलैश्चाभिवर्धते । स साध्यो वा स्यान्नवोत्थितः ॥ (च.चि.१७/५५,)

Peenasa, Tivra Vega Shwas, Prana Prapeedaka Shwasa, Kaasa, Muhurmuhu Shwasa, Ruddha Shwasa, Ghurghurakama, Kasati Vegatah Pratamyati, Kasate Sanniruddhyate, Kasate Muhu-Muhu, Pramohanam Shlesma Vimokshante, Muhurtam Sukham, Shlesma Amuchyamane, BhrisamaBhavati Dukhitam, Kanthoadhvasanama, Greeva Shiraso, Sangrahanam,

Kricchrata Bhasitam, Shayante Shwasapiditam, Shayante Parshva Graha, Mahat Ghoshavan Shwasa, Sakapha Shwasa, Kaphe Hine, Shamyati, Urah Pida, Parshva Pida, Sweda, Vamathu, Moha, Latate Sweda, Vishushkasyata, Ucchritaksha, Pratamyate, Bhrisham Aratimana, Annadvesha, Abala, Aruchi, Ushnabhinandati, Meghambu Vardhate, Shitena Vardhate, Pragvatena Vardhate, Durdine Shwasa, Shesmalai Vardhate, Asino Labhate Saukhyama etc.

#### SAMPRAPTI GHATAKA

Samprapti Ghataka which are involved in Pathogenesis are as follows:

- Dosha: Vata Especially Prana Vayu, Kapha Kledaka and Avalambaka Kapha
- Dushya: Rasa, Udaka, Rakta
- Agni : Mandagni, Vishamagni
- Ama: Rasa Dhatvagnimandya
- Srotasa : Prana, Anna, Udakavaha Srotasa
- Udbhavasthana : Aamashaya (Vagbhat), Pittasthana (Charaka)
- Vyaktisthana : Urah, Phupphusa
- Srotodusti : Sanga, Vimarggamana and Atipravitti
- Rogamarga : Abhyantara

#### UPASHAYA AND ANUPASHAYA

Upashaya and Anupashaya may be considered as a therapeutic test. The diet, drugs & activity, which increase symptoms and attack, are known as Anupashaya. & Those, which relieve the symptoms, are known as Upashaya. Anupashaya for Tamaka Shwasa are as follows

(1) Durdina (2) Meghambu (3) Sheeta Ritu (4) Sheetambu (5) Pragvaten (6) Shlaismalai (7) Shayanama (8) Cold food, medicine and place

Upashaya for Tamaka Shwasa are as follows:

(1) Shlesma Vimokshante (2) Ushnabhinandati (3) Asino labhate Saukhyam

#### **SADHYASADHYATVA**

Tamaka Shwasa in general is described as Yapya (palliable)disease. However in individual with recent origin of disease person Pravara bala or both said to be Sadhya (Ch. Chi. 17/.62). While mentioning prognosis of any disease following characters are mentioned in case of Yapya disease.

- 1. Disease has affected the deep seated Dhatus
- 2. Disease involving many Dhatus
- 3. If affects vital organs and joints
- 4. Affects patient continuously for longer period
- 5. Disease is caused by two Doshas.

In disease TamakaShwasa Kapha and Vata Dosha are involved primarily. Both of them exhibit opposite qualities. Hence management will be also difficult as factors, which excite Vata, alleviate the Kapha Dosha and vice Versa. Rasaadi Dhatu gets involved in Tamaka Shwasa, which is suggestive of the involvement of more than one Dhatu. Pranavaha Srotasa is mainly involved.

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