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## MANAGEMENT OF HYPERTENSION THROUGH THE LIFESTYLE MODIFICATION

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## ABSTRACT

A state of complete physical, mental, spiritual, and social well-being is defined as health. Hypertension is the most frequent common disease worldwide. It's also known as the silent killer because most patients are asymptomatic. However, it causes damage to the target organ and is a substantial risk factor for coronary vascular disorders such as stroke and myocardial infarction. It is responsible for about 6% of all deaths in the world. In India, hypertension is directly responsible for 57% of all stroke deaths and 24% of all coronary artery deaths. Hypertension can also cause nephrosclerosis and peripheral artery disease. Modernization and urbanisation have made life easier, but such sedentary and stressful lifestyle have become a threat to humanity. Hypertension is one of the most common lifestyle Hazard of now a day. Ayurvedic texts do not provide a precise definition of hypertension. According to *Acharya Charaka*, such diseases can be treated without the use of nomenclature by determining the involvement of *Dosha, Dushya, Srotas*, and other factors. The purpose of this study was to determine the elements that cause Essential hypertension as well as its *Samprati* (pathogenesis).

**KEYWORDS:** Dosha, Dushya, Srotas, Samprapti, Vyana-bala Vridhi, Chikitsa.

## INTRODUCTION

India has been listed by the World Health Organization as one of the countries where the majority of lifestyle problems will occur in the near future. Hypertension is one of the most serious health issues of the time. Stress, obesity, genetic factors, an excess of salt in the diet, and ageing are all variables that contribute to hypertension. Because it rarely causes symptoms before causing damage to the heart, brain, or kidneys, hypertension is known as the "silent killer.<sup>[1]</sup>" HTN is a condition in which the blood vessels have an abnormally high pressure for an extended period of time. The force of blood pushing against the walls of arteries as it is pumped by the heart produces blood pressure. Hypertension is a major public health issue that continues to be a major source of morbidity and mortality around the world. worldwide mortality and morbidity.<sup>[2]</sup> In the year 2000, over 26.4% of the world's adult population had By2025, 29.2% of people are expected to have hypertension.<sup>[3]</sup> There is no clear mention of Essential Hypertension in Ayurvedic traditional writings. Vyana Vayu is associated with the ejection of blood from the heart through a blood vessel, referred to as "Sirah" in Ayurveda. The Vyana Vayu is responsible for blood circulation.

## In Ayurveda

The disease can be explained using Ayurvedic principles such as Dosha, Dushya, and Srotas, and other factors. There have been several theories offered as to how Ayurveda can explain hypertension, but no standardised and widely recognised perspective of the Ayurvedic pathophysiology of this ailment exists. In Ayurveda, there are still a lot of questions about this ailment. Thus, this is an attempt to thoroughly understand hypertension and explain it in terms of avurvedic principles, taking into account all existing viewpoints. Hypertension has been given various names, including Raktagata Vata,<sup>[4]</sup> Pitta Avrita Udan (su. Ni. 1/35), Siragata Vata,<sup>[5]</sup> Vyana Atibal,<sup>[6]</sup> are some of the names given to hypertension. Before we can understand hypertension, we must first understand Ayurvedic blood pressure physiology. The physiological characteristics of blood pressure in Ayurveda, which is founded on the Tridosha theory.<sup>[7]</sup> In Hridaya, Vyana Vayu performs functions such as Rasadi Samvahana, Prasaran, Akunchana, Gati, and Asrik sravana<sup>[8]</sup> Vyan Vayu is stated to be in control of many types of movements. Vyana Vayu is associated with the ejection of blood from the heart through a blood vessel, referred to as "Sirah" in Ayurveda. The heart has its own pacemaker (SA node), which generates electrical impulses that cause the heart to contract during systole. This is due to the Vata Dosha's functioning, particularly the Vyana Vayu is responsible for blood circulation. The

nervous system's functions have been detailed in the same way as the *Prakrita Prana Vayu* has been discussed. *Prana Vayu* situated in *Murdha*,<sup>[9]</sup> The function of the *Prana Vayu* can be linked to the neurological system's vagal inhibition, by managing *Vyana Vayu*, *Prana Vayu* is able to regulate blood pressure. As a result, *Prana Vayu* pathology can result in heart and vascular abnormalities. When the cardiac muscles relax, the diastole is reached. This diastolic blood pressure belongs to the *Kapha Dosha*, namely *Avalambaka Kapha*.

Sadhaka Pitta is difficult to explain in terms of modern physiology; nonetheless, the functions of adrenaline are similar to those of Sadhaka Pitta. The adrenal gland is activated and secretes more adrenaline in response to fear, rage, and other emotions, which alters the heart rate and cardiac output, and ultimately raises blood pressure. As a result, Sadhaka Pitta might be considered a key component of appropriate blood pressure physiology.

## Nidan (etiological factors)<sup>[10]</sup>

- 1. Ati Lavana Sevana (Excessive salt intake): The properties of lavana rasa have been characterised by Vangbhatta as Vishyandi, Tikshana, and Ushna. When Ati Lavana is ingested, it causes Pitta and Shonita vitiation, as well as an increase in Rakta quality. With Jala and Agni Mahabhuta, Lavana Rasa is generated, and one of the roles defined as Kledana, which can be connected to sodium ion retention, and an increased quantity of Rakta can be linked to excessive blood intake.
- 2. Ati Madyapana (Exessive alcohol intake Ushana, Tikshna, Sukshma, Vishada, Ruksha, Ashukari, Vyavayi, Vikashi are ten qualities of Madya which are opposite to the qualities of Oja. Hridya get involved being the seat of Oja.
- 3. Snigdha Bhojana (Fatty diet): In etiopathogenesis of Shonita Dusti, excessive intake of Snigdha, Guru

Ahara causes Jatharagni Vaigunya and Medodhatvagni Mandhya leads to production of Ama (Apakwa Rasadhatu) and Apakwa Medovriddhi when deposits in Rasavaha Srotas may leads to Dhamini Pratichaya (arteriosclerosis) causes high blood pressure.

- 4. *Manovighata* (Stress): In *Ayurveda*, these *Manasika Bhavas* vitiate *Manas via Raja* and *Tama*. As a result, *Prana Vayu* gets *Prakopa* and vitiates *Hridya* which is the seat of *Manas*.
- 5. Age: Acharya Sushutra has mentioned that the nutrients cannot nourish the body which undergone changes due to old age. Old age is Vatadosha Pradhana Vaya which due to its Ruksha, Khara, Daruna, Sheeta Gunas may cause Sankocha and Kathinya of the vessels causing high blood pressure.

#### Pathogenesis of blood pressure in Ayurveda

The vitiation of Shonita is caused by Ati Lavana Sewana, Madyapana, Snigdha Bhojana, and Manovighat. But Shonita being Dhatu is not capable of vitiation of Doshas independently. The Doshas in the Shonita that are involved in the expression of elevated blood pressure in an indirect way. The Sadhaka Pitta and Shonita are vitiated by excessive use of salt and alcohol. The Avalambaka Kapha is vitiated by sedentary habits, while the Prana Vayu is vitiated by psychological stress. Initially Prana Vayu gets Prakopita. Because Prana Vayu affects Hridya, it viatiates Hridya and its constituents such as Vyana Vayu, Sadhak Pitta, and Avalambhaka Kapha. Because it is in Hridya, Shonita is also involved. Exaggerated contractility of the heart is caused by Prakupitta Avalambaka Kapha, whereas prakopaka Vyana Vayu causes enhanced Gati, the force of blood ejection from the Hridava. These events cause blood to be forced out of the Dhamanis, resulting in greater resistance due to hardening and narrowing of vessel due to Pitta Kapha avarana in the vessels, resulting in elevated blood pressure.



#### SAMPRAPTI OF HYPERTENSION

#### Samprapti Ghatak

Doshas: Prana Vayu, Vyana Vayu, Sadhaka pitta, Avalambaka Kapha Dushya: Rakta, rasa Agni: Jatharagni, Dhatwagnimandya Shrotas: Raktavaha, Rasavaha, Manovaha, pranavaha Udbhavasthana: Hridya, Dhamini Adhisthan: Sarvasharira Rogamarga: Madhyama rogamarga

**Rupa** (Sign and symptoms): The feature of the displayed ailment is Rupa when Dosha –Dushya *Sammurchhana* is completed. The sixth *Kriyakala* is Rupa or *Vyakti Avastha* of *Vyadhi*. This is the stage at which the disease manifests itself through subjective and objective symptoms. Ayurveda is a science that looks at

#### **Classification of Hypertension**

JNC 7 classification (2003) of hypertension in adult aged >18 year

BLOOD PRESSURE	SBP (mmHg)	DI
NORMAL	<120	<8
PRE-HYPERTENSION	120-139	80
STAGE1 HYPERTENSION	140-159	90
STAGE2 HYPERTENSION	>160	>1

#### Types of Hypertensions<sup>[11]</sup>

- 1. **Essential Hypertension-** Elevated blood pressure with no cause (90-95% of all cases).
- 2. Secondary Hypertension- Elevated blood pressure with a specific cause (10-15 % cases) including renal diseases, endocrine disorders, neurological disorders, and coarctation of aorta.

## **Risk Factors For Essential Hypertention**<sup>[12]</sup>

- a) Age (>55 years for men and >65 years for women)
- b) Alcohol
- c) Cigarette smoking
- d) Diabetes mellitus
- e) Excess dietary sodium
- f) Elevated serum lipids
- g) BMI (>30)
- h) Family history
- i) Sedentary lifestyle, less physical activity
- j) Stress
- k) Pre-existing vascular diseases.

## Laboratory investigation<sup>[13]</sup>

- 1. Urine examination for protein, glucose and microscopic (red blood cells/other sediments) Haemoglobin.
- 2. Fasting blood glucose
- 3. Serum creatinine
- 4. Lipid profile
- 5. Chest radiography
- 6. Echocardiogram

## Complications

- 1. Cerebrovascular accidents (CVA) or strokes
- 2. Myocardial infarction
- 3. Hypertensive cardiomyopathy (heart failure)

indications and symptoms using the *Panchagyanendriya Pariksha* system. *Darshana, Sparshana,* and *Shravana Pariksha* are the most important factors in determining blood pressure. However, when a patient experiences sadness or pain in the mind or body, this is known as *Vedana,* and it is always an indicator of *Sansthana* (Symptoms), and symptomatology is not observed in 50% of hypertension patients. However, 50% of patients have distinct clinical characteristics.

- Headache (*shiroruk*)
- Dizziness (bhrama)
- Palpitation (hridyam tamyati)
- Fatigability (klama)
- Insomnia (anidra)
- Irritability (anger)

years
DBP (mmHg)
<80
80-89
90-99
>100

- 4. Hypertensive retinopathy, nephropathy and encephalopathy
- 5. Congestion in the lungs
- 6. Left ventricular hypertrophy
- 7. Epistaxis
- 8. Blurring of vision owing to retinal changes
- 9. Angina pectoris

## Siddhanta Chikitsa (Line of treatment)

*Chikitsa*, according to *Maharshi Charaka*, aims not only at the radical eradication of the disease's causal element, but also at the restoration of the *Doshika* equilibrium.

#### Nidana parivarjana

The avoidance of causes is known as *nidana parivarjana*. The basic principle in treating any disease is to avoid the etiological factors, which ensures disease prevention as well as control.

## Pathya-apathya

#### Pathya

- Yava, Shastika, Sali, Godhum, *Kulatha*, Cowmilk, Vegetables such as *Shigru*, *karela*, *Shalgam*, *Gajar*, Upodika, Sunishhanka, Tandulkiya, and fruits such as Amalaki, Draksha, and Kushmanda, apple, pineapple, etc., are all examples of Ahara.
- Prasannata, Samayka Nidra, Vyasana Asevana, Yogasana, and other Vihara Yam-niyam Palana.
- According to Maharshi Charaka, one of the accepted modalities of treatment is Yoga Measure-Satwavajaya. As a result, yoga's management of Satva is extremely beneficial in the treatment of hypertension.
- Reduce intake of oily, salty, sour and spicy food items.

• Weight reduction.

### Apathya

- Atilavana Sevana, Madyapana, Bhayadi Sevana, Kshara Sevana, Guru, Abhishyandi, Katu Ruksha, Ushna Ahara, Dahi.
- Excessive use of butter, ghee, chillies (red-green), pickles, Sesame oil, mustard oil, tea, coffee etc.
- Intake of animal fat, processed/oily food items.
- Ratri jagarana, Chinta, Krodha, Diva-Swapana, Agni Santap.

#### Hypertension diet recommendations

- Lowering sodium consumption (particularly from table salt) helps maintain normal blood pressure by reducing excessive water retention.
- A high potassium diet aids in the removal of excess sodium from the kidneys and the restoration of sodium/potassium balance.
- Adopting a diet rich in fruits, vegetables, and whole grains is one of the most helpful dietary adjustments for lowering blood pressure.
- Avoid dairy, butter, eggs, and foods that are heavy in fat.
- Reducing refined sugar and overly processed foods, as well as caffeine consumption.

## CONCLUSION

There is no direct description of Essential hypertension in the Avurvedic classics. As a result, the treatment should be based on the Dosha-Dushya relationship. Acharya has described Hridaya and the process of Rasa-Rakta Vikshepana regulation, which is primarily controlled by Prana and Vyana Vayu and is very closely tied to the circulatory system. It has been determined that Essential Hypertension is a 'Vata dominating Tridoshasa Vyadhi,' with the morbid condition of Mana, i.e., a psychosomatic disorder, originating from several elements such as Dosha, Dushva, Agni, Srotasa, and so on. For preserving equilibrium and thereby reducing hypertension, Avurveda termed suitable lifestyle and diet management as Aahar, Vihar. Blood pressure can be controlled with good Ayurvedic medication, as well as proper Aahar, Vihar, and Yoga.

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