A STUDY ON THE STATUS OF JATHARAGNI IN DIFFERENT PRAKRUTI WSR TO KALA

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ABSTRACT

The status of Agni varies in different Prakruti (Body constitution) and it also depends on the diet, environment, physical and mental status of an individual. The status of Agni can be known by examining the Jarana Shakti (Digestive capacity) of an individual. The six factors told in Jeerna Ahara Lakshana (Signs and symptoms of proper digestion) will help in assessing the Jarana Shakti and in turn the status of Jatharagni. The research was under taken to analyze the Jatharagni in different Prakruti individuals in Chaitra and Vaishaka Masa. Prakruti of the students was assessed using Standard format and those individuals having Vata, Pitta, Kapha predominance were selected. A self prepared scale was prepared to assess the Jeerna Ahara Lakshana. Jatharagni status was assessed on a particular day by due consideration of the menu of their three grand meals. The environmental conditions like rain humidity, wind speed was noted down of that particular day. Number of individuals having Avara Udgara Shudhi, Avara Utsaha, Avara Laghuta and Avara Ksut was comparatively more in Vaishaka Masa than in Chaitra Masa which may be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in Vaishaka Masa, which effected over the body resulting in depletion of the Jatharagni and also lead in increased number of individuals with Madhyama Agni in Vaishaka Masa than Chaitra Masa. None of the individuals had Avara status of agni due to presence of Sihira Upachita Dhatu and Pradipta Jatharagni in Youvana Avastha and cold environment.

Keywords: Prakruti, Jatharagni, Jeerna Ahara Lakshana, Jarana shakti.

INTRODUCTION

Agni is one of the basic concepts of Ayurveda. This concept provides fundamental knowledge for understanding of the theories of Ayurveda viz. Ahara pacana, Dhatu Upstti (Tissue formation), etc. The importance of Jatharagni is for the maintenance of health as well as manifestation of diseases¹. It is also an important factor to be considered while prescribing treatment². In each and every process of transformation, that may be bio-physical, bio-chemical, the media or agency responsible for all these process is Jatharagni. Status of Jatharagni varies in different Prakruti³. Prakruti is the innate constitution of an individual based on the predominance of Dosha determined at the time of conception which cannot be changed till death. Qualities of Dosha are expressed on body due to its predominance and it is called Deha Prakruti⁴. It is the enumeration of body features internal as well as external. There are different bodily constitutions depending on the Dosha (bodily humors) that is predominant and we can classify them as Vatala, Pittala, Sleshma, Dvandhaja and Samadoshaja Prakruti⁵. Agni is assessed by Jarana shakti. Jarana shakti refers to the capacity to digest the food. Lakshanas like Udgarasudhi (clear belching), Utsaha (enthusiasm), Vegotsargayatocita (proper/regular evacuation of bowels), Laghuta (feeling of lightness), Kshut-Pipasa (proper hunger and thirst) are considered as the Jeerna Ahara Lakshana which will aid in assessing the Jarana Shakti⁶. Jarana Shakti and Prakruti are the two important factors mentioned in Dasha-vidha Pariksha⁷. Vatala individual will be having Vishamagni (irregular digestive power), Pittala individual will be having Tikshagni (Intense digestive fire), and Sleshma prakruti individual will be having Mandagni (Low digestive fire)². It is very important to examine the Jeerna Ahara Lakshana in both healthy and diseased individuals. In healthy, those individuals having Vatala body constitution will be having irregular digestive fire, Pittala body constitution will be having intense digestive fire Sleshma body constitution will be having mild
digestive fire, so to assess the Jarana Shakti with aid of Jeerna Ahara Lakshana of Pittala Prakruti individuals the study was undertaken in two different Kala.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES
To assess Jarana Shakti of Pittala Prakruti individuals with the aid of Jeerna Ahara Lakshana in Chaitra & Vaishaka Masa

MATERIALS AND METHODS
Source of the data: 150 healthy students of SDM College of Ayurveda, Hassan Method of collection of data: Healthy students from SDM College of Ayurveda and Hospital, Hassan were selected and there Prakruti was assessed by Dr. Kishor Patwardhan’s standard prakruti assessment format. Those individuals having Vata, Pitta, Kapha pradhanyata were selected and there Jaranaashakti was assessed once in Chaitra & Vaishaka Masa. Inclusion criteria: Healthy volunteers of age group of 18 to 25 years, irrespective of sex, caste, religion. Exclusion criteria: Individuals suffering from chronic diseases, systemic disorders, congenital anomalies. Assesment criteria: Scoring of Lakshana of Jeerna Ahara lakshan was done by self prepared scale.

Designing scale to assess status of Jataragni
Purpose – Since Agni is an important factor responsible for the healthy and diseased state, it should be examined in every individual. Vatala individuals will be having Vishamagni, Pittala individuals will be having Tikshnagni, Sleshmala individuals will be having Mandagni and hence there is an importance to assess Agni in them. Generation of scale - The scale consisted of queries for assessing subjective parameters based on the characteristic features of Jeerna Ahara Lakshana given by Astanga Samgraha. The appropriate English meaning of Lakshana were referred and it was framed in the sentence form with 3 options to each eg: The Lakshana Udararudhathu says clear belching, it was framed as; After how many hours of food intake you find clear belching in yourself (absence of past eaten foods flavor/taste)? Scale: Subjective symptoms were examined by using a questionnaire framed in close ended likert format with 3 options for each question i.e. Not at all/ after 6 hours, after 4hours but within 5hours, within 3-4 hours. Subjective symptoms were graded accordingly as Grade 1 to 3. Table 1 shows the subjective parameters.

Demographic Data: In this study maximum numbers (64%) of individuals were female and males were (36%) and individuals of age group 21-25 were 24.7% and age group 18-20 were 75.3%.

Incidence of Lakshana: Among 150 individuals 20 had sleep disturbance, 17 had underwent various kind of physical stress and 46 individuals had mental stress. Avara Udgara Shuddhi was found in 41.3% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 44.7% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa. Avara Utsaha was found in 9.3% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 20.7% individuals in Vaishaka Masa. Avara Vegotsarga was found in 63.3% of individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa. Avara Laghuta was found in11.3% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 24.7% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa. Avara Kshut was found in 14.7% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 25.3% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa. Avara Pipasa was found in 14.7% of individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa. Avara status of Agni was found in none of the individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa. 72 individuals had Madhyama Agni in Chaitra Masa and 109 individuals had Madhyama Agni in Vaishaka Masa.78 individuals had Pravara Agni in Chaitra Masa and 41 individuals had Pravara Agni in Vaishaka Masa. Details are shown in table 2 & 3.

Table 1: Jeerna Ahara Lakshana

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Jeerna Ahara Lakshana</th>
<th>Chaitra (%)</th>
<th>Vaishaka (%)</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Udgara Sudhi (clear belching)</td>
<td>41.3</td>
<td>44.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utsaha (enthusiasm)</td>
<td>9.3</td>
<td>20.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegotsargayatochita (proper evacuation of bowels)</td>
<td>63.3</td>
<td>63.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laghuta (feeling of lightness)</td>
<td>11.3</td>
<td>24.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kshut (proper hunger)</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>25.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pipasa (proper thirst)</td>
<td>14.7</td>
<td>14.7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TABLE 2: Incidence of individual Jeerna avara Lakshana

<table>
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Jeerna Ahara Lakshana Score:
Avara status of Agni was found in none of the individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa. 72 individuals had Madhyama Agni in Chaitra Masa and 109 individuals had Madhyama Agni in Vaishaka Masa.78 individuals had Pravara Agni in Chaitra Masa and 41 individuals had Pravara Agni in Vaishaka Masa.

DISCUSSION
The current study was conducted to check status of Jataragni with the aid of Jeerna Ahara Lakshana in Chaitra and Vaishaka Masa. In the study it revealed that maximum numbers (64%) of individuals were female and males were (36%) this may be because of more female students in the study area. The study also revealed that in 150 individuals 20 had sleep disturbance, 17 had underwent various kind of problems.
physical stress and 46 individuals had mental stress, this might be because of the personal problems, academic burden and interest in outdoor sports etc activities.

Study also revealed that Avara Udgara Shuddhi was found in 41.3% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 44.7% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa, this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in Vaishaka Masa which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the Agni and increase in the number of individuals having Avara Udgara shuddhi.

Avara Utsaha was found in 9.3% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 20.7% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa, which means maximum number of individuals had utsaha in either Madhyama or Pravara state both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa which may be due to the normal physiological functioning of Vata and Pitta i.e. Utsaha and initiating the enthusiasm (Harsha) respectively.

Maximum number of individuals had Avara Yatychita Vegotsarga (63.3% of individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa.), this may be because of irregular food habits that they follow and consuming junk food which may decrease the fibrous content of the stools and lead to Anuchita Vegotsarga(irregular bowel habits, constipation), also shows Drava, Tishna, Usna Guna of Pitta, Manda, Shhira Guna of Kapha and Ruksha, Chala Guna of Vata.

Avara Laghuta was found in 11.3% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 24.7% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed, wind chills and rain showers (all sheeta guna) in Vaishaka Masa which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the Agni resulting in Gouravata of the body increase in the number of individuals having Avara Laghuta.

Avara Ksut was found in 14% of individuals in Chaitra masa and 25.3% of individuals in Vaishaka Masa, this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in Vaishaka Masa which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the Agni and increase in the number of individuals having Avara Ksut in Vaishaka Masa compared to Chaitra Masa.

Avara Pipasa was found in 14.7% of individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa, which means maximum number of individuals had Pravara or Madhyama Pipasa, this may be because of the Pradhanata of Usna Guna in Pittala individuals and also might be due to continuous study process and recitation of verses of the Samhita which cause dryness of the throat and oral cavity hence resulting in Pravara/Madhyama Pipasa even though the environment is cold.

Avara status of Agni was found in none of the individuals both in Chaitra masa and Vaishaka Masa since all were of Youvana Avastha in which all the functions, entities will be Prabala including the Jarana Shakti/Jatharagni.

72 individuals had Madhyama Agni in Chaitra Masa and 109 individuals had Madhyama Agni in Vaishaka Masa. 78 individuals had Pravara Agni in Chaitra Masa and 41 individuals had Pravara Agni in Vaishaka Masa this might be due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in Vaishaka Masa which had an effect over the body resulting in depletion of the Jataragni and increase in the number of individuals having Madhyama Jataragni in Vaishaka Masa compared to Chaitra Masa.

CONCLUSION

Agni is important for maintenance of health. Agni varies in different Prakrti and also status of Agni depends on age, environment, diet, physical and mental condition of an individual. Agni Parikshana is done by examining the Jarana Shakti of an individual. Jeerna Ahara Lakshana is an important aid to examine the Jarana Shakti.

Study was conducted in 150 healthy individuals considering the each factor mentioned in Jeerna Ahara Lakshana. Number of individuals having Avara Udgara Shudhi, Avara Utsaha, Avara Laghuta and Avara Ksut was comparatively more in Vaishaka Masa than in Chaitra Masa which is due to the effect of increased wind speed and rain showers in Vaishaka Masa, which effect over the body resulting in depletion of the Jataragni and also lead in increased number of individuals with Madhyama Agni in Vaishaka Masa than Chaitra Masa. None of the individuals had Avara status of agni due to presence of Shhira Upachita Dhatu and Pradipta Jatharagni in Youvana Avastha and cold environment.

REFERENCES


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