A Review on āmapāchana (pāchana kashāya) and shodana (Niruha Vasti) in the management of Atisthaulya

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Abstract

In Atisthaulya etiological factors, mainly vitiate Meda-Kapha. When analyze Samprapti (path – physiology) of Atisthaulya, according to Charaka Samhita, Sroats (channels) are obstructed by fat (Medasavruta margata). Then movement of Vata is specially confined to Kosta (Abdominal Visara) and cause to increase Kostagni (digestive power). In other hand due to disproportionate increase of Meda (fat), leads to Medodhatvagni-mandya (diminished Medodhatvagni). Then Meda Vyana Vayu could not transport nutrient to other Dhatu as well as, Meda dhatu is increased and Uttardhatu decreased. When consider results oriented Ayurvedic line of treatment, though Atisthaulya is Santarpana janita Vyadhi (disease due to excessive nourishment) only Aptarpana Chikitsa (Non nourishing treatments) is not sufficient to proper management. In Atisthaulya etiological factors mainly vitiate Meda – Kapha, and Vata get Avarita (Covered) by excessive Meda. [Medasavruta margata]. At the same time Medodhatvagni-mandya also correlated. Thus if we used only Aptarpaka Dravya (Non -nourishing drugs) it increases the vitiated Vata. Therefore, treatment should be planed considering vitiated Vata, Meda, Kapha as well as Amapachana. It is a difficult task to reduce Meda and to pacify the Samana Vata at same time. Panchkarma (Five folded Purification Treatments) can provide better solution to this problem. Acharva Susruta has mentioned Niruha Vsti (Dicoction Enema), among the Shodhana Chikitsa (Purification Treatment) idle for Atisthaulya. Niruha Vasti by virtue of its Shodhana (Purification) property reduces Meda and simultaneously pacifies the Vata by affecting its seat Pakvasaya (Lower Abdomen), so here Niruha Vasti is selected for the treatment of Atisthaulya. . In Charaka Samhita clearly mentioned that the *Vasti* (generally Decoction Enema) which contains *Ushna* (Hot). Ruksha (Rough) and Thikshana (strong) properties are ideal for obesity. To correct Kostagni and Medodhatvagni (Digestion), Amapachana is essential treatment procedure. So we can conclude that the ideal line of treatment for Atisthaulya (obesity) is *Niruha Vasti* accompanied by *āmapāchana*.

Keywords: Obesity, āmapāchana, Niruha Vasti

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