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The Significance of Rasayana in Madhumeha (Diabetes): A Review Article.

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ABSTRACT:

Diabetes mellitus is one of the major metabolic diseases characterized by hyperglycemia performing from blights in insulin stashing, insulin action, or both. Diabetes is associated with long-term potential effects on almost all systems of the body, leading to various complications. Due to change in food habits and lifestyle, the cases of diabetes are increasing rapidly. Diabetes which has been a global problem is well described in the ancient Ayurveda science. Boosting immunity is essential to fight disease and other complications. As described by Charaka a person can attain Dheergaayu Smriti, Medha (Learning Power), Arogya, youthfulness (tarun), vaya(age), Bala(strength), Utsaha(enthusiasm), vakasausthava (proper speech) and such other healthy qualities by using a Rasayana. Ajasrika Rasayana in the form of healthy food and Naimitika Rasayana like Shilajita, Haritaki, Amalaki, Triphala etc. have been mentioned in Ayurveda for treatment of Diabetes mellitus.In addition to this proper behavorial region is mentioned in form of Achara Rasayana. Rasayana should be taken according to vaya, prakriti, satmya and severeity of disease. Due to the chronicity of diabetes, complications like Manodourbalyam & Indrivadaurbalyata also occur. Rasayana should be used in Madumeha chikitsa according to rog-rogi bala. The detailed description of matter has been given in full paper.

Keywords :- Madhumeha, Prameha, Dhatu , Diabetes, Rasayana

INTRODUCTION

Madhumeha is caused by avyayam, divasvapna, sheetala, madhur, medya, dravya annapan, excessive food and intake of madhura, amla and lavan rasa, mental stress and tension, navanapanam and gudvikritam. Sushruta has named diabetes as Kshudrameha. There are 20 types of Prameha due to Doshas and Dushyas with Kapha being the main dosha in Prameha. In samprapti which is the pathophysiology of diabetes, there is *tridosha prakopa* which leads to *medamamsajaliyansh dushti* which leads to diabetes and hence *vasa, majja, oja* & *lasika prakopa* which leads to *Avilprabhootmutratavam* and hence diabetes. The treatment of diabetes involves *nidan privarjan* in the first stage and management of complications in the later stage. Boosting immunity is



essential to fight disease and other complications. Due to the chronicity of diabetes there is manodourbalyam and overuse of diabetes ojakshaya causes indrivadourbalyam. Diabetes causes problems like heart problems, hikka, kasah, vamthu, kaphaprasek, atisar etc. Ayurveda has two basic objectives i.e.swasthasswasthya rakshnam & Aturasy vikara prashaman¹. To fulfill these objectives of Ayurveda, two types of medicines have been described -Swathasayorjaskar and Roganuta². Acharya Charaka's definition of Rasayana reveals the fact that Rasayana drugs have both these functions as a drug that is Swathasayorjaskar effectively prevents the occurrence of diseases in individuals. Acharya Sharangadhara has clearly indicated that Rasayana medicine prevents vradavastha and diseases³.Rasayana Chikitsa in Ayurvedic medicine is a treatment method that not only prevents diabetes but also cures complications of diabetes. According to Acharya Charak "Dheeragham aayuhu smritim medha arogyam tarunam vavaha/ prabhavarnaswarodaryam dehendriyam balam param//vak siddhim pranatim kantim labhate na rasayanam/labhopayo hi shashtanam rasadinam rasayanam" one who use rasyana attains life longevity, memory, intelligence, freedom from disorders, youthful age, excellence of lusture, complexion, voice, optimum strength of physique and sense organs, successful words, respectability and brilliance⁴. Acharya Sushruta defined Rasayana as a substance that slows down the age process, increases life longevity, increases mental and physical strength and prevent Rogotpatti⁵.

Classification of *Rasayana* As per mode of administration of *Rasayana*⁶:

1. Kutipraveshika

2. Vatatapika

Kutipraveshika is one in which *rasayana* is given to a person living inside a *kuti* while *vatatapika* is one in which *rasayana* is given along with the patient who comes in contact with *vata* (wind) and *atapa* (sun). *Kutipraveshika* is the internal administration while *Vatatapika* is the external administration of the *Rasayana*.

As per Mode of Action⁷:

1. Samshodhana Rasayana

2. Samshamana Rasayana

As per purpose of administration⁸:

1. *Kamya Rasayana* - Medicines that improve the health and strength of a healthy person are known as *Kamya*

Rasayana. Chyawanprash is commonly used for this purpose.

2. *Naimittika Rasayana* - Medicines that increase the power of a sick person are called *Naimittika Rasayana*. It can be used as an adjunct to specific medical treatment of a particular disease, so that the patient can be cured earlier. 3. *Ajasrika Rasayana* - *Ajasrika Rasayana* deals with daily intake of milk, ghee etc.

4. Acara Rasayana: The established rules of conduct, practice, experiment, preaching are also considered as means of *Rasayana*, which are known as *Acara Rasayana*. Truthful and fair speaking, cleanliness, understanding, balanced walking and sleeping, following the rules of climate, season and diet, nutritious food, charity, spiritual disposition, non-violence, avoiding anger and overtension, alcohol, sex and hurting others Preventing from etc. is considered as *achar rasayan*. The person who follows these rules has a long life and does not need any Drugs.

Action of Rasayana

- 1. Rasayana achieve appyayana of dhatu.
- 2. Improvement of Dhatwagni.

3. Give strength or act as *Balya* for *srotasa* from which *dhatu* originates.

4. Gives proper direction (Anuloma gati) to vata.

Selection of proper *Rasayana* (rejuvenator) is very important in the treatment of diabetes. hence the following *rasayana dravyas* are best used in *madhumeha*.

- Abhraka bhasma : abhraka has kashaya rasa, madhur vipaka and shita virya hence it is saptadhatuvardhak or ojavardhak rasayan. It is used mainly in kapha and vata doshas and rasa,rakta,mamsa and meda dhatus.due to proper dhatuposhan krama dhatukshaya and medadushti of madhumeha are corrected.
- 2) Vangabhasma : Vangabhasma Tikta, ushana and ruksha, adsorbs Dravit kapha and vikrit meda which controls urine secretion and hence causes samprapti vighatana therapy in diabetes. It is mainly useful in Vata, Vatapitta doshas as well as Rakta, Mamsa and Shukra dhatu.Due to its Deepan Pachan Gunkarma vangabhasam act on Medhadhatu & Medhadhatugni vardhi occurs thereby preventn distorted Medhasta formation.⁹
- Shilajitu : shilajitu is ishat amla, kashaya, katu vipaka and samashitoshna. It is rasyana and corrects dhatupariposhana karma and controls madhurata in madhumeha.¹⁰

4) Manjishtha:

Manjishtha madhura tikta kashay swarvarnakrut /

Raktatisar kushtha asra visarpa vran mehanut //

Manjishtha is madhura (sweet), tikta (bitter),kashya (astringent) swar-varnakrut(good for voice-complexion). Cures raktatisar (diarrhea with bleeding), kushta (leprosy), visarpa (herpes), vrana (wound) & meha (diabetes). Manjishtha due to its tikta (Bitter) kashaya (Astringent) & madhura(Sweet) rasa & ruksha guna causes pachan & shaman of Raktagata kapha-pitta. This leads to purifier) & *Raktaprasadana*(blood *Raktaposhana* (Nourishment of blood). vataghna. It is The pachanashamana and Tridoshaghanta corrects raktadushti & sira shaithilya. Manjishtha due to its vrana shodhana and ropana action treats siragatavrana (Retinal hemorrhage). Manjishtha act as Rasayana in Diabetic Retinopathy by treating micro aneurysms & haemorrhage.11

5) Haridra:

Haridra katuk tikta rukshoshna kaphapittanut/ Varnyatwakdoshamehasrashoth paduvranapha//

Haridra is *katuka* (pungent), *tikta* (bitter), *ruksha* (causes dryness),*ushna* (hot in potency) *kaphpittanut* (mitigates kapha & pitta), *varnya* (bestows colour). Cures diseases*twakadosha* (skin), *meha* (diabetes), *asra* (disease of blood), *vrana* (ulcers). *Harirda* act as *medoghna* (lipolytic) by *shoshana* (desiccation) of *medogata kleda* (i.e., a waste product of metabolism possessing wetness/liquid property) due to *laghu rukshaguna*.¹²

6) Triphala:

Triphala kaphpittaghani mehakushthahara sara/ Chakshushya dipani ruchyavishamjwarna shini//

Triphala acts as *mehaghna* (antidiabetic) due to *ruksha* guna which causes pachana of vikrit meda & kaphashoshana increases medodhatwagni. *Triphala* also manages the prabhutamootrata.¹³

- 7) Pippali : pippali by virtue of its katu rasa, madhur vipaka and ushna virya is kaphagna due to its katu and ushna guna, vatashamaka due to snigdha and ushna guna. Due to katu rasa it does rasadhatwagnidipana. It alleviates the rasaraktavahini kathinya (atherosclerosis).
- 8) Guduchi : guduchi due to its ruksha laghu gunas, katutikta-kashaya rasa,madhur vipaka and ushna virya reduces kledakadushti and is rasaraktashuddhikara is beneficial in madhumeha.it reduces samanya dourbalya, aruchi and agnimandya of madhumeha.due to its snigdha and mridu gunas it reduces dhatukshayajanya vatavriddhi hence is beneficial in apatarpanajanya madhumeha.

DISCUSSION

Diabetes is classified as a *Vataja Prameha* subtype, and prolonged *prameha* can lead to the development of diabetes. Diabetes is considered a lifestyle disorder, and therefore its prevention and management can be supported by *Rasayana* treatments. *Rasayana* therapies are effective in improving the overall quality of life for individuals, both in preventing premature aging and managing the normal aging process. By incorporating *Rasayana*, individuals can benefit from a full and healthy lifespan. In the treatment of *Madumeha* (diabetes), it is recommended to utilize *Rasayana* therapies according to the principles of *Rog-Rogi Bala* (strength of the disease and the patient). The use of *Rasayana* treatments not only aids in preventing *Madhumeha* but also helps in managing its complications.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, Rasayana Chikitsa in Ayurvedic medicine offers a comprehensive approach to the prevention and treatment of diabetes and its complications. Rasayana substances exhibit diverse properties, including balancing doshas, improving dhatwagni (metabolism), nourishing tissues, and purifying the blood. They also help in maintaining healthy bodily functions, enhancing immunity, and preventing complications associated with diabetes. Avurvedic principles emphasize the importance of adopting a healthy lifestyle, including proper diet, regular exercise, and stress management. Additionally, following ethical conduct, practicing cleanliness, and adhering to seasonal and climatic guidelines are considered integral parts of Rasavana therapy. By integrating Rasavana Chikitsa into the management of diabetes, individuals can experience improved longevity, enhanced memory and intelligence, freedom from disorders, youthful vitality, and overall well-being.

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