



Efficacy of Rasayan in the Prevention of Communicable diseases (Janapadhodhwamsa)

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ABSTRACT



Ayurved is a holistic science which mainly emphasizes on the preventive aspect of diseases and ill- health. The concept of communicable disease is mentioned under the concept of “Janapadhodhwamsa”. Rasayan therapy plays a very key role in the prevention of communicable diseases. An attempt has been made to establish a co- relation between the Ayurvedic concept and the current most prevelant communicable diseases and their categorization under the pranavaha srotas, Annavaha srotas, Udakvaha srotas, Rasa and Raktavaha srotas. In the present scenario, increased urbanization and modified lifestyle has led to derangement of agni. This deranged agni has led to compromised immunity, which itself serves as a cause and provoking factor for many infectious diseases. In today’s context, the whole world is facing the communicable and infectious pandemic, termed Covid-19. No any specific treatment modality is been established till date. In the view of lack of any treatment modality and vaccine availability, focus is been given on enhancing the immunity and maintaining good health status is been laid .By maintaining good immunity and health, we can protect ourselves from this infectious disease and also prognosis of the patients will also be good, who are with comorbid conditions. Thus now emphasis is laid to improve the immunity by techniques such as Rasayan Chikitsa.

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INTRODUCTION

An extreme related pestilence severe intense respiratory condition Covid 2 (SARS-CoV-2), World-wide called as Coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) by the World Health Organization (WHO) rose in India. “In December 2019, Wuhan City, China’s capital of Hubei Province, turned into the focal point of an unexplained reason for destructive pneumonia illness (Nisargandha and DadaraoParwe, 2020). Communicable diseases are the infectious conditions which arise due to specific infectious conditions, which arise due to specific infectious agents or its toxic products which under certain conditions tends to spread among individuals in the community. The

production of such infectious agents is the outcome of the toxicity resulting due to various types of pollutants. This toxic pollution and pollutants are the resultant factors of the modified lifestyle and increasing urbanization. All these factors have contributed to the pollution of the basic entities of life like air, water and soil (Shukla *et al.*, 2019).

These factors are common to the entire population. Thus air, water, habitat and time period forms the responsible factors for the manifestation of communicable diseases.

AYURVEDIC CONCEPT OF RASAYAN

The Dravyas which advances the Dhatus are known as Rasayana. Rasayana treatment is one which delays the Jara (mature age) and serves to Cures the illnesses. Subsequently Rasayana is utilized for advancement of solidarity in the solid, for Prevention just as Curative reason of the illnesses. Ayurvedic compositions have investigated the idea of transferable infections under the heading of "Janapadodhwamsa".

Janapadodhwamsa is characterized as "Samanya Tat Vaigunyat Samankala Samanalinghacha Vyadhyor Abhi Nirvritta Mana Jana Padam Udhwamsayati." Due to the vitiation of the elements which are basic to the populace, produces same clinical highlights, which bring about the appearance of same malady making demise a network can be named as Janapadodhwamsa.

Classification of Rasayan which is mentioned in Ayurvedic text (Singh *et al.*, 2014),(Table 1).

Ayurvedic classics have mentioned various beneficial effects of Rasayan Chikitsa on the human body. – (Vaishali and Shailesh, 2018),(Table 2).

Significance of Rasayana Chikitsa

Ayurved has laid a lot of emphasis on the Rasayan chikitsa. This is a treatment modality, which emphasizes on maintaining proper and balanced nourishment of the Saptadhatus by the Poshaka Rasa. According to Acharya Sushruta, Rasayana tantra elaborates different steps of delaying aging process, increases longevity, and intelligence and enhances the immunity of the individual.

Acharya Charakh opines that Rasayan Chikitsa is a method of maintaining proper Poshaka Ahar rasa. According to Sharangadhara, Rasayana treatment is one which plays a key role in the prevention of diseases due to old age. In today's context, 80% of the human population is suffering with the co- morbid conditions like hypertension, cardiac problems, type 2 DM etc.

All these conditions result in immuno-compromised state. Rasayan therapy improves the immunity of the person, by improving the quality of the poshaka ahar – ras and thereby improving the quality of the Saptadhatus. (Tiwari *et al.*, 2015) probable mode of action of the rasayan mentioned (Soni and Sharma, 2018), (Table 3).

Significance of Rasayan Chikitsa in the prevention of communicable and infectious disease Covid-19

Covid-19(Coronavirus disease 2019), is a deadly infectious disease caused by the coronavirus SARS-CoV 2(Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome-coronavirus-2). It has emerged as a rapidly spreading communicable disease. This new Covid-19 has emerged out to be a 'Global Health Emergency'. This dreaded disease has engulfed many lives of the individuals. Population of all age groups is prone to this disease but geriatric age group and people with co- morbid conditions are more prone.

Till date no any specific treatment modality in the form of vaccine or any effective medication has not emerged, which will be helpful in this bio-medical war. It is said that each indicative and asymptomatic patients with COVID-19 can play a work in illness transmission through airborne and physical contact. This finding has prompted an impeccable difficulty roughly the counteraction of defilement unfurls (Parwe *et al.*, 2020).

It is considered that prevention is always better than cure. In this pandemic condition, as there is no any known effective medication, so prevention and precautionary measures serve as good media for protecting ourselves from this disease. In the prevention aspect, Rasayan Chikitsa plays a very important role along with lifestyle modification (Joshi and Bedekar, 2017).

Rasayan is a composition of many herbal as well as mineral ingredients, which play vital role in maintaining the proper Dhatwagni as well as Dhatu-poshan. Derangement of Jatharagni, Dhatwagni is the major contributing factor for production of Ama, immuno-compromised conditions as well as emergence of diseases (Venugopalan and Venkatasubramanian, 2017). Rasayan brings about Dhatupushti and srotoshuddhi, which plays a key role in maintaining health and immunity.

DISCUSSION

In today's context, the whole world is dealing with the pandemic of Covid- 19. This is a new infectious communicable disease encroaching the humanity. No any specific treatment modality has

Table 1: Classification of Rasayana

Sr. No.	Classification criteria	Types
1.	Based on Prayojan	1. 1.
		1. 2.
		1. 3.
2.	Based on Prayog	1. 1.
		1. 2.
		1. 3.
3.	Based on Bheshaja	1. 1.
		1. 2.
4.	Based on effect	1. 1.
		1. 2.

Table 2: Health benefits of Rasayan

Sr.No.	Health benefits of Rasayan
1	Optimum body strength physically and against diseases
2	Provides good life span
3	Provides good memory and intellect
4	Good power of senses
5	Good complexion, good voice and body glow
6	Promotes mental health
7	Helps to fight against as well as curing the diseases.

Table 3: Probable mechanism of action of the Rasayan

Sr. No.	Mechanism of Rasayan
1	By direct enrichment of the nutrient quality
2	Promoting nutrition through Agni Vyapara (increases digestive fire)
3	By providing competence to the Srotasas (channels or passages
4	Naimittika Rasayana acts by making the cell potent to the disease causing pathogens

been established for the treatment of Covid-19. Also on any specific effective vaccine has been established (Deshpande and Parwe, 2020). This infectious pandemic affects all age group people but geriatric group and people with co-morbid conditions are more prone to it.

These co-morbid conditions include hypertension, Type-2 DM, heart diseases etc, which leads the individual to a immune-compromised condition. Thus the individual becomes more prone to the disease and leads to complications and poor prognosis. To overcome such pandemic hazards, it becomes very essential to enhance the immunity of the individual, as in this case prevention is serving as a better media than cure.

Ayurved emphasizes mainly on the preventive aspect of the health. In ancient Ayurvedic treatises, there are many preventive and immuno-boosting modalities. Rasayan Chikitsa is one of the treatment modality. Long life (great), memory, incredible insight, flawless wellbeing, energy, splendid composition and shading intense voice and unselfishness, increment quality, of the body and receptor, flawlessness in discourse, sexual force and splendor are completely gotten from appropriate Rasayana treatment (Masram *et al.*, 2014). The classification of Rasayan is elaborated in Table 1.

Rasayan underscores on the improvement of the Poshakh ras and Dhatu pushti. Ayurved considers upkeep of appropriate jatharagni and dhatwagni for the correct wellbeing just as working of resistance. Rasayan maintains the quality of Poshak-ras, enhances and maintains the agni of the individual in proper condition. Thereby there is proper dhatu-poshan and Oja of the individual is good. The probable mechanism of action of Rasayan and health benefits is mentioned in Tables 2 and 3.

As per Ayurveda, Oja is the Saar of all dhatus and the general insusceptibility of the person. Rasayan fills in as a decent media for invulnerability boosting. Thus when the immunity of the person is increased, the person becomes less prone to any disease. Also the disease tolerating capacity and prognosis of the disease is also good in cases of good immunity.

CONCLUSION

Rasayan chikitsa is a ancient preventive and immuno-enhancing technique of ancient times. It certain works by improving the agni of the individual, enhancing the quality of the ahar-rasa, Poshakh Ras and Dhatupushti. Adopting this technique, during this infectious pandemic condition, can enhance the disease fighting capacity of the

individual as well as can bring good prognosis in the immuno-compromised individuals. These preventive modalities along with a good lifestyle modification can surely enhance the health of the individual as well as protect him from other diseases.

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Conflict of Interest

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