Role of Agnikarma in Garbhashaya Grivamukhagata Vrana (Cervical Erosion)

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Abstract

The woman is said to be three times more responsible than the male in the procreation. Apart from attending natural processes of menstruation, pregnancy, one of the most inconvenient diseases in woman is Garbhshaya Grivamukhagata Vrana (cervical erosion). Cervical erosion is a common condition seen in almost all women. It affects the whole efficacy of woman which may lead up to infertility. Most commonly used treatment for cervical erosion is cauterization and cryosurgery which have their own side effects like secondary infertility, per vaginal bleeding, stenosis etc. In Ayurveda, Agnikarma has been described in the treatment of Vrana. To evaluate the utility and therapeutic effect of Agnikarma in Garbhshaya Grivamukhagata Vrana we made an effort to collect all the available literature mentioned in ancient Ayurvedic classics backed with recent research evidences. Modern science data was collected from various textbooks along with this known database which was available on google, pubmed was selected for present studies from 1994 to 2013.

Keywords
Garbhshaya Grivamukhagata Vrana ,Cervical erosion, Cauterization, Agnikarma

INTRODUCTION

Gender differences play a role in manifestation of disease and health outcomes. Women are perceived as the decision makers for the source of health care of their families. Women often delay self care as they attend to the care of their family and children. For all these reason she should be in the perfect healthy condition particularly "Reproductive Healthiness". In present era, most of the women are working women and due to change in life style, food habit, workload, she faces lots of stress and strain. Owing to complicated structure of the female body women are subject to a large number of complains connected with genital organs.

GARBHASHYA GRIVAMUKHAGATA VRANA

A detailed and nice description of Vrana is available in all the Ayurvedic classics. Agnikarma have been described in the treatment of Vrana. [1] Garbhshaya Grivamukhagata Vrana is not described separately as a disease in Ayurvedic classics. All the authors described Yonivyapada in separate chapter but description of
Yonivrana as a disease or as a symptom directly not mentioned in Ayurvedic classics. One indirect reference of Yonivrana is available in Ashtanga Sangraha in the context of "Yoni Vranekshan Yantra" \[2\]. The phenomenon, which causes the destruction of the tissue in a particular part of the body, is termed as Vrana. Vrana which is situated on Griva of Garbhashaya is known as "Garbhashaya Grivamukhagata Vrana". Garbhashaya Griva Mukhagata Vrana is Tridoshajayadhi with Dushti of Twak and Mamsaja Dhatu and Samanya Lakshana are considered as Yonistrava, Daha, Shula, Vivarnata evum Kandu. Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana can be correlated with following Yonivyapada due to its symptoms.

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Table 1 Consideration of Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana (Cervical Erosion) with Yonivyapada

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lakshans of Yonivyapada</th>
<th>Vataja</th>
<th>Pittaja</th>
<th>Kaphaja</th>
<th>Sannipatayja</th>
<th>Upapulta</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Strava - swarupa</td>
<td>Tanu, Phenila</td>
<td>Atisrava</td>
<td>Pandu, Picchila</td>
<td>Picchila</td>
<td>Picchila Kaphastravi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Varna</td>
<td>Aruna</td>
<td>Nila, Pita, Asita</td>
<td>Sweta</td>
<td>Sweta</td>
<td>Sweta</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Gandha                    | No            | Putigandha  | No         | No           | No             |
| Yonikandu                 | No            | No          | Kanduyukta | No           | Yoni kandu     |
| Vedana                    | Saruja        | No          | Alpa vedana | Vadanayukta  | Satoda         |
| Yonidaha                  | No            | Yonidaha    | No         | Yonidaha     | No             |
| Panduta                   | No            | Panduta     | No         | Panduta      | No             |
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Lakshanas of Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana was maximally matched with Pittaja and Kaphaja Yonivyapada\[3\]. From the above findings the characteristics features may be taken in Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana are as follows-

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Table 2 Characteristics’ features of Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana with Vrana, Yonivyapada and cervical erosion

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cervical erosion</th>
<th>Vrana</th>
<th>Yonivyapada</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White discharge Per vagina</td>
<td>Pichhila Srava</td>
<td>Pichhila Srava</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Greentree Group
Pelvic pain | Toda, Bheda, Sphurana, Manda Vedana | Saruja, Vedanayukta, Shotha
Contact bleeding | Raktasravi | Raktasravi
Burning sensation | Daha, Paka | Daha
Backache | Sthanika Shula | Katishula and Udarshula
Itching vulva | Kandu | Kandu
Chronic | Chirkalic | Chirkalic
Infertility | May be | Vandhatava

**CERVICAL EROSION**

Cervical erosion is a condition in which the squamous epithelium of the ectocervix is replaced by columnar epithelium which is continuous with that lining the endocervix. It is a partial or complete absence of the squamous epithelium (Surface) of the cervix. The normal tissues on the surface of the cervix and or around the os are replaced by inflamed tissue from within the cervical canal. This endocervical tissue is red and glandular so it gives the cervix a red, eroded and infected appearance. Common causes of erosion are trauma (by multiple childbirths, tampon use or an intrauterine contraceptive device), chemicals, infections, hormones (oral contraceptive pills) or carcinoma. Cervical erosions are more common in women of lower socioeconomic groups, poor general hygiene, early marriage and multiple pregnancies\(^{[4,5]}\)

Cervical erosion is mostly an incidental finding on routine gynecological examination in women. Commonly it is present in asymptomatic females. The common symptoms associated with cervical erosion are vaginal discharge or leucorrhoea, pain, difficulty in passing urine, post coital bleeding. On gynecological examinations cervix appears red and granular. Investigation for cervical erosion is Pap smear test and cone biopsy. Treatments usually advised are drug treatment, cryocauterization, electrocoagulation, and cautery with laser.\(^{[6,7]}\)

**AGNIKARMA**

In *Ayurveda*, Agnikarma have been described in various *Samhitas*, Acharya Sushruta describe Agnikarma in *Sutra Sthana* in the treatment of *Vrana*\(^{[8]}\). The *Karma* which is done with the help of *Agni* is known as "Agnikarma"\(^{[9]}\). Acharya
Sushruta has mentioned 60 Upkarmas (Chikitsa) of Vrana, Agnikarma is the 40th Upkarma \[^{[10]}\]. As per Yogratnakar, Agnikarma is indicated in Apankshetra. No direct classification of Agnikarma is given in the Ayurvedic Classics but on the basis of its allied factors we can classify it as follows\[^{[11]}\]:

### Table 3 Prakara (Types) of Agnikarma

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dravya</th>
<th>Sthana</th>
<th>Vyadhi</th>
<th>Akriti</th>
<th>Vrana Vastu</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Snigdha</td>
<td>Sthanika</td>
<td>Mamsankura, Vrana, Arsha</td>
<td>Valaya, Bindu</td>
<td>Twak, Mamsa,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agnikarma by Madhu</td>
<td>Sthanantarita</td>
<td>Bhagandara, Charmakila, Nadivrana</td>
<td>Vilekha, Pratisarana, Ardhachandra</td>
<td>Sira, Snayu, Asthi, Sandhi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Taila</td>
<td>(Distal to the site of the disease)</td>
<td>Kadara</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ghrita</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ruksha**

**Agnikarma by Pippali Ajashakruda**

There are two types of Agnikarma, Twak Dagdha evum Mamsa Dagdha. Agnikarma is indicated in Dushtavrana, Arsha, Bhagandara, Arbuda, Granthi, Shlipada, Apachi, Charmakila, Mashaka and Adhimamsa. It is contraindicated in Bala, Vriddha, Garbhini, Prasuta, Durbala, Bhiru, Pandu, Prameha, Ajirna and Visa. Agnikarma may be performed in all Ritus, except in Grishma and Sharada Ritu, but in emergency condition it can be done any time. Samyaka Dagdha Lakshanas are Anavagadha, Talaphalavata Varna evum Susamsthitha. Agnikarma is considered as best among Aushdh, Shastra and Kshara Karma because after Agnikarma Roganaapunabhava (no recurrence of disease) occurs and all the diseases which are Asadhya by Aushdh, Shastra and Kshara Karma are Sadhya (cureble) by Agnikarma. Agnikarma is having Vrana-Shodhana, Vrana-Ropanar, Sira-Sankochan, Chedana, Doshashamna, Vayumarga Avrodhana, Roganam Apunarbhavartha properties. Agni being Ushna and Tikshna in Guna does the action of Vrana Shodhana via Sravaharana, Vikruta Twak and Mamsa Dahana, Sankochana of Sira, Agni purifies local tissue via reduction in the infection i.e. with Agnikarma there is no danger of Pakabhaya, Dhupana arising from the Agnikarma destroys infection. Agnikarma probably
normalizes the vitiated *Kapha Dosha* and decrease the amount of white discharge and there by helps in the healing of *Vrana* which situated in the *Yoni*.

**CONCLUSION**

On the basis of above study it is concluded that in *Ayurveda*, direct reference of *Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana* is not available. *Garbhashaya Griva Mukhagata Vrana* can be compared as *Twak-Mamsaja Vrana*. *Vrana-shodhana, Ropana evum Sira-sankochana* properties of *Agnikarma* is helping in treating this *Twak-Mamsaja Vrana*. Thus *Agnikarma* is beneficial line of treatment for *Garbhashya Griva Mukhagata Vrana* without any adverse effect.


[5] Shirish N Daftary, 100 + Clinical Cases in Gynaecology, Elsevier a Division of Reed Elsevier India Private Limited: New Delhi, 2007, p. 82-84


