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## A Short Review of Mukhdushika Disease.

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## **ABSTRACT:**

People are most conscious and careful about beauty of face. Mukhdushika, as its name suggests disfigurement of face as it hampers beauty. Being Khudra roga it was not well explained in samhita neither its samprapti was given so, here is an attempt to hypothesis its samprapti as well description on the basis of the details in samhita. Acne is its counterpart in modern text and it is a disease of Pilosebaceous unit (PSU). Here comparison is made between modern pathogenesis of acne with Mukhdushika which may lead to conclusion that swedavaha strotas may have some connection with Pilosebaceous unit (PSU).

Keywords- Pidaka, Acne, yuvanpidaka

## INTRODUCTION

A well said quote, "Face is a picture of Mind with eyes as its interpreter". People are most conscious and careful about beauty of face. Beauty, the quality that gives pleasure to the senses, is perhaps the desire of every human being on earth. Mukhdushika, as its name suggests disfigurement of face. In texts of Ayurveda it is compared with "shalmali kantak", where shalmali kantak means small thorns seen on the bark of shalmali tree (salmalia indica). Appearance of thorn like structures are seen on the face because of vitiated kapha, vata, rakta and meda dhatu (tridosaja).<sup>2</sup>

## MATERIAL AND METHOD

This conceptual study comprises of the review of Ayurveda classical Samhita like Acharya Charaka, Susruta

#### Literature review

Mukhdushika is also termed as Yuvanapidika as it has tendency to affect younger generation more. Most resembling condition with Mukhdushika is Acne vulgaris. According to global burden of disease Acne vulgaris represents top three most prevalent skin condition in general population in UK, USA, France<sup>3</sup>. As Mukhdushika is a ksudra roga of face's skin so, I'm giving brief description about skin/twacha first.

**Twacha-** The part of the body which completely spreads over body and Meda, Shonita and other Dhatu is called Twacha<sup>4</sup>. Dosha- Vata-Twacha is Sparshanendriya Adhisthana. Sparshnendriya and sparsh is a vayaviya bhava<sup>5</sup> i.e. dominant mahabhoot is vayu. So, twacha is also vayu mahabhoot pradhan or one of the sthana of vayu.



Vyana is also associated with Twacha as it is Kritsna- v. dehachara and secretion of sweat is a function of vyana. Bhrajaka Pitta is situated in twacha. Bhrajana means enlighten or *Deepana* i.e. imparting luster to skin<sup>6</sup>. Rakta dhatu function is Varna Prasadakar i.e. gives colour to skin. When *Rakta Dhatu* decreases, the skin becomes dry<sup>7</sup>. Pidaka, Carmadala etc. are the diseases arising due to shonita dushti<sup>8</sup>. Strotas moola- Swedavaha strotas<sup>9</sup> has important role in skin health. Mala- Sweda- Sweda is the mala of medo dhatu<sup>10</sup>, which is excreted by the skin. Sweda is excreted through romkupa. Its Karma/function is to vahan kleda<sup>11</sup>. Good explanation of it, is given in tika<sup>12</sup> that in kleda abhava shosh occurs. Sweda dharan kleda, twaksneha and rom13. Functions of Sebum resembles in some extent to sweda functions - As sebum is made of lipids so lubricate skin, softens hair shaft & collects dirt.

## **DISCUSSION**

Swedavaha Strotas & PSU-On comparing modern pathogenesis of acne with Mukhdushika it can be observed that swedavaha strotas may have some connection with Pilosebaceous unit (PSU). As PSU consists of hair follicle and sebaceous gland while swedvaha strotas consists of meda and lomkupa.

On comparison of *Swedavaha strotas* and PSU on basis of their functions it can be said that PSU may be considered as one of small portion of *swedavaha strotas*. *Swedavaha strotas* is a broad term.

**Nidana** -It comes under *Kshudra Roga* so there is no direct reference came about its etiological factors. As per its description in various Samhita following are the indirect references for its etiological factors: -

- i. As per Sushruta Mukhdushika is due to vitiation of kapha, vata dosha and rakta dushya, hence general etiological factors of these dosha combinedly can be considered as etiological factor of Mukhdushika.
- ii. Sharangdhara quoted that yuvanpidika(pidika otpatti) and stickiness on face (vaktre Snighta) are mala of shukra dhatu<sup>14</sup>
- iii. **Svabhav**-Bhavaprakasha<sup>15</sup> and commentator<sup>16</sup> of madhav nidan has mentioned that yuvanpidaka occurrence is due to Svabhav.
- iv. **Meda-** As asthangakara quoted medogarbhatva<sup>17</sup> (pidika is filled of meda) is one of the manifestations of Mukhdushika, the causative elements which vitiate meda can likewise be joined as nidan of Mukhdushika.

**Rakta-** As per *Charak* nourishment and exercises, which have comparable property to that of *dooshya* causes *srotodushti*<sup>18</sup>, It can be said that *Rakta prakopaka*<sup>19</sup> *ahara* and *vihara* causes *Mukhdushika*. By *dosha* and *dooshya bhava pitta* is vitiated and in turn it vitiates *rakta*.

Hence general etiological factors which vitiate  $Vata^{20}$ ,  $Kapha^{21}$ ,  $Pitta^{22}$  and  $Rakta\ dooshya\ can be considered as etiological factor for <math>Mukhdushika$ .

Acne Vulgaris- Acne is its counterpart in modern text. Acne is a disease of Pilosebaceous unit (PSU). Acne vulgaris (commonest of Acne) can be defined as a disorder of the sebaceous follicles, which are specialized pilosebaceous units located on face, chest and back. Most common causes of acne vulgaris are excess sebum in the pilosebaceous units, over use of cosmetics and glycemic diet<sup>23</sup>. PSU consists of hair follicle and its associated sebaceous gland. Etiopathogenesis of acne includes following four factors: -

- 1. Increased sebum production- hyperseborroea
- 2. Follicular hyperkeratinisation-includes ductal hyper cornification & retention hyperkeratosis
- 3. P. acne colonisation
- 4. Release of Inflammatory mediators

#### Roopa-Sign and Symptoms of Mukhdushika

**1-Shape**- The eruptions found on the face are very much similar to the pricking thorn of *Shalmali* tree.

**2-Eruptions-** *Pidaka* on face can be compared to eruptions. These are of many types which will be discussed in modern review of the disease. As the definition of *mukhdushika* by *Sushruta* is in *bahuvachan* this means that eriptions/pidaka are more than one or two. *Pidaka* formation is may be due to vitiated *pitta* with *rakta dhatu* produces *shoth* in the *twacha*/skin<sup>24</sup>

**3-Pain-** *Saruja* -The eruptions are painful may be mild or severe in nature. *Ruja* may be due to *Vata*.

**4-Induration-***Ghana*<sup>25</sup>**-**The word *Ghana* is used by *Astangakara*, which means hard or indurated and caused by the *aggrevated kapha*.

5-Medogarbha<sup>26</sup> (white head)- This word is used by Astangakara, it means that eruptions are filled with meda, -This meda is packed in the eruption as sebum collected in sebaceous gland due to blockage of opening (hair follicle) of medo granthi. When pressure is applied over the pidaka it comes out in the form of discharge.

**6-Age and site of onset-** *Yuna mukhe-* This disease occur in adult age and in both the sexes. *Pitta* is dominant in young age. Commonly it occurs on face.

**Purvaroopa** - Its poorva roopa has not been mentioned in any of the texts. But as per *Charaka*, in avavyakta poorva roopa of a disease is laghu roopa of the disease as its poorva roopa<sup>27</sup>.

Samprapti- Sequence of changes that lead to manifestation of disease is known as samprapti. In none of the ayurvedia text samprapti of mukhdushika is given. On the basis of its description in various samhita its samprapti can be built(hypothesis) in two ways. Its Nidana has two parts Doshadushtikar and Svabhavik<sup>28</sup>. Its samprapti can be built on following points: -

- 1. As per acharya Sushruta, Vagbhatta yuvanpidaka is due to vitiation of kapha, vata and rakta. First narration of kapha shows its dominancy in forming disease. Here, pitta is not directly described but instead rakta is used. Pitta and rakta has ashrayaashrayi bhava so if rakta is vitiated, it automatically denotes vitiation of pitta.
- 2. As per *acharya Charaka*, when vitiated *pitta* gets seated in *rakta* and skin, then a *pidaka* is formed with redness and swelling. So, it shows disturbed *pitta* is also an etiological factor.
- Acharya Bhavaprakash quotes svabhav as etiological factor besides doshik nidana, here svabhav indicates yuvaavastha at which shukra dhatu is produced more naturally.
- 4. Vakre snighdata and pidaka are mala of shukra dhatu as per sharangdhar<sup>29</sup>

Management- Many treatment modalities are there like internal as well as external (face pack) use of single or combination like sarshapa, vacha, lodhara, palasha, chandana, ushirs, manjistha, madhuyashti, haridara, daruharihridra, sariva, laksha, nilopatal, padmaka, madyantika, plakshamula, nyogrodhapada, patanga and many more. Most of herbal drugs mentioned here are included in Varnya Mahakashaya. Pratimarsh nasya<sup>30</sup> as treatment modality was mentioned in Vang sen samhita.

**Complication**- If *Bheda* occurs in *Pidaka*, it leads to *Vrana vastu* and *Vaivarnyatav*.

## **CONCLUSION**

Being *Khudra roga* it was not well explained in *samhita* neither its *samprapti* was given so, here is an attempt to hypothesis its *samprapti* as well description.

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