International Research Journal of Ayurveda & Yoga

Vol. 6 (1),46-51, Jan,2023

ISSN: 2581-785X;https://irjay.com/ DOI: 10.47223/IRJAY.2023.6108



A Glimpse on *Paradi Guna* and its Application in Ayurveda *Chikitsa* & *Anusandhan -* A Conceptual Study

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Article Info

Article history:

Received on: 15-11-2022 Accepted on: 13-01-2023 Available online: 31-01-2023

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ABSTRACT:

Ayurveda is the ancient life science, which aims at maintenance of health and elimination of diseases. One can find reference to various basic principles in Ayurveda. Guna siddhanta is one such basic principle explained by our acharyas. Various classifications of guna(characteristic feature) & its utility in chikitsa(treatment) are mentioned in Ayurveda Texts. Guna (characteristic feature) is one of the prime factors considered in Ayurveda. It means characteristic feature. Paradi gunas are also called as chikitsakiya guna as they are useful in treating the patients. It includes Para, Apara, Yukti etc. Research is classified into basic and applied. Basic research includes finding new things by using fundamental principles. For Ayurveda Scholars there is much need of application of these fundamental principles in Chikitsa (treatment) as well as in anusandhan(research). This article aims on application of paradi gunas in chikitsa(treatment) & anusandhan (research) aspect.

Key words: Paradi Guna, Anusandhan, Chikitsa, Research,

INTRODUCTION

Ayurveda aims in maintenance of health and cure from diseases¹. Practice of Ayurveda is based on the Siddhanta's (fundamental principles) like Guna Panchamahabhuta Siddhanta, Karyakaran Siddhanta etc which is been explained in various ayurvedic texts. Guna Siddhanta(fundamental principle of characteristic feature) is one such Siddhanta(fundamental principle). Everything in this universe is the manifestation of guna. Guna has number of meaning such as – quality, mode, property; etc. In practical sense guna denotes Physical & Chemical property. Any substances having guna(characteristic feature) and karma(action) in inseparable relation is called as *dravya*(substance)².

Guna will not exist independently, and the attributes of guna are its karma(action). Guna is one of the prime factor considered in Ayurveda. It classified into various categories like Gurvadi, Paradi, Vishistha, Adhyatmika gunas³. Paradi guna are the set of 10 guna namely, Para, Apara, Yukti etc. Paradigunas help to achieve success in treatment. Research means re-defining the things. Ayurveda is one such field which needs more research. Application of fundamental principles of paradi gunas in Chikitsa (treatment) & Anusandhan (Research) is the concern of the time.



MATERIALS AND METHOD:

Literature review of *Ayurveda* texts for understanding the *paradi gunas*.

Table No 1: Paradi gunas⁴

Para- Apara

Para is the first guna which means pradhana (superior) when compared to another⁵. Apara is just opposite to para that which means Apradhana (inferior)⁶, when compared to another. Charakacharya has given basic criteria to understand the Paraparatva namely Desha (place), Kala (time), Vaya (age), Mana (quantity), Paka (metabolism), Virya (potency), Rasa (taste) etc. Chakrapani added the Prakriti (constitution) and Bala (strength).

Table No 2: Examples for *para* (superior) and *apara* (inferior)⁷

In Chikitsa

- While advising Therapies, Drug, formulation, Anupana(Advent) & Aushadha kala (time of administration of medicaments) to the patients.
- Helps while advising *Rutu Shodhan*(seasonal purification of body).
- In preparation of Aushadha kalpana(medicaments), one has to select a drug with respect to its Rasa(taste), Guna(characteristic feature), Virya(potency), Paka(digestion/metabolism), Rutu(season) etc.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- One has to start research on In-vitro anti- microbial activity in winter or summerseason.
- Clinical study of Tinea infection should be done in rainy season.
- Selection of Research drug, sample and methods.

Yukti

Yukti means inferential knowledge or logical thinking⁸. It is one among the *praman*(tool). The one which suit is called *yukta*, the knowledge required to analyze it is called *yukti*. It gives the knowledge of *Trikala* - past, present, future and *Trivarga* – *Dharma*, *Artha* and *Kam*⁹. *Yukti* plays important role in converting medicine into poison and vice versa¹⁰.

In Chikitsa

- . In Prevention and Diagnosis of diseases.
- 2. It plays a major role in preparation of medicine, to check its *paka*, *matra* (dose)etc.
- 3. While selecting formulation & deciding *matra*(dose)

according to Vaya(age), Vyadhi(disease),

Kala(time of administration) etc.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- Selection of Research methodology, sample size, inclusion &exclusion criteria.
- 2. Selection of disease, site of research, age group, assessment criteria.
- 3. Selection of Drug, dose, dosage.

Sankya

Samkhya means Ganita¹¹. Means calculation. Some examples from classical texts are *Tridosha*, *Trimala*, Saptadhatu, Panchamhabhuta, Shadrasa, Triskandha, panchashodhan, Panchavidha kashay kalpana, etc.

In Chikitsa

- 1. *Samkhya Samprapti* also helps in proper understanding of disease like *Tritiyak jwara*, *Chaturthaka jwara*¹²
- 2. It helps in deciding *Avara*(inferior), *Madhyama*(moderate) and *Pravara*(superior) *shuddhi*(purification) of *vaman*(*vamiting*).
- 3. Shad Bindu tail, Pratimarsha nasya, Hingwashtaka Choorna are the some of theexamples.

In Anusandhan (Research)

Selection of sample size, age of samples, intervention for assessment.

- 1. Selection of dose & dosage of medicine.
- 2. While preparing Research drug number of drug, number of *bhavana* to be given.
- 3. Number of times of repetition of procedure.

Samyoga

Samyoga means union of two or more substances¹³. Acharya Charak classified it into 3 types-Dwandwakarmaja, Sarvakarmaja and Ekakarmaj¹⁴. Ayu(life) is the Samyoga of Sharira, Indriya, Satva and Atma¹⁵. And for obtaining knowledge Samyoga of Indriya (sense organs) and Indriya Artha (subjects of sense organs) are needed¹⁶. Samyoga viruddha (incompatibility of food because of improper combination) is well explained in texts¹⁷.

In Chikitsa

- 1. Samyoga(combination) of dosha and dushya causes diseases.
- 2. Proper combination of medicinal drugs gives better effect.
- 3. For successful treatment *samyoga* (combination) of *chikitsa Chatushpada* (physician,patient, medicaments & attender) is necessary.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- 1. Combination of research drug.
- 2. Selection of sample and drug.
- 3. It helps in giving final research outcome.

Vibhaga

Vibhaga is opposite quality of Samyoga¹⁸. Means Disjunction. Anna rasa(food) undergoes vibhajan (disjunction)into sara bhaga(essential part) and kitt bhaga(waste part)

In Chikitsa

- 1. Separation of *Nidan*(causative factor) and *purusha*(human being) helps inprevention of *roga* (disease).
- 2. Discontinuation of *dravya* (substance) and patient according to *avastha* (stage of disease) is very necessary to prevent further complications.
- 3. While preparing *sneha kalpana(oily preparation) separation* of *kalka dravya* and *sneha(oil)* indicates *samyaka* (proper)preparation.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- 1. Useful in deciding inclusion & exclusion criteria.
- 2 Discontinuation of sample from research activity.
- 3. Helps while grouping the samples.

Parimana

Parimana means Mana/matra(quantity)¹⁹. Anu-Light, Mahat-Great, Hrswa-Small & Dirgha-Large are 4 types of measurements

In Chikitsa

- 1. Mana of ahar (quantity of food)is mentioned for Swastha Purusha.
- 2. For planning Aushadha matra (dose of medicaments).
- 3. While preparing any formulation *mana* plays important role.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- 1. Physiological & Pathological values in clinical Research.
- 2. Dose of medicine in Research patients.
- 3. Parameters for Assessment.

Prithakatwa

The uniqueness of substance by which it differentiates from others is called *Prithaktwa*²⁰. It is explained in three aspects

as Asamyoga, Vailakshanya and Anekata by Acharya Charak.

In Chikitsa

- 1. Helps in identifying drugs.
- 2. Diagnosing the diseases/Avastha with its unique symptoms.
- 3. Helps to differentiate disease, drug etc.

In Research

- 1. Selecting research topic, hypothesis, research question etc.
- 2. Selecting research drug.
- 3. For segregating data.

Samskara

Samskara means import²¹ which means modifies the qualities of a substance. Qualities of a substance is influenced due to various factors like Jala(water), Shoucha(cleanliness), Agni Sannikarsha(exposure to fire), Manthana, Desha(place), Kala(time), Vasana(place of residing), Bhavana(trituration), Kalaprakarsha, Bbhajan²². Samskara viruddha(incompatibility due to improper processing) is one among the viruddha ahar(incompatible food)²³.

In Chikitsa

- 1. If *Ahar dravya*(food substance) under goes *samyaka samskara*(proper processing) itacts as medicine.
- 2. Samskarit dravya(processed substance) potentiates its effect.
- 3. Samskaran(processing) of Ashodhita dravya(improper substance) makes into shodhita (purified)form.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- 1. For successful outcome.
- 2. To potentiate research drug.
- 3. Processing Research data will help in presenting better results.

Abhyasa

Regular usage of a substance/practice is called the *Abhyasa*. *Satata* and *Sheelana* are the synonym²⁴. One of the best example is *Oka satmya*.

In Chikitsa

1. For successful relief from a disease, continuous usage of

medicines and regimens arevery essential.

- 2. One should practice *pathya Ahara*(wholesome food) & *Vihar*(regimen) to maintain *swastha avastha*(healthy condition).
- 3. Practice of *shastra karma* (surgery) makes physician perfect.

In Anusandhan (Research)

- 1. Repeatedly involving in research process makes perfection.
- For successful completion of Research work practice of research regimen isnecessary.
- 3. Practice of all the process of Research work helps for successful outcome.

DISCUSSION

Ayurveda works through its fundamental principles. Dravya(substance) is the one which is having Guna(characteristic feature) & Karma(action) in samavayi(inseparable) relation. It is a substance through which karya(action) is done. Guna is one among the important entity which helps in *chikitsa*(treatment). *Para-*Apara gunas helping to select superior and inferior quality of dravya(substance), kala(time), Research topic and type of sample. Sankhya(calculation) helps in number of ingredients in a formulation, duration of illness, in research it helps to collect data, analysis and to present results. Samyoga(combination) & Vibhaga(disjunction) are helping while giving combination of medicament, in preparation of taila kalpana(medicated oil), in research helps in grouping of samples. Parimana(quantity) helps to assess physiological and pathological Prithaktwa(uniquess)helps to differentiate the disease and Research topic. Samskara(processing) potentiating the drug and successful outcome in Research. Abhyasa(practice) helps for successful outcome in Chikitsa(treatment) & Research.

CONCLUSION

Though there are various references for research are available in classical texts. It is very essential for a researcher of Ayurveda to apply those fundamental principles in *chikitsa*(treatment) & *Anusandhan*(research) process.

Acknowledgments- Nil Conflicts Of Interest- Nil Source of finance & support – Nil

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How to cite this article: Jadhav KM, Vyshnavi R, Krishnan AM "A Glimpse On *Paradi Guna* And Its Application In Ayurveda *Chikitsa* & *Anusandhan* - A Conceptual Study" IRJAY.[online]2023;6(1); 46-51.

Available from: https://irjay.com

DOI link- https://doi.org/10.47223/IRJAY.2023.6108

Table No 1: Paradi gunas⁴

Para (Superiority)	Apara (Inferiority)
Yukti (Scientific method)	Samkhya (Calculation)
Samyoga (Combination)	Vibhaga (Disjunction)
Prithakatva (Uniqueness)	Parimana (Quantity)
Samskara (Processing)	Abhyasa (Repetition)

Table No 2: Examples for para (superior) and apara(inferior)⁷

	PARA	APARA
DESH	Jangala desha(dessert area)	Anupa desha(Marshy land)
KALA	Visarga kala	Adanakala
VAYA	Taruna avastha(young age)	Baala and vruddha avasthas(childhood & old age)
MANA	Ex: Astha Anjali of Rakta dhatu	Less or more
RASA, PAKA, VIRYA,	Depending on <i>Dravya</i> (substance)	Depending on Dravya(substance)
PRAKRUTI	Tridhoshaja prakruti	Ekadoshaja prakruti
BALA	Pravara Bala	Avara Bala
Other	Gokheera(cow's milk), Gogrutha(cow's ghee), Agryadravya(superior substances),	Eka rasa Abhyasa (practice of single rasa),