

CONCEPT OF VEDNA-ADHYAYAM IN RELATION TO DIAGNOSIS OF PAEDIATRIC DISEASES

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Article Received on
17 Feb. 2023,

Revised on 08 March 2023,
Accepted on 28 March 2023

DOI: 10.20959/wjpr20235-27469

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ABSTRACT

Vedna-Adhyayam mentioned in *Kashyapa Samhita* has enormous clinical significance in the assessment and diagnosis of the diseases in newborn and infants who are unable to speak about the problems they are suffering from. In Ayurveda, *Kashyapa Samhita* is the main text which described the etiological factors, pathogenesis, diagnosis & treatment of different paediatric diseases very elaborately. In the medical field, for the diagnosis of any diseases, signs and symptoms are the first and most important point to be considered. So, the importance of the symptoms cannot be ignored for proper diagnosis of the disease. In *Kashyapa Samhita*, *Vedna-Adhyayam* is described in the 25th chapter of *Sutrasthanam* in context to the early diagnosis of the diseases in infants and new born. In the *Vedna-Adhyayam*, special

types of symptoms are described very elaborately for the diagnosis of different health issues which a child suffers, who is unable to speak.

KEYWORDS: *Vedna-Adhyayam*, *Kashyapa Samhita*, *Ayurveda*, children, diseases.

INTRODUCTION

Vedna means “pain” and *Adhyaya* means “Chapter”. So, the chapter in which there is the description for the diagnosis of diseases based on the expressions of the child, who are unable to explain about the pain they are suffering from is mentioned as “*Vedna-Adhyayam*”.

Kashyapa Samhita is a very ancient Ayurvedic text and its time period is considered as 6th century B.C. Diagnosing a disease truly based on the expressions of a new born child is very difficult. To deal with these difficulties, there must be some guidelines for correct identification and diagnosing of the disease. After going through many Ayurvedic texts, it was found that *Acharya Kashyapa* has explained this concept in a very simple manner in his text “*Kashyapa Samhita*”. After analysing the chapter deeply, it was found that diseases of almost all the systems of the human body are covered here like Gastro-Intestinal Tract diseases, Respiratory System, Urinary System, Infectious diseases, ENT etc.

Acharya Kashyapa has described the detailed logical explanation to diagnose those diseases which the suffering child is unable to express. Those diseases are-

1. *Shirashoola* (Headache)

If the child is suffering from *Shirashoola*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child rolls his head repeatedly
- b. Repeatedly closes his eyes
- c. Child wails too much
- d. He is unable to sleep properly.^[1]

2. *Karnavedna* (Earache)

If the child is suffering from *Karnavedna*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child touches his ears again & again
- b. Feels giddiness
- c. Becomes restless
- d. Not willing to eat &
- e. Not having proper sleep.^[2]

3. *Mukharoga* (Diseases of buccal cavity)

If the child is suffering from *Mukharoga*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child is having excessive salivation
- b. Not willing for breast feeding
- c. Suffers from excessive pain
- d. If the child drinks the milk, then also he vomits out.^[3]

4. *Kanthavedna* (Throat pain)

Due to excess feeding of *Shleshma Vardhaka* milk, the child suffers from *Vishtambha* (constipation)

Also, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. In this case also if the child drinks milk, he vomits it out.
- b. Child suffers from mild fever
- c. Child not willing to feed
- d. Child becomes fatigue mentally
- e. Having pain in throat.^[4]

5. *Adhijivika*

If the child is suffering from *Adhijivika*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child suffers from salivation
- b. Anorexia
- c. Child becomes mentally fatigue
- d. Inflammation and pain on the cheeks
- e. The mouth remains open.^[5]

6. *Gala-Graha*

If the child is suffering from *Gala-Graha*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Fever
- b. Anorxia
- c. Salivation from the mouth
- d. Difficulty in breathing
- e. Throat inflammation.^[6]

7. *Jvara* (Fever)

If the child is suffering from *Jvara*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child flexes his body repeatedly
- b. Takes yawning repeatedly
- c. Coughs frequently
- d. Suddenly clings his wet-nurse
- e. Not willing for breast feed
- f. Salivation from mouth
- g. Body becomes warm and discolor

- h. Forehead becomes hot
- i. Anorexia
- j. Feet becomes cold.^[7]

8. *Atisaara* (Loose motions)

If the child is suffering from *Atisaara*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Body becomes discolor
- b. Restlessness
- c. Dryness of mouth or face looks dull
- d. Unable to sleep properly
- e. *Vaata karma* becomes mal-functioning.^[8]

9. *Udarashoola* (Abdominal colic)

If the child is suffering from *Udarashoola*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child is not interested in breast feeding
- b. Excessive crying
- c. Sleeps in supine position
- d. Abdomen becomes rigid
- e. Feels cold
- f. Sweating on face.^[9]

10. *Chardi* (Vomiting)

If the child is suffering from *Chardi*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Frequent regurgitation without any reason
- b. Always feels sleepy & having yawning frequently.^[10]

11. *Shwash* (Dyspnea) & *Hikka* (Hiccups)

- a. Releases very hot air during breathing – *Shwash roga*
- b. Sudden air exclamation by *Krush* (weak & thin) Child – *Hikka roga*.^[11]

12. *Trishna* (Thirst)

If the child is suffering from *Trishna*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child still feels thirst even after frequent feeding
- b. Cries even after repeated feeding
- c. The palate and lips become dry and desires for water

- d. Becomes weak.^[12]

13. *Aanaaha*

If the child is suffering from *Aanaaha*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Wide open stunned eyes
- b. Pain in phalanges or interphalangeal joints
- c. Restlessness
- d. Fatigue without any physical activities
- e. Retention of urine, flatus and stool.^[13]

14. *Apasmaara* (Convulsions) and *Unmaada*

If the child is suffering from *Apasmaara* and *Unmaada*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Scream of laughing all of a sudden in case of *Apasmaara*
- b. *Pralaapa* (delirium), restlessness and mentally upset in case of *Unmaada*.^[14]

15. *Mutrakruchra* (Disurea)

If the child is suffering from *Mutrakruchra*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Horripilation and shivering along with pain during micturition.
- b. Lip biting
- c. Touches the hypogastric region with his hands.^[15]

16. *Prameha*

If the child is suffering from *Prameha*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Heaviness, inactive and stiffness in the body
- b. All of a sudden there is excretion of urine
- c. Flies sit on the child's urine
- d. The urine is white and dense.^[16]

17. *Arsha* (Hemorrhoids)

If the child is suffering from *Arsha*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Passes constipated and well-formed stool associated with blood
- b. Becomes emaciated
- c. Feeling like anus is churned, itchy and having pricking pain.^[17]

18. *Ashmari* (Stone)

If the child is suffering from *Ashmari*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Frequent urination with sand like particles in it
- b. Pain during urination
- c. Constantly crying
- d. Becomes weak.^[18]

19. *Visarpa* (Erysipelus)

If the child is suffering from *Visarpa*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Outbreak of red patches on the skin
- b. Thirst with burning sensation
- c. Fever
- d. Restlessness
- e. Sweet and cold eatables are useful in relieving the symptoms.^[19]

20. *Visuchika* (Cholera)

If the child is suffering from *Visuchika*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Burning and pricking sensation along with pain like bone breaking
- b. Difficulty in breathing
- c. Pain in the cardiac region.^[20]

21. *Alasaka*

If the child is suffering from *Alasaka* following symptoms can be seen

- a. Child is unable to keep his head erect
- b. Childs feels cutting like pain.
- c. Yawning repeatedly
- d. Child does not feed for a long time
- e. Vomitus contains knotty material
- f. Feels sad, having abdominal distension, anorexia.^[21]

22. *Chakshu roga* (Diseases of eyes)

If the child is suffering from *Chakshu Roga* following symptoms can be seen

- a. Annoyance of eyes
- b. Pricking pain, inflammation and redness in the eyes
- c. Excessive lacrimation from the eyes
- d. Sticky eyelids due to discharge from eyes while sleeping.^[22]

23. *Shushka* and *Aardra-Kandu* (Pruritis)

If the child is suffering from *Shushka-Kandu*, following symptoms can be seen-

- a. During sleep, the child cries and rubs his body.

After *Shushka-Kandu*, *Aardra Kandu* develops. In case of *Aardra-Kandu*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child feels good while rubbing that area. After rubbing, the area gets inflamed and after inflammation, discharge comes out. Due to this, there is pain and burning sensation in the region of *Aardra-Kandu*.^[23]

24. *Aama-Dosha*

If the child is suffering from *Aama-Dosha*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Child feels like his body is covered with a wet cloth.
- b. Anorexia, sleeplessness, Pale extremities, dislikes playing – eating – sleeping and wet nurse.
- c. The child who has not taken bath looks like he has already taken bath and vice versa.^[24]

25. *Paandu* (Anemia) and *Kaamla* (Jaundice)

If the child is suffering from *Paandu*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Swelling around the umbilicus
- b. Pale eyes
- c. Nails abnormalities
- d. Disturbed digestive fire
- e. Swelling around the eyes
- f. Loss of enthusiasm
- g. Desire for blood

If the child is suffering from *Kaamla*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Eyes, nails, face, feces, urine becomes yellowish in colour
- b. Loss of enthusiasm
- c. Disturbed digestive fire
- d. Desire for blood.^[25]

26. *Madaatyaya*

If the child is suffering from *Madaatyaya*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Becomes unconscious

- b. Sleep disturbance
- c. Vomiting
- d. Dislikes wet nurse
- e. Restlessness
- f. Dizziness
- g. Frightened
- h. Hyperactive
- i. Thirst.^[26]

27. *Pinas* (Coryza) and *Uroghaata*

If the child is suffering from *Pinas*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. Repeatedly inhale from mouth while feeding milk
- b. Nasal discharge
- c. Raised temperature of forehead
- d. Frequently touching the nostrils.
- e. Sneezing and coughing

If the child is suffering from *Uroghaata*, then he suffers from the symptoms said above along with rapid and hot exhalation.^[27]

28. *Jantu-dansha* (Insect bite)

If the child is suffering from *Jantu-dansha*, following symptoms can be seen –

- a. In spite of being healthy, the child does not sleep at night.
- b. Red spots are present on any part of the body.^[28]

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

After going through this chapter thoroughly it is understood that the diseases explained here affects various systems which are expressed by symptoms like derailed sleep pattern, altered feeding pattern, nature of the pain, swelling in various parts of the body etc. which helps in proper diagnosis and treatment of disease.

The sleeping pattern is disturbed in conditions like-*Karna Shool*, *Shirashoola Chardi*, *Atisaar* etc.

Swelling in different parts of the body also give the clues for the proper diagnosis of diseases like-swelling in eyes shows *Chakshu Roga*, swelling around umbilicus shows *Pandu Roga*, swelling over cheek shows *Adhijivika Roga*, etc.

Nature and the site of the pain also helps in the diagnosis of diseases like-pain on *Hridaya Pradesh* in *Visuchika*, burning type pain in *Visarpa*, pricking pain in *Arsha*, pain during micturition in *Mutrakricha*.

Feeding habits are altered in following condition like-*Karna Shool*, *Adhijivika*, *Galgrah*, *Paandu*, *Kaamala*, *Visarpa*, *Jwara* etc.

Excessive salivation is seen in the conditions like-*Mukha Roga*, *Galgraha*, *Adhijivika* etc.

So, from the above study, it can be concluded that the chapter “*Vedna-Adhyayam*” holds a great importance for the proper diagnosis of the diseases specially in new born. Also, this chapter should be co-related clinically with the patients for further knowledge.

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