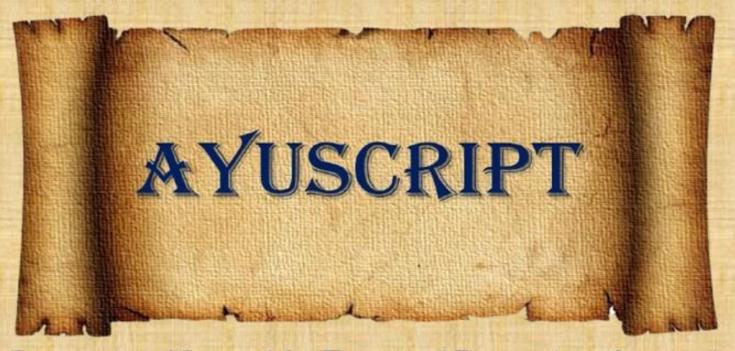
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ग्रन्तका द्वारका समक्त्य यत् "न् शाविष्यक्रमा ए माठू युर्वेद्दि र कार्निता। त्वेशे श्वारक्षेत्री एं भेव व्याध्यक्ष्या १९॥भवना जमनो ज्ञार्विता। त्वेशे श्वारक्ष्य यत् ए प्रेचिव व्याध्यक्ष्य १९॥भवना जमनो ज्ञार्विता मध्ये व्यवस्थ्य यत् । प्रेचिव ता सां भोगा य कत्य यत् । स्थाय व्यानका द्वार । स्थाय व्यावस्थ । स्था द्वार । स्था व्यावस्थ । स्था द्वार । स्था व्यावस्थ । स्था व्यावस्थ



# Role of Jambeer Pinda Sweda in Gridhrasi w.s.r. to Sciatica

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**Abstract:** In ayurveda, one of the most common diseases that affect the hip and the lower limbs is gridhrasi. Gridhrasi is one of the severe debilitating disorder amongst all the neurological disorders. The main symptoms of Gridhrasi are Ruka (pain), Toda (pricking sensation), Stambha (stiffness) and Muhuspandana (twitching) in the Sphika (Gluteal Region), Kati (Low Back), Uru (Thigh), Janu (Knee), Jangha (Calf) and Pada (Foot) respectively and Sakthikshepa Nigraha (restricted lifting of the leg). These symptoms can be compared with sciatica which is characterised by severe pain starting from low back region and radiating down towards the foot. Though many conventional treatments are available but in view of their side effects and dependency it is important to search for safe and effective ayurvedic treatments. Ayurveda treats it by snehan, swedana, shodhana, and shaman chikitsa which are simple, safe and cost effective. The prevalence of sciatica symptoms increasing, Sciatica is more common among the age group between 30-50 years of age. Pinda sweda is a type of sankar sweda explained in the ayurvedic classics, is more effective for the shaman of vitiated vata dosha in the above condition. Drugs used in jambeer pinda sweda has vata kaphahara, shothahara, shulaghana action. This paper is review of clinical application of Jambeer pinda Sweda and its efficacy in Gridrasi.

**Keywords -** Gridhrasi, Sciatica, Pinda sweda

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Introduction Sciatica is a condition where the pain radiates from the lower back down to the leg. This pain may go down the back, laterally, or anteriorly of the leg. It may affect unilateral or bilateral leg. Pain is severe in nature which affect patient physically as well as psychologically. According to acharya Charaka, gridharsi is one of the Vataja nanatmaja vikara<sup>1</sup>. Gridhrasi has been discussed in ayurveda by diffrent Acharyas under the heading of Vatavyadhi. 'Sphikpurva katiprushto - rujanu janghapadam kramat

# Grudhrasi stambhatodaihi grunhati spandate muhuhu' | ch. Chi 28/56

Gridhrasi **Symptoms** of is Spikapurva i.e.pain starts at hip and radiates to Kati(waist), Prushta(back), Uru (thigh), Jaanu (knee joint), Janga (calf muscle), Paada(foot) along with pain there is other complaints like Stamba (stiffness), Toda(pricking type pain), Ruka(pain), Muhurspandana(tingling sensation), and if there is association of Vatakaphadosha then symptoms like Tandra(lethargy), Gourava(heaviness) Arochaka and (anorexia) will be present.

The symptoms of Gridhrasi will closely resemble Sciatica and treatmet modalities told are basti, agnikarma, and siravedha<sup>3</sup>. As there is a major role of vata dosha, in ayurveda snehan and swedan are used as purvakarma of panchakarma as well

as pradhankarma to treat various vatavyadhis. Snehan and swedan karma plays the important role in vatashamana. Jambeer Pinda sweda being one among the Swedana Karma (Sankar sweda) is a well known treatment for many Vatavyadhis including Gridhrasi<sup>4</sup>.

## **AIM AND OBJECTIVE**

- 1. To study the role of Jambeer pinda sweda in gridhrasi w.s.r. to sciatica.
- 2. To study the Jambeer Pinda sweda in detail.
- 3. To study the Gridhrasi as per ayurveda texts.

### MATERIAL AND METHOD

The study of different ayurvedic and modern literature has been done to fulfil the objective of the study. References regarding Jambeer pinda sweda collected from various textbooks, previous work done, published research papers and detailed description regarding the types of sweda and its probable mode of action has been explained in the present study.

Nidana Abhighata (Trauma on lumbosacral spine), Atishrama (excessive exertion), Vishamacheshta (postural defects), Bharavahana (overloading), Aticheshta (abrupt unbalanced Langhana (starvation), movements), continuous jerky movements, sedentary lifestyle as well as psychological factors like Chinta, Shoka etc<sup>5</sup>.

**Purvarupa** In classics, the description regarding the Purvarupa of Gridhrasi is not available. Acharya Charaka opines that, in general the vague symptoms, or else any few symptoms of the respective Vatavyadhi in its minimal severity, that too in their initial stage are the Purvarupa. This nature of the Purvarupa is described as Avyakta Lakshana..Avyakta Lakshanas are Purvarupa of Vata Vyadhi (Ch. Chi. 28/19)<sup>6</sup>.

Rupa According Charakacharya to Gridrasi is Vataja Nanatmaja Vyadhi, it is of two types i.e Vataj and Vatakaphaja. The common lakshanas are pain starts from Sphika and then radiates towards Pada along with Stambha (stiffness), Toda (pricking pain), Spandana (twitching), and Nigraha<sup>7</sup> Sakthiutkshepa causes (restricted movements of lifting the leg); Whereas in Vatakaphaja type of Gridhrasi additionally Arochaka (anorexia), Tandra and Gaurava (heaviness) are found<sup>8</sup>.

Samprapti For the disease Gridhrasi, the detailed samprapti has not been mentioned in Ayurvedic classics. It is based on the Pratyaksha Lakshana found in the patients. Since Gridhrasi is a vatavyadhi, the general samprapti of vatavyadhi along with specific description available are considered here for the explanation of samprapti. Gridhrasi is Shoolapradhana vata vyadhi and Shoola cannot be produced without involvement of

Vata Dosha. Vyana vayu and Apana vayu are especially vitiated. Gati (Prasarana, Akunchana, Utkshepana etc.) are the functions of Prakrita Vyana Vata. The hamperd Sakthi Utkshepa Karma indicates Vyana Dusti. Causes and Adhishthana of Gridhrasi resemble to Adhishthana and cause of Apana Dusti, hence Apana vitiation is prominent.

Gridhrasi is Vata prominent and Kapha Anubandhi Vyadhi, but independently kaphadosha cannot produce Gridhrasi. Acharya Sushruta mentioned that, in Gridhrasi, the vitiated Dosha affects the Kandara (ligaments) and thus, the manifestation. According to acharya Charaka Kandaras (ligaments) are the Upadhatu of Raktadhatu. and Kandara (ligaments) may also be taken as Sthula Snayu according to Chakrapani. Snayu is Mulsthana of Mamsa as well as updhatu of Meda. Hence, Rakta, Mamsa and Meda are taken as Dushya in the Gridhrasi. As Gridhrasi Nadi (sciatic nerve) is involved, so Majjadhatu may naturally also be involved. On the basis of Ashraya Ashrayi Bhava, with the vitiation of Vata and above mentioned Dushyas, their Strotas are also known to be involved. So, Rasawaha, Raktawaha. Mamsawaha, Medowaha, Asthiwaha and Majjawaha Strotas may be involved in this Vyadhi. The main Udbhavsthana of this Vyadhi is

Pakwashaya because it is Nanatmaja Vatavyadhi. In the case of Vata Kaphaja Gridhrasi, amashaya may also be considered as an Udbhaysthana<sup>9</sup>.

Hetu sevan



Vataprakopa



Increased Rukshata and Kharata in Kati



Sthanasamshraya at Kati region



Shula (pain) in Kati, Prustra, Uru, Jaanu, Jangha and Paada



Gridhrasi

### Samprapti Ghataka

Dosha - Vata (especially Vyana) and  $Kapha^{10}$ 

Dushya - Rasa, Rakta, Mamsa, Meda, Asthi, Majja ,Sira, Kandara, Snayu

Ama - Jathragnijanya and Dhatwagnijanya

Agni- Jatharagni and Dhatwagni

Strotas- Rasavaha, Raktavaha, Mamsavaha, Medovaha, Asthivaha, Majjavaha

Strotodusti prakara- Strotosanga, Margavarodha

Rogamarga- Madyama

Udbhavasthana- Pakwashaya

Vyaktsthana- Sphik, Kati, Prusta, Uru, Jaanu, Jangha, Paada

Rogaswabhava - Chirakari

Sadhyasadyata - Yapya

Chikitsa Siddhant: While treating any disease, the first and foremost principle to followed is to avoid nidanas  $(Su.U.1/25)^{11}$ . For Gridhrasi, all the vataprakopaka hetus including external factors such as excessive walking, riding etc. should be avoided. Gridhrasi, being a vatavyadhi, the general line of treatment of vatavyadhies can applied to it.Acharya Charaka has advised dravyas having madhur, amla, lavana, snigdha, ushna properties and upakramas like snehana, swedana, asthapana and anuvasana basti, nasya, abhyanga, utsadana, parisheka etc (Ch. Su. 20/13)<sup>12</sup>. Snehanapurvak swedana is indicated in nirama vatavyadhies while only swedana is indicated samavatavyadhies. Nadi, prastara, sankara etc. are the various types of sweda (Ch.Chi.28/78). Swedana liquifies the doshas and expands the srotasas, helping the doshas to travel towards their own sthana. Swedana activates agni, creates

komalata, ruchi, clears srotasas, diminishes tandra (Su. Chi. 33/22) Snehanapurvak swedana relieves the symptoms such as harsha, toda, ruk, shotha, stambha, graha etc. It produces mruduta in the body. Charak says that proper snehan and swedana can make even dry wood flexible (Ch.Chi. 28/79-81)<sup>13</sup>. In Gridhrasi stambha, ruka, toda etc. are the main symptoms. Snehana and swedana by virtue of their vatashamak and dhatuposhak properties are useful in relieving the symptoms. Here ekanga sweda i.e. on the affected side only can be done. For Gridhrasi, Siravyadhana should be performed over the vein located between Khandara and Gulpha along with Basti and Agnikarma<sup>14</sup>. Difference between Chikitsa of Vataja and Vatakaphaja Gridhrasi.

Role of Samshodhana chikitsa in Gridhrasi

Acha	Acha	Acha	Acha	Acha
rya	rya	rya	rya	rya
Char	Sushr	Vagb	Vang	Yoga
aka	uta	hata	asena	ratna
(Ch.	(Su.C	(	(vata	kara
Chi.2	hi	A.H.S	vyad	(Y.R.
8/	5/23)	u.27/	hi	25/68
101)		<b>17</b> )	adhik	<b>-71</b> )
			ara	
			574-	
			<b>75</b> )	
Sirav	Sirav	Sirav	Dipan	Siarav
yadha	yadha	yadha	a	yadha
			Paach	
			ana	

Basti	-	-	Swed	Agnik
Karm			ana	arma
a			Mard	
			ana	
Agnik	-	-	Basti	-
arma			Upan	
			aha	
	-	-	Vama	-
			na,	
			Virec	
			hana,	
			Agnik	
			arma	

# Jambeer Pinda Sweda<sup>15</sup>

This is type of Sweda where Swedan is done by Potali containing Sliced Lemon and other ingredients.

According to different types of classifications, Jambeer pinda Sweda may be put under following groups:

- Agni bheda Sagni Sweda
- Sthana bheda Ekanga as well as Sarvanga Sweda
- Guna bheda Snigdha Sweda
- Roga and Rogi bala Madyama
  Sweda
- Charakokta Sankaradi bheda -Sankara Sweda (i.e.Snigdha Sankara Sweda)
- Vagbhatokta Tapadi bheda Ushma Sweda
- Samshamana and
  Samshodhanangabhoota bheda Samshamaniya Sweda

# Procedure of Jambeer pinda Sweda:

# Materials required<sup>16</sup>

- 1. Jambeer (chopped into pieces) 750gms
- 2. Lashuna kalka- 60gms
- 3. Methika churna 60gms
- 4. Haridra churna 60gms
- 5. Shatapushpa churna -250gms
- 6. Cotton cloth 4 (45 cm X 45cm)
- 7. Threads QS
- 8. Vessels (For heating) 2
- 9. Oil: Suitable oil
- For frying 100ml (Mahanarayan Tail)
- For heating Pottalis 200ml (Mahanarayan Tail)
- For Abhyanga 100ml (Mahanarayan Tail)
- For Talam 10ml (Ksheerbala Tail)
- 10. Rasnadi Choorna 5 to 8g
- 11. Soft Towels 2
- 12. Attendant 2

Different medicinal powders can be added, if necessary. Medicines used for Jambeer Pinda Sweda are-





Drugs of Jambeer Pinda Sweda

### **Preparation of Pottali**

The fresh Lemon should be washed in water and chopped into small pieces. The sliced lemon and other ingredients should be mixed thoroughly and fried together in 100 ml of appropriate oil till brown colour appears. Then divide it into four equal parts and made into Pottalis accordingly.





Preparation of Pottali

### Procedure of Jambeer pinda Sweda:

### Poorva Karma

The patient should be seated with legs extended over the Droni (a specific table) facing to the East and abhyanga should be performed with prescribed medicated oil all over the body for about 10

minutes. Talam with suitable oil (10ml) / Choorna should be applied (Talam is a procedure of retaining medicines over the center of the head to protect body from temperature variations during the main treatment which is done before doing almost all Ayurvedic procedures).

## Pradhana Karma

The prepared Pottalis should be heated with suitable oil by keeping on the hot iron pan. These pottalis are applied to the patients after checking the temperature throughout the body with mild pressure in seven prescribed positions by two attendants standing on both sides of the Droni. These pottalis are applied to the patient as per the general procedure for about 30-45 minutes. Care should be taken to maintain the temperature throughout the procedure by reheating the Pottalis.

# Pashchata Karma

After the procedure, wipe off the body using clean dry towel and is covered with thin blanket for 10-15 minutes. Remove Talam and apply Rasnadi Choorna (5-8 gm). The patient should be advised to take complete rest for half an hour to one hour depending on disease and then take hot water bath.

**Duration:** 30-45 minutes

**Precautions** While preparing the medicines care should be taken to prevent

charring and also while reheating the Pottalis.

- Tie the pottalis firmly to avoid leaking of the contents during the procedure.
- Every time the attendant should ensure the temperature of the Pottali by placing it over their own dorsum of hand. Also enquire the patient whether the temperature is bearable.
- If the patient feels any discomfort at any time during the treatment, the therapy should be stopped.
- Ideal time to perform the procedure is between 7-11 am and 3-6 pm.

# **Complications:**

### **Burns and fainting:**

If burns or fainting occurs, stop the Jambeer pinda sweda and Agnidagdha Chikitsa has to be done.

# Mode of action of Jambeer Pinda Sweda in Gridhrasi:

The drugs used in Jambeer Pinda Sweda are having gunas like Ushnatwa and Snigdhatwa so it does Strotoshuddhi and Amapachana. Jambeer pinda sweda relieves stiffness by acting as Stambhaghna, Gauravaghna and also relieve heaviness in the body through sweating. The contents used are Sheetaghna by their Ushna quality and Swedakaraka as they promote sweating through which impurities of the body comes out.

Swedana increases the metabolic rate in the body. Ushna Guna of Sweda causes vasodilatation, thus it increases blood circulation. Swedana enhances the elimination of waste products and more absorption of Sneha or drugs through the twacha(skin), as in Jambeer Pinda Sweda we use Vata-Kaphahara drugs when they are absorbed into the body they does their action along with Swedana. Also it stimulates muscles and nerves, which promotes renovation of muscles and nerves<sup>17</sup>.

# The probable mode of action of Jambeer pinda sweda in Gridhrasi can be explained under following headings:

### Thermal effect

According to Kligman, diffusion through the skin is a temperature dependent process, so raising the skin temperature will enhance the transdermal delivery of various drugs by increasing skin permeability, body fluid circulation, blood vessel wall permeability, drug solubility. External heating will dilate the penetration pathways in the skin, increases kinetic energy and movement of particles in the treated area and facilitate drug absorption.

Heat is having indirect effect on-

- ➤ Muscle tissue Increases the temperature of muscle tissues
- ➤ Muscle relaxation

Increased activity of Sweat glands -Reflex stimulation of Sweat glands resulting from effect of heat on the sensory nerve endings.

### **Procedural effect**

Procedure is exceedingly beneficial to the skin as it works directly on the lymphatic system. This system is supplementary to the blood vascular system and offers an alternative route for the return of tissue fluid to the blood stream. By stimulating lymphatic flow and generating heat through friction (rubbing) and

application of the oils, massage cleanses and vitalizes the body without causing the build-up of toxins. Thus procedure quickens the circulation of blood and lymph and dislodges the toxins and increases the vitality of the tissues.

# **Drug effect**

The drugs used for the Jambeer Pinda Sweda are having Vatahara and Kaphahara property and all the drugs used here have Ushna Veerya, Snigdha, Sukshma Guna. Thus the drugs act on the Vata directly.

Drug	Latin name	Ras	Guna	Veerya	Vipak	Doshakarma	Karma
Jambeer	Citrus acida	Amla	Laghu	Anushn	Madhur	Pitta-vata↓	Dipana
			Ruksha				Pachana
			Tikshna				shulaghna
Saindhav	-	Madhur	Snigdha	Sheeta	-	Tridosha↓	Vataghna
a			Tikshna				shulaghna
			Ushna				
Turmeric	Curcuma	Tikta	Laghu	Ushna	Katu	Kapha-pitta↓	Shothaghn
	longa	Madhur	Ruksha				vishaghna
Rasna	-	Tikta	Guru	Ushna	Katu	Vata-kapha↓	Pachana
							Shothagna
							shulaghna
Shata-	Anethum	Katu	Laghu	Ushna	Katu	Kapha-vata↓	Dipana
Pushpa	sowa		Ruksha				shulaghna
			Tikshna				
Methika	Trigonella	Katu	Laghu	Ushna	Katu	Vata-kapha↓	Vataghna
	fenu		Snigdha				Dipana
	graecum						

Shunthi	Zingibar	Katu	Laghu	Ushna	Madhur	Kapha-vata↓	Shulaghna
	officinale		Snigdha				
Lashuna	Allium	Panchar	Snigdha	Ushna	Katu	Kapha-vata↓	Shulaghna
	sativum	asa	Tikshna				Dipana
		(except	Guru				Vrushya
		Amla)	Sara				

**DISCUSSION:** The main and direct reference available on the mode of action of Bahirparimarjana is from Sushruta Samhita  $(Su.Sha.9/9)^{18}$ and Charaka Samhita (Ch.Su.11)<sup>19</sup>. Charkacharya says that the therapy which by external contact through abhyanga (massage), Sweda (fomentation), pradeha (pasting), parisheka (sprinkling), unmardana (pressing) etc. removes disorders. It explains that "The branch of body's peripheral conduction network with their portals in the skin is concerned with perspiration, perception of cutaneous pleasure and pain sensations, as well as circulation of tissue fluid. Conduction of the activity or potency of the therapeutic regimen or agent into the body, after conversion (transduction) in the skin, also forms their attribute".

Swedana is a karma where stimulating the body temperature by contact with the external heat source, there by producing Sweda. The Ushna Guna of Swedana Karma stimulates the sympathetic nervous system and produces

vasodilatation. It also increases the circulation of Rasa and Rakta dhatu in the body. Due to Swedana karma, the Leena Dosha are liquefied and come out through micropores over the skin, resulting in more excretion of liquefied vitiated Dosha from body.

# Action of Jambeer pinda Sweda on specific symptoms of Gridrasi:

## Effect on Ruka-

Ruka i.e. pain is due to Vatavridhi. Once Vata vitiation is corrected Ruka will be reduced. As the drugs used are having Ushnavirya, Vatakaphahara, Vedanasthapaka and Shothahara property helps in reducing the pain. Also by increasing temperature locally to the muscle, improves blood circulation and helps to reduce pain.

## Effect on Stambha-

Stambha is the result of Kapha or Ama. The drugs used in Jambeer Pind sweda are having Ushna, Tikshna and Sukshma

Gunas which helps to reduce Kapha and Ama and hence reduces stambha.

### **Effect on Toda-**

During procedure the drugs used in general relieve muscle spasm and thus relieves pressure on the nerves, then blood supply to the nerves is improved and thus relieves pain.

### Effect on Spandana-

Spandana or pulsating pain occurs as a result of Vataprakopa. Due to Swedana karma, Vataprakopa is reduced by Snigdha and Ushna Guna of Dravyas used, leading to reduction in Spandana.

### Effect on Arochaka-

Increased body temperature increases sympathetic activities, releasing hormones like epinephrine, norepinephrine, cortisol and thyroid hormones. It accelerates metabolic rate and stimulates process of lipolysis, thereby increasing demand of oxygen and increased output of wastes i.e. digestion of Ama leading to Agni Dipana.

## **Effect on Gourava-**

Gourava is due to Aapa and Prithvi Mahabhoota. During procedure, Aapa Mahabhoota is coming out as perspiration leading to reduction in Gourava and brings Laghava in the body.

### **CONCLUSION**

Gridhrasi is one of the Nanatmaja Vata Vyadhi, intervening with the functional ability of Kati (lower back) and Pada (lower limbs). In Gridhrasi, onset of Ruka, Toda and Stambha is initially in Kati and radiates distal to Prushtha, Janu, Jangha till Pada. This is the unique feature of the Gridhrasi. Snehana, Swedana and Mrudu Sodhana are the Principles of Chikitsa in all Vatavyadhi. Agnikarma and Siravyadha are mentioned among the lines of treatment, as Snayu and Kandara involved are as Dushya. Shamanoushadhis are also mentioned by many Acharyas, along with this an added advantage will be achieved if Snehana and Swedana are done which relieves Stambha, Gaurava, Sheetata and Ruka. According to Charaka Samhita, Sankara Sweda is one among 13 types of Sagni Sweda A prepared pottali of fresh drugs is heated to lukewarm and applied over the painful parts. It is an ideal treatment for application of heat to specific part of body. Due to direct contact of heat the penetration is deeper and hence effectively reduces pain, swelling and stiffness. This is unique and effective method of managing severe pain in Gridhrasi i.e. Sciatica.

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