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Anatomical Study of Mutravaha Srotas in Modern View

1. Dr. Nitu Kumari, 3rd Year, M.D.Scholar, Dept. of *Rachana Sahrir*, G.A.C.H, Patna
2. Dr. Vikas Mishra, 2nd Year, M.D.Scholar, Dept. of *Rachana Sahrir*, G.A.C.H, Patna
3. Dr. Priyanka, Assistant Professor, Dept. of *Rachana Sahrir*, G.A.C.H, Patna
4. Prof.(Dr). Shyam Sundar Gupta, Professor & H.O.D, Dept. of *Rachana Sahrir*, G.A.C.H, Patna

***Corresponding Author: Dr. Nitu Kumari**

Email Id: serviceheb@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

In *Ayurveda*, the *Srotas* is called as circulation of channels, the *doshas*, the seven *dhatu*s, the *oja* etc. move the one part of the body to another via these channels called *srotas*. The *srotas* or channels in the body act like transporting blood, absorbing nutrients and expelling waste products from the body. As we know *srotas* is most important point, as it is recognized as the structural and functional unit of the body. In our *Ayurvedic* classics many *Acharyas* mentioned many *srotas* like *Pranvaha*, *Raktavaha*, *Udakvaha*, *Mansvaha*, *Medovaha*, *Anavaha*, *Asthivaha*, *Majjavaha*, *Shukravaha*, etc. in this row *Mutravaha Srotas* is one of the most important and functional *srotas*, this *Mutravaha Srotas* is also a very controversial topic. In *Ayurvedic* classics *Acharya Charaka* said *Moolstana* of *Mutravaha Srotas* considered *Basti* and *Vankshana*, while *Acharya Sushrut* considered *Moolstana* of *Mutravaha Srotas* *Basti* and *Medra*. Hence *Mutravaha Srotas* is one of the most important *srotas* of our body and dysfunction may lead to problem, so here we must have to study to understand its anatomical concept of *Mutravaha Srotas* and its clinical anatomy.

KEYWORDS: *Srotas*, *Dhatu*s, *Basti*, *Vankshana*, *Medra*, Anatomy etc

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INTRODUCTION

In *Ayurvedic* classics, proclaim “*Srotomya hi Purusham*” living body is a channel system and/or it is comprised of innumerable channels which are designed as inner transport system of divergent function, gross and subtle, biological and energetic. Ordinarily the word *srotas* is used as a generic term indicating all the macro and micro channels and pathways operating in the living organism.

Acharya Charka has defined it as “*Sravnata Srotamsi*” means the structure through which *sravan* takes place. *Chakrapani* has explained that *Sravnata* means *sravan* of *rasadi dhatus, poshya*. The *Srotas* means channels in which some tissues are formed, some material is metabolized, secreted or transported.

Ancient *Acharayas* have described *Mutravaha Srotas* in many aspects which include the embryology, etymology, anatomy, physiology etc. of urinary system.

However, *Mutravaha srotas* is quite controversial point to study, many *Acharayas* said about this in classics such as:-

Acharayas Sushrut contained two *Moolstana* of *Mutravaha srotas* -*Basti* (urinary bladder) and *Medra* (urethra).

Acharayas Charaka contained two *Moolstana* of *Mutravaha srotas* – *Basti* (urinary bladder) and *Vankshana* (lumbosacral region).

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Anatomical Consideration of *Mutravaha srotas* in present perspective.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Anatomical review: - In the classics description of following anatomical structures are given relations to the *Mutravaha srotas*.

BASTI

Basti is an organ act as a reservoir of urine, is situated in the lower part of *Nabhi*. *Acharaya Sushruta* and *Charaka* both mentioned it a *Moolstana* of *Mutravaha srotas*. *Basti* is also called *Mootraashya*, *Mootradhara*, *Mootra basti*, *Mootraputa*. This is “*Alabu*” shaped and is fixed all side by *snayus* and *siras*.

Embryological development: - During fetal life *basti* is derived from the maternal contribution. (*Matrajbhav*).

Position of Basti: - *Acharaya Sushrut*, this is surrounded by *Nabhi*, *Prishta*, *Kati*, *Mushka*, *Guda*, *Vankshana*, and *Shepha*.

According to Anatomy: - Apex of the urinary bladder related to umbilicus by the median umbilicus ligament, the upper part of the base separated from the rectum by the retrovesical pouch and lower part is related to terminal part of the vasa deference.

VRIKKA [Kidney]

It is derived from the root “*Vrikkadhan*” means to take. *Vrikka* are two in numbers and are situated in lumber region in either sides in the posterior abdominal wall in “*koshta*”.

Embryological Development: - *Vrikka* is also developed by the maternal contribution derived from the essence of “*Rakta*” and “*Meda*”.

GAVINI (Ureter)

The ureter is one of the two uterine tubed that carries urine from the kidney to the bladder. Each ureter is about 10-12 inches long. Urine flows down part by gravity, but mainly by waves of contractions which passes several times per minutes through the muscles layers of urethral wall.

MUTRAPRASEK

This is signifying the urethra, mainly its penile part. This is also called *Mutraputak*, *Mutramarga*, *Mutra srotas*. It is outlet of *Basti*, which are two *angula* in females and 12 *angula* in males. In males, it carries *Mutra* and *Shukra*, while in females it only carries *Mutra*.

According to modern: - Ureter is the vessels through which urine passes after leaving in bladder. During urination, the smooth muscles lining the urethra relaxes in concert with bladder contraction to forcefully expel the urine in a pressurized stream.

MUTRAVAHA NAADI

As states by *Acharya Sushruta* *Mutravaha Naadi* are situated in between the *Amashaya*, *Pakwashaya* and *Basti*. These *Naadi* have thousands of minutes’ openings which are very small in visualize. These function is *Mutra nishyandan* (urine filtration). Continuously drain urine in *Basti* and keep it moist or filled with urine in the same manner, as river drain water into ocean.

MUTRAVAHA DHAMNI

These are basically in three types, total 30 in numbers. *Adhogami*, depending upon the direction of their course, these are 10 in numbers. *Adhogami Dhamni* transport *Vata*, *Mutra*, the *Mutra Basti* are termed as *Mutravaha Dhamni*. Its function said to be *Dhamna* and *Yaapna* of *Mutra* in *Basti*.

MUTRAVAHA SIRI

The description of this especially available in *Ashtang Hridaya*, where these are regarded as minute channels carrying of *mutra* in *Basti*. These *Siras* are opening in the lateral side of the *Basti* and filled the *Basti* with *Mutra* continuously by the process of *Nishyandan*.

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSSION

In few words, it can be summarized by the *Mutravaha srotas* is one of the most important system of human. As per *Acharaya*, the detailed knowledge of normal human body is helpful to understand the factor influencing health and therefore such knowledge is widely appreciated by experts. It is impossible to do surgeries and to treat disease effectively without the deep knowledge or *Sharir Rachna*. Here the *Ayurvedic* literature revealed that the ancient science was fully developed but by the time it is fade up due to lack of researches and references.

Here we can conclude that as our classics or *Acharayas* said in literature was so authentic that time, but as time passes we must re-modulate this, we will more able to understand that times concept more signifingly.

From this whole study, we can understand that: -

- *Acharaya Charaka* stated that the *Moolsthanas* of *Mutravaha srotas* are *Basti* and *Vankshana*.
- In present era “*Basti* “is more relevant to “*Urinary Bladder*”
- “*Vankshana*” is relevant to “*Lumbosacral region*.”
- “*Vankshana*” is also related to “*Vrikka*” but in context of *Vrikka* with *Gavini*, whole urinary system is more appropriate to consider as “*Vankshana*.”
- *Acharaya Sushruta* mentioned *Mutravaha srotas Moolsthanas* are *Basti* (Urinary Bladder) and *Medra* (*mutrendriya*).

Therefore, we can corelated *Medra* with male and female urethra. This is more significant to say that *Medra* is Penial part of urethra in male, which takes part to excrete out *Mutra* and ejaculate *Shukra*. While in female it is corelated with Urethral part which takes part to excretes out *Mutra* only.

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