



CONCEPTUAL REVIEW ON *KARNINI YONIVYAPADA* W.S.R TO CERVICAL EROSION

Dr. Shivani¹, Prof. (Dr) Madhavi Goswami²

¹Ph.D Scholar- PG Dept of Rachana Sharir, Rhishikul Campus,

Uttarakhand Ayurved University.

²Former registrar (UAU) M.D.(ayu.), Ph.D(ayu), PG Dept. of Rachana Sharir,

Rhishikul Campus , Uttarakhand Ayurved University.

ABSTRACT:

God has blessed the women with most valuable gift of motherhood. A healthy woman can make healthy family and ultimately maker of healthy nation. Cervical erosion is one of the most commonest condition seen in present era. It is defined as the development of red velvety area on the portio vaginalis around the external os. All the *Ayurvedic samhita* have given the number of *Yonivyapad* as twenty. '*Karnini yonivyapad*' is one among of them. According to *acharya charak*, due to straining during labour in the absence of labour pains, the *Vayu* obstructed by fetus, with holding *Kapha* and getting mixed with *Rakta* produces '*Karnika*' in *yonis*, which obstructs the passage of *Rakta (Raja)*. Due to presence of *Karnika* this condition is known as '*Karnini*'. In this article *Ayurvedic* review of '*Karnini Yonivyapad*' has been correlated as 'Cervical erosion' with its anatomical aspect.

KEYWORD: *Karnini Yonivyapad*, Cervical erosion, *Vayu*, *Kapha*, *Rakta*.

INTRODUCTION:

Karnini is one of the 20 *Yonivyapada* mentioned in *Ayurveda* classics. It was first explained as a *Yonivyapada* by *Acharya Sushruta* in *Sushruta Samhita Uttartantra* 38th chapter '*Yonivyapada Pratishedha Adhyaya*'. *Acharya Sushruta* explains the pathogenesis of this disease in a different manner he describes that vitiated *Kapha* along with *Rakta* produces *Karnika* in the *yonis*. *Acharya Indu*, says that due to premature ejaculation of fluid brought about by untimely straining leads to vitiation of *Vata*, aggravated *Vata* with holding *Kapha* and *Rakta* produces '*Karnika*' on '*Garbhashaya dwara mukha*' which obstructs the passage of *Raja*.

Etymology of *Karnini*:

The word '*Karnini*' is derived from '*Karnin*' which refers to 'having ear' or 'relating to ear', 'barbed' or 'furnished with knots' etc. The disease got its name due to development of '*Karnika*' on *Garbhashaya dwara mukha*. *Karnika* means 'round protuberance', 'pericarp of lotus', small brush' and 'tip of an elephant's trunk. On the basis of etymology of disease i.e. '*Karnini*' or its clinical features i.e. development of '*Karnika*' on *Garbhashaya dwaramukh*, it appears to be a muscular structure covered with small sprouts or knots, growing over cervix.

Cervical Erosion:

Karnini yonivyapada can be compared with cervical erosion. Cervix becomes somewhat hypertrophied, congested and covered with small red projection resembling sprouts, this erosion is often associated with nabothian cysts which are small pea sized smooth nodular structures, thus due to presence of small sprouts the cervix assumes the shape of barbed wire or small brush and when associated with nabothian cysts then assumes to the pericarp of lotus.

Acharya Charaka mentioned in *Chikitsa sthana*- *Yonivyapada* not occurs without *Vata*. It means all the factors which causes vitiation of *Vata* are directly or indirectly are causative factor for *Yonivyapada*. Also describe *Samanya nidana* of *Yonivyapada*- Abnormal dietics and abnormal mode of life abnormal *Artava* abnormalities of *Bija* (sperm and ovum) and *Daiva* are the factor leading to various *Yonivyapada*. *Acharya Sushruta* correlating the above view has added that excessive coitus done by a woman having *Suksha* body or else a weak woman or at an early age with a man having big sized penis is also responsible for Various *Yonivyapada* by means of causing vitiation of *Vata*.

Vishishta Nidana- Acharya Charaka and Vagabhata have mentioned the specific Nidana-Akalavahmanaya or 'Akalevahna' responsible for Karnini yoniyapada.

So we can summarize etiological factor for *Karnini yonivyapada- Mithyachara, Pradushta artava, Bija dosha, Daiva.*

Symptoms due to vitiated *Kapha*:

1. *Pandu Varna*
2. *Pichhila Yoni* means excessive mucoid discharge per vagina
3. *Kandu Yukta* i.e. Pruritis Vulvae
4. *Shitala Yoni* means wetness of vagina

Symptoms due to vitiation of *Vata*:

1. Backache
2. Pain in lower abdomen
3. *Aayas* i.e. sickness feeling

Signs:

1. Slight anaemia.
2. Internal examination (Per speculum) –
 - a) Bright red area surrounds and extend upto external os in the ectocervix.
 - b) It is not tender unless complicated by infection.
 - c) With chronic cervicitis, the cervix feels fibrosed, bulky with nabothian follicles around the area of erosion.
 - d) Mucoid discharge may be seen emanating through the os and around the erosion.
 - e) It generally does not bleed on touch. On rubbing, there may be multiple pinpoint oozing spots.
 - f) The feel is granular giving rise to a grating sensation when stroked with the tip of finger.

Symptoms:

The following symptoms are present-

1. Vaginal discharge
2. Contact bleeding
3. Low backache
4. Pelvic pain
5. Deep dyspareunia
6. Infertility
7. Chronic ill health and metastatic infection – arthritis, muscular pains.
8. Frequency of micturition and dysuria perhaps due to spread of infection around the bladder wall.
9. Pruritis
10. Psychological upsets due to persistent vaginal discharge.

Pathological causes (In relation with anatomical structure) –

1. Hormonal:

- Sex hormonal hyperplasia – physiological conditions.
- Oral contraceptive hyperplasia - taking of oestrogen – progesterone oral contraceptives result in gross proliferation of columnar epithelium of cervix.

2. Infection:

- The initial infection, operating directly or by altering the vaginal pH and bathing the cervix in irritant discharge destroys the squamous epithelium around the external os. At the same time it stimulates over activity of the endocervical epithelium which grows down and out to cover the raw area. It is ruled out by the fact that whenever an area of portio vaginalis is deliberately denuded, it is the squamous and not the columnar epithelium which grows in to cover it. Indeed, this is the basis of treating an ectopy (erosion) by destroying the columnar epithelium with a cautery, diathermy, cryotherapy or laser. Cervical erosion may render the cervix more susceptible to infection with N. gonorrhoea, trachomatis, HPV or HIV92, because the columnar

epithelium has less power of resistance to infection than the normal stratified squamous covering.

Herburt proposed infection theory divided into two parts:

- A. Predisposing causes-** It includes factors responsible for breaking down the normal barriers of infection via changes in the anatomical structure of the cervix, out flow of alkaline mucous, glycogen, menstrual flow, variations of hormones. Of these most imprints is change in the anatomical structure, which is mainly brought by trauma, excessive coitus, instrumental contraceptives (Cu.T, Loops), local chemicals, unhygienic irritants as douches, creams, jelly etc
- B. Precipitating factors-** Bacterial infections mainly bacteria are Gonococci, Streptococci and Staphylococci work as precipitating factors.

3. Environmental:

Changes in the pH of vagina brought about by vaginitis, douching and chemical contraceptive can cause an ectopy..

4. Dietetic habits: It is also being held responsible for cervical metaplasia.

5. Socioeconomic factors: In a clinical study, a statistically significant association was found between lower socioeconomic status, marriage at early age and occurrence of cervical erosion.

• Congenital erosion:

Found in at least one-third, some say all female babies at birth possibly because of exposure of maternal oestrogen in utero. Towards the end of intrauterine life, columnar epithelium grows down from the cervical canal and in one third of all new born female children extent to some degree over the vaginal portion of the cervix. This condition persists for a few days until the level of oestrogen derived from the mother falls, and the congenital erosion heals spontaneously.

• Acquired erosion :

a. Simple flat type:

When squamocolumnar junction moves out wards, the columnar epithelium of endocervix continued on ectocervix and it ultimately replaces the squamous

epithelium in single layer then it is called simple or flat type. During early stage of established cervicitis, pus and mucus are discharged from the cervical canal. The discharge is alkaline and tends to cause maceration of the squamous epithelium. As a result of (i) loosening by the underlying inflammation and (ii) constant bathing of the epithelium by irritating discharge - desquamation and shedding put of the epithelium around the external os occurs. In the process of healing, columnar epithelium from the cervical canal grows over and covers the denuded area, so that macroscopically the red area is covered by smooth glistening translucent epithelium. The affected area around the external os is simple flat erosion.

b. Papillary erosion:

When replacement of squamous epithelium by columnar epithelium occurs and columnar epithelium some time proliferated and heaped up to form villous projections and forms papillary erosion. Hyperplasia of endocervical epithelium has been postulated to cause the papillary type of cervical erosion. Due to proliferation of the columnar epithelium, it gets folded and forms papillary projections on a granulation tissue base in chronic cervicitis

c. Follicular Erosion:

When replacement of squamous epithelium by columnar epithelium occurs and columnar epithelium arranged in hyperplastic manner and forming fold inwards this type of erosion known as follicular erosion.

Microscopic structure of erosion:

Histological picture may show-

- 1) In follicular type, the surface is covered with stratified squamous epithelium with underlying retention cysts.
- 2) Erosion area around the external os on the portio vaginalis shows the covering of columnar epithelium with the formation of new glands.
- 3) Beneath the epithelium the tissue often show round cell infiltration and glandular proliferation. Some assumes that these signs are indicative of chronic infection which

precedes and causes the erosion. The columnar epithelium having less power of resistance to infection than the normal stratified squamous covering.

4) In follicular stage, the histological picture may be mistaken for carcinoma.

DISCUSSION:

Now days, it has been estimated that almost 80% of women of reproductive age group are suffering from cervical erosion. The cervical erosion may confused with Ectropian, Early carcinoma, Primary sore / Syphilitic ulcer & Tubercular ulcer. The erosion (*karnika*) on cervix, which may be slightly raised above the level of squamous epithelium of vaginal portion of the cervix and granular in appearance. In *Ayurvedic* & modern science, the description present about *karnini yonivyapada* and cervical erosion having much similarity.

CONCLUSION:

It can be concluded that the *vyadhi Karnini yonivyapad* described in ancient *Ayurvedic* classics considered as cervical erosion, it may be helpful for better assessment of disease & treatment also.

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