

**SHUKRA BEEJA KSHEENATA IN REFERENCE TO
OLIGOSPERMIA- A LITERARY REVIEW**

S. K. Tripathi¹ and A. K. Pandey*²

¹Professor, PG Dept. of Kaya Chikitsa, Rishikul Campus, UAU, Haridwar (UK) Pin-249401,
India.

²Associate Professor, PG Dept. of Shalaky Tantra, Gurukul Campus, UAU, Haridwar, UK.
Pin-249404, India.

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***Corresponding Author**

A. K. Pandey

Associate Professor, PG
Dept. of Shalaky Tantra,
Gurukul Campus, UAU,
Haridwar, UK. Pin-249404,
India.

ABSTRACT

To continue the world reproduction is necessary for all animals. For reproduction in human being the availability of sperm and ova is necessary. Although there is requirement of one sperm to fertilize the ovum but the normal counting of sperm in semen required to reach the sperm to ovum for fertilization is 120 to 450 million per ml . If the number is less than 20 million per ml then it is termed as oligospermia. In Ayurveda the subject of reproduction is widely dispersed. In Ayurvedic treatises as Sharirasthan of Charaka, Sushruta, Ashtanga Sangraha, Ashtanga Hridaya, Kashyapa and Bhavaprakasha the anatomy and physiology of reproductive organ and reproduction is available at various places. After reading all the literature we can

understand that the Acharyas have well known knowledge about the semen, sperm and their function. But there is no proper word available for oligospermia in Ayurvedic literature. The word 'Shukra', the word 'Beeja' and the word 'Ksheenata' are available in different references. The aim of current topic is to search a proper word for oligospermia.

KEYWORDS: Shukra, Beeja, Ksheenata, oligospermia and Ayurveda.

INTRODUCTION

It is determining by nature for an animal to reproduce maximum to raise their population. Old literature of all religion praised the person who has many children. In modern world the increasing population is a big problem. Increasing health facility and social awareness all over the world make the earth much safe for the human being. In modern era it is not good to

have many children. Acharya Charak (Charaka Samhita Chikitsasthana 2/1/22) gives the importance to meritorious progeny. Acharya have told a lot of rules to get meritorious progeny. Apart from this the absence of progeny for a couple is a social abuse since old time. It is the desire of every couple to have a meritorious progeny.

In creation of a foetus there are many reasons by which a couple does not get the issue. Both male and female partner are equally responsible for absence of a progeny. In male partner less number of sperms is the main cause of infertility. In modern science it is termed as oligospermia.

Literary review: Atharvaveda 5/25/8 indicates that a male have the Shukra and for foetus he deliver that in vagina of female. Manusmriti 9/18 indicates that the “Beeja” is important for creation of foetus and it is kept by male. Charaka Chikitsasthana 15/15 ‘*Shukrad garbh prajayate*’ and in Charaka Sharirashana 4/15 ‘*Shukra shonita jiva samyoge tu khalukukshigate garbha sangya bhawati*’ clearly indicates that in origin of a foetus the Shukra is the most important. In Charaka Chikitsasthana 2/23 there is description of male ‘Beeja’ (sperm) and female ‘Beeja’ (ova). Charaka at the same place indicates the symptoms of recently conceived female and told that the receiving the ‘Beeja’ in uterus is the sign of *sadhyograhita garbha* (recently conceived female). Charaka Sharirasthana 2/29 said that due to defect in ‘Beeja’ the foetus gets abnormalities. Charaka Sharirasthana 2/30 says ‘*yasya yasya avayavasya Beejae Beejabhage va doshaprakopmapadhyante tam tamavayavamvikrutiravisati*’ means when the specific part of ‘Beeja’ or the specific part of ‘Beejabhag’ gets the defect then the concerned part of foetus shows the specific deformity. Charaka Sharirasthana 3/17 says that the ‘Beeja’ and ‘Beejabhag’ decides the formation of an organ. If the defect which does not affect the ‘Beeja’ or ‘Beejabhag’ then there is no appearance of any deformity. There is the example given that if a pair who have deformity in their hand or leg and the ‘Beeja’ is not affected then gets the normal progeny. In Charaka Vimanasthana 8/109 there is description of ‘Shukrasara” person and sign is having number of children. The ‘Shukra’ is responsible for a progeny. In Charaka Chikitsasthana 30/135-139 the etiology of ‘Shukra’ related problems are described. The important causes of having less number child is dushti (deformity) in Shukravah shrotas(male sex organ), not taking proper nutrition, cutting of Beejavahi Shrotas (vasa differentia) Shukrakshaya and old age. These etiologies cause the Kleevata (impotence) and Shukra Avisarga (loss of sexual ejaculates).

In Charaka Sharirasthana 2/18-21 said that impotence is due to 4 causes 1. Beejopaghata (problem in sperm) 2. Dhvajopaghata (loss of erection) 3. Jarajanya (old age) 4. Shukrakshayajanya (semen related problems).

In Charaka Chikitsasthana 30/139-140 said the Doshas of Shukra 1. Tanu(liquefaction) 2. Fenil(reaction) 3. Ruksha (viscosity) 4. Vivarna (color) 5. Puti(pus cell) 6. Pichchhila (coagulation time) 7. Anyadhatupsansrishtam(RBC) 8. Avashadi(loss in volume, sperm count, morphology and motility).

In Sushruta Sutrasthana 15/7 it is said that Shukra containing the 'Beeja'. In Sushruta Sharirasthana 2/35 said that 'Beeja' is necessary for conception. In Sushruta Sharirasthana 2/3 it is said that the Shukra containing different deformities are not able to produce progeny. Here one of the deformity is 'Ksheenata'(nonformation) and it creates the infertility. In Sushruta Sutrasthana 1/16 the definition of 'Vajikarana' says that '*vajikaran tantram nam alpa dushta ksheen vishushk retasam apyayanprasadopchayajanan nimittam praharshjananartham cha.*' Means Ksheenata(decrease) of Shukra is a problem and it is corrected by upachaya(formation). Acharya Vagbhatta told that Shukra is the seventh dhatu and necessary for conception.

DISCUSSION

Shukra Beeja Ksheenata is not described in the Ayurvedic texts. But in different references of Ayurvedic texts told about the word Shukra Beeja and Ksheenata. As per above illustration it is clear that Shukra word is used for semen and its quality is important for conception. The eight deformity sign of Shukra (fenil, tanu, ruksha, vivarna, puti, pichchhila, Anyadhatupasamsristam, avasadi) is the very clearly investigated in modern pathology. Beeja is an important part of Shukra that denotes to sperm. Its absence create the Klaivyata (impotence), and infertility which leads to absence of progeny. The part of Beeja or Beejabhagh indicates the knowledge of DNA. Any deformity of DNA leads to deformity in child. The part of Beejabhagh(DNA) affected that leads to deformity in that part/organ of child. So the part of body which is necessary for fertilization is no doubt Beeja which is the part of Shukra. So we can call the sperm as Shukra Beeja. The Ksheenata (nonformation) of Shukra is one of the causes of infertility and the Ksheenata of Shukra also indicates the Ksheenata of different part of Shukra. The Shukra have the Beeja (sperm), So the Ksheenata of Shukra also indicates the Ksheenata(deficiency) of Beeja(sperm).

CONCLUSION

We can say that the oligospermia (deficiency of sperm) is called as the ShukraBeejaKsheenata in the Ayurveda. The ShukraBeejaKsheenata(oligospermia) and its Etiology, sign and symptom, investigations are well defined and properly illustrated in Ayurvedic texts.

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