

## A PILOT STUDY ON NEIKURI PATTERN IN CARCINOMA PATIENTS

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Article Received on  
29 April 2018,  
Revised on 19 May 2018,  
Accepted on 09 June 2018  
DOI: 10.20959/wjpr201812-12678

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### ABSTRACT

The methodology of diagnosis in Siddha system is based on eight fold examination such as pulse reading, examination by palpitation, examination of tongue, observation of skin complexion, speech, eyes, observation and examination of stools and urine. Of all these parameters Urine examination is one of the important tools mentioned in saint Theraiyar. Neikuri is a diagnostic tool under urine examination using Sesame oil. It is cost effective and non-invasive method which can be used as diagnosing tool to assess the prognosis. This study aims to validate the Neikuri pattern on the patients who were diagnosed as carcinoma. For the purpose of the study, 40 urine samples of cancer

patients were collected and the oil drop test was conducted using the guidelines mentioned by saint theriyar. Among 40 patients kabam neikuri was predominant in 25 patients and vatham neikuri was predominant in remaining 15 patients. Kabam indicates severity of disease.

**KEYWORDS:** Neikuri, Carcinoma, theraiyar, Kabam.

### INTRODUCTION

Siddha system has a unique diagnostic method to identify the diseases and their causes. For the diagnosis of diseases, the primary importance is given for physical examination of five sense organs of the patient viz., Nose, Tongue, Eyes, Ear and Skin to reveal the five senses such as Smell, Taste, Vision, Sound and Touch respectively. Like general examination in modern system, in Siddha system eight tools diagnostic are narrated by the Saint *Theraiyar*.

The eight diagnostics tools are the examination of 1. *Naa* (Tongue) includes taste sensation and Saliva, 2. *Niram* (Complexion of body), 3. *Mozhi* (Vocal sounds), 4. *Vizhi* (Eyes), 5. *Malam* (Stool), 6. *Moothiram* (Urine), 7. *Naadi* (Pulse), 8. *Sparisam* (Temperature and texture). The examination of the stools and urine has a great significance in diagnosis.<sup>[1]</sup> The urine examination is classified into *Neerkuri* and *Neikuri*. *Neerkuri* follows the general observation includes *Niram* (Colour), *Nirai* (Density), *Naatram* (Odour), *Nurai* (Froth) and *Enjal* (Volume decrease - outflow of urine). *Neikuri* denotes the urine examination by dropping the oil on urine and observe the pattern of oil spread. Saint Theraiyar who lived 350 years ago has worked out a detailed procedure of urine examination, which includes study of its color, smell, density, quantity and oil drop spreading pattern. *Neikuri* can be used to diagnose and ascertain the good and bad prognosis of various diseases. To validate the *Neikuri*, this study has been carried out in the cancer patients.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Neikuri

Sterile plastic urine container for urine collection, Round large mouthed glass bowl (Diameter – 5 inches, Depth – 1.5 inches), Dropper, Urine of patients and gingili oil (Sesame seeds oil).

### Selection of Patients

A total number of 40 diagnosed patients of cancer were randomly selected for this study with the help of inclusion and exclusion criteria.

### Criteria for Inclusion

- 18 to 70years
- Both gender
- Cancer confirmed by histopathology or immunochemistry reports.

### Study Place

Special Cancer Outpatient Department, Ayothidass Pandithar Hospital, National Institute of Siddha, Tambaram Sanatorium, Chennai-47.

### Study Period

- 12 months
- Screening and selection initiated on – Jan 2017

- Completion of study –July 2017

IEC.NO: NIS/IEC/10/2016-2017-17/8-20.05.2016

CTRI REGISTRATION NO: CTRI 2017/4/008350

### Collection of urine sample

A 50 ml of collected urine from each patient was transferred into a glass bowl and kept on a flat surface without disturbing for 5 minutes in order to settle down. After 5 minutes, a drop of Sesame oil was dropped at the center over the surface of urine in the glass bowl using dropper at the distance of 1 mm height from the urine surface without disturbing the surface. The pattern of oil spread was keenly observed under sunlight at 0 and 5 min after oil drop over the surface of urine. The observations were recorded diagrammatically and inferences were noted.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The procedure of spreading pattern of oil on urine and the interpretation of the outcomes are clearly mentioned by Agathiyar and Theraiyar in the literature of Siddha and it is discussed below.

- **Vatha pattern** - Oil drop takes the shape of a snake, it indicates the body is *Vatha* humor.
- **Pitha pattern**- spreads like a ring it indicates *Pitha*
- **Kapha pattern**- Oil drop stands like a pearl it indicates *Kapha* humor. These spread patterns indicates normal physiological state.

**Combined pattern** - There is a combined shape like a ring in a snake or snake in the ring, snake and a pearl or a pearl in the ring, it indicates combined derangement of humors.

If the oil drop takes the shape of a sieve, it suggests **Kapha diseases** and requires immediate treatment.

**Vathapitha** - Oil drop spreads like the tip of a grass, it indicates derangement of *Vatha* associated with *Pitha*.

**Kapha vatha** - Spreads like wood, it suggests *Kapha* derangement associated with *Vatha*.

**Pitha kapham**- Oil drop in the urine is found one half on the surface of urine and the other half sinking in it, it indicates the derangement of *Pitham* and *Kapham*.

**Three thodam-** If the oil drop sinks in the urine and if all features of the three humors are seen together in the urine, it suggests derangement of all three humors.

**Sannivatham-** Oil drop sinks in red coloured urine, it indicates the state of delirium (*Sannivatham*) and suggests terminal illness.

**Good prognosis-** Oil drop in the urine is round in shape and spreads gradually, it indicates good prognosis.

If the oil drop takes the shape of any one of the following such as Conch, Throne, Umbrella, *Yazh* (A string instrument), Lotus flower, Jasmine bud, Earth, *Veena*, Square shaped house, Leaf of Bitter gourd, Bee, Throne and Ritual fire, Fish, Temple, Temple Corridors, Shape of hill, Tree, Tusk, Cap and Mirror, it suggests good prognosis.

**Bad prognosis-** If the oil drop spreads fast or becomes small like mustard or gets mixed completely with urine or sinks in urine, it suggests bad prognosis. Further, if the oil drop takes the shape of any one of the following such as Sword, Arrow, Iron pestle, three headed Spear, Sickle, Pot and Betel leaf and creeper, it also indicates bad prognosis.

Also if the oil drop takes the shape of Lion, Elephant, Tiger, Ram, Pig, Obese man, Man with one, three or four legs, Tortoise, Bird, Fox, Monkey, Ass, Cat, Mouse, Crab, Hen, Horse, Bull and Scorpion, it indicates bad prognosis.

**Cure is slow and with some difficulty(Thamatha sathiyam)-** If the oil drop takes the shape of a Drum, Flag, Pot, Pig, Jungle beast and Potter's wheel, the cure is slow and with some difficulty.

If the oil drop takes the shape of a sieve, it suggests **Kapha diseases** and requires immediate treatment.

**Vathapitha** If the oil drop spreads like the tip of a grass, it indicates derangement of *Vatha* associated with *Pitha*.

**Kapha vatha** If it spreads like wood, it suggests *Kapha* derangement associated with *Vatha*.

**Pitha kapham-** If the oil drop in the urine is found one half on the surface of urine and the other half sinking in it, it indicates the derangement of *Pitham* and *Kapham*.

**Sannivatham** If the oil drop sinks in red coloured urine, it indicates the state of delirium (*Sannivatham*) and suggests terminal illness.

Fast spreading of an oil drop on the surface of the urine collected early in the morning after sound overnight sleep suggests very good prognosis and if it spread slowly, it indicates slow prognosis and if it standstill, it indicates bad prognosis.

**Table 1: Neikuri of patients diagnosed as Cancer.**

S.No	OPD NO/lab reg no	Age/sex	Diagnosis	Neikuri		Impression*
1	I27879/4239	63/M	Kuralvalai putru	Slowly spread	Dumble shaped	Kv
2	I08843/8915	51/F	Vai putru	Slowly spread	Star shaped	Vp
3	I62273/4913	50/M	Kural valai putru	Fastly spread	Round	Vk
4	H22480/9217	58/F	Karuppi kalunthu putru	Fastly spread	Salladai kan	K
5	B47554/10626	62/F	Malakudal putru	No spread	Pearl shaped	K
6	G91125/6411	62/M	Vai putru	Fastly spread	Full spread with salladai kan	Vp
7	I47710/5357	69/M	Prosthakola putru	Slowly spread	Spindle	Kv
8	I57407/6317	50/F	Nagirputru	Slowly spread	Deer head	Kp
9	I55535/10262	63/F	Kanaya putru	Slowly spread	Spindle	K
10	I61169/6934	58/M	Enbu putru	No spread	Pearl	Vk
11	I6267/14001	45/F	Marbaga putru	No spread	Star	K
12	I05832/9216	62/M	Neerpai putru	No spread	Pearl shaped	Kv
13	I55533/10317	49/M	Nakku putru	Slowly spread	Fish shaped with centre**	Vv
14	H22482/7130	70/F	Marbaga putru	Speedly spread	Fully spread	Kp
15	H13061/7014	58/M	Pupusa putru	Slowly spread	Round	Kp
16	G98741/4211	70/F	Marbagaputru	Slowly spread	Irregular round	Kv
17	I58235/6394	62/F	Marbaga putru	Slowly spread	Irregular	Kv
18	I52838/11532	68/F	Mala Kudal putru (CA colon)	No spread	Pearl	K
19	I00583/9634	46/M	Melanna putru	Slowly spread	Bird shaped	Kp
20	J17081/9413	44/F	Marbaga putru	Slowly spread	Yoga Dhanda	Vk
21	I53239/4257	58/F	Thol putru	Fastly spread	Bird	Vp
22	H25753/6004	58/F	Marbaga putru	Fastly spread	Round	Vp
23	I87525/8017	65/M	Pupusa putru	Speedly spread	Bird	Kv
24	I40646/7142	65/M	Kaluthu putru (cervical lymphoma)	Slowly spread	Snake patern	Vv
25	I88997/11613	59/M	Nina neer kola putru] Non hodgkins lymphoma	Fastly spread	Fan shaped	Kv
26	I83168/11307	66/M	Mala Kudal putru	Fastly spread	Tortoise	Vp
27	I87592/11510	48/F	Marbaga putru	Speed spread	Star	Vp
28	I86304/5862	58/M	Kural valai putru	Fastly spread	Star	K
29	I51851/11150	70/F	Vai putru	Very slowly spread	Small round	Vk
30	I26931/9101	60/M	Kural valai putru	Fastly spread	Spindle	K
31	E20750/6953	70/F	Karupai putru	Slowly spread	Pearl	Vk
32	I94019/8017	63/M	Neerpai putru	Fastly spread	Round	Kp
33	C50649/8257	69/F	Nagir putru	Slowly spread	Tree	Kp
34	G95778/7314	70/M	Kural valai putru	Slowly spread	Egg shaped	K
35	I94011/5301	65/m	Neerpaiputru	Fastly spread	Salladai kan	Vk
36	I80391/6001	63/F	Marbaga putru	Slowly spread	Kaipidi vadivam	Kp
37	I93025/4190	62/F	Karuppai putru	Very slowly spread	Irregular(whole)	Kp
38	H34509/2158	66/F	Veedhana kola putru (secondary spread lung)	Slowly spread	Round shape	K
39	I23549/8017	69/F	Marbaga putru	No spread	Pearl shape	K
40	I38580/9941	50/F	Marbaga putru	Slowly spread	Round to oval	Kp

\* K-Kabam-10, KP-Kabapitham-8, KV-Kabavatham-7, VP-Vathapitham-7, VK-Vathakabam-7, V-Vatham-2.

**Observation:** Out of 40 cases kabam found in 10 cases, kabapitham found in 8 cases, kabavatham found in 7 cases, vathapitham found in 7 cases, vathakabam found in 7 cases, vatham patternen of neikuri found in 2 cases.


**Inference:** In majority cases kabam is predominant.

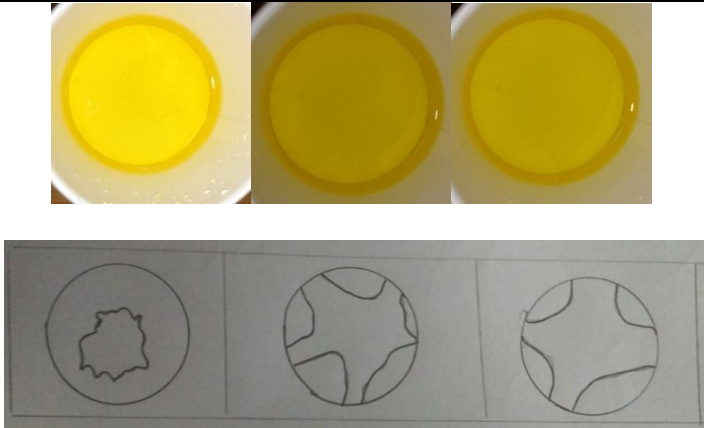
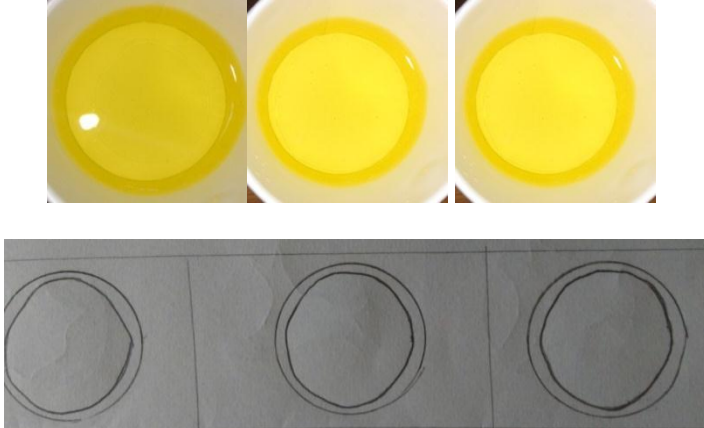
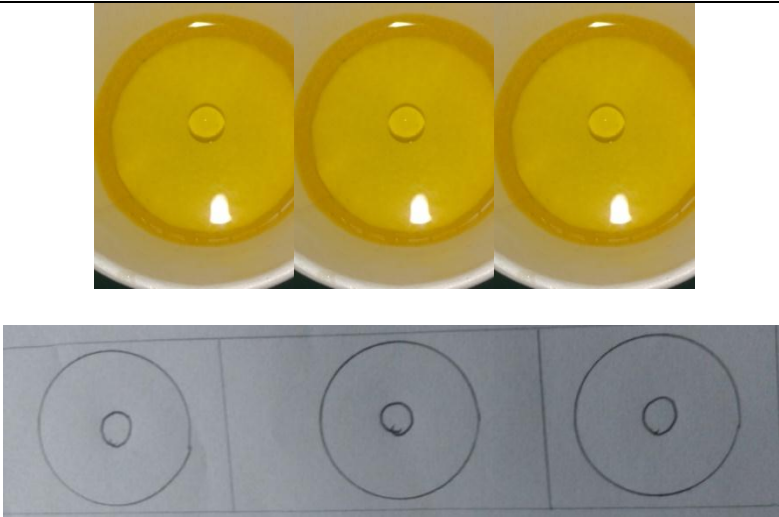
**Table 2: Breast Cancer Patients.**

S.No	Opd No/Lab Reg No	Gender/Age	Neikuri
1	I6267/14001	45/F	K
2	H22482/7130	70/F	KP
3	G98741/4211	70/F	KV
4	I58235/6394	62/F	VK
5	J17081/9413	44/F	VP
6	H25753/6004	58/F	VP
7	I87592/11510	48/F	VP
8	I80391/6001	63/F	KV
9	C50649/8257	69/F	K
10	I38580/9941	50/F	KP
11	I57407/6317	50/F	KV
12	C50649/8257	69/F	KV

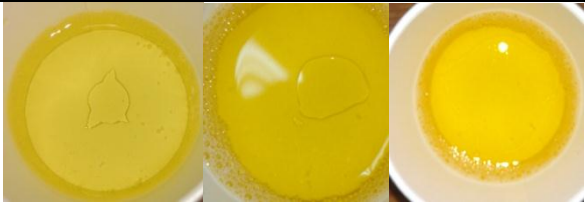
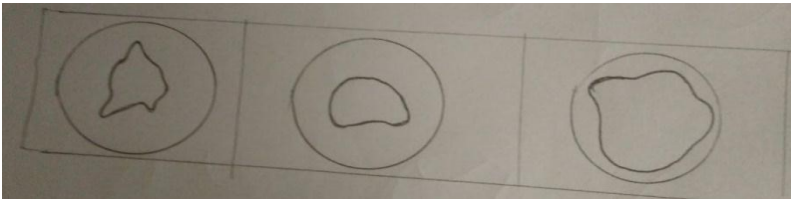

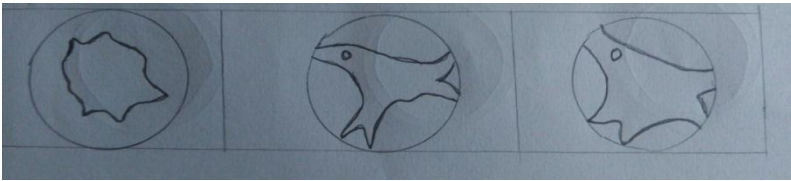
**Observation:** Out of 40 cases 12 patients were breast cancer patients. Among these cases kabavatham found in 4 cases, vathapitham found in 3 cases, kaba pitham found in 2 cases, vathakabam found in 1 case, kabam was found in 1 case.

**Inference:** In breast cancer patient kabha vatham was predominant.

I55533/10317	49/M	Nakku putru (CA tongue)	Vv	 <p>Very speed spread with irregular margin</p>
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<p>I08843/8915</p>	<p>51/F</p>	<p>Vai putru (squamous cell carcinoma)</p>	<p>Vp</p>	 <p>On the surface of urine, oil drop spreads with irregular margin</p>
<p>I62273/4913</p>	<p>50/M</p>	<p>Kural valai putru (CA larynx)</p>	<p>vk</p>	 <p>Speed spread with round shape</p>
<p>I52838/11532</p>	<p>68/F</p>	<p>Mala Kudal putru (CA colon)</p>	<p>K</p>	 <p>On the surface of urine, oil drop stays as pearl shape</p>



I27879/4239	63/M	Kuralvalai putru	kv	 
I57407/6317	50/F	Nagirputru	kp	  <p>On the surface of urine, oil drop stays as pearl then spreads like amoeba or demon shape</p>

## CONCLUSION

Among 40 patients kabam neikuri was predominant in 25 patients and vatham neikuri was predominant in remaining 15 patients. Kabam indicates the severity of the disease.

Among 40 patients 12 patients were diagnosed with breast cancer and fall in the agegroup of 40-60 years (4 cases), where vatham neikuri was predominant. The patients in the age of above 60 years (8 cases), their neikuri was found to be kabam predominant. It is learnt that in breast cancer patients Kabam neikuri showed the predominance.

From this inference it is learnt that, in neikuri (one of the eight siddha diagnostic tool) KABAM NEIKURI showed the predominance in the cancer patients.

Previous research work [Ref; reg. no 321415201] in the study of Naadi, (one of the eight siddha diagnostic tool). In 120 cancer patients at NIS also revealed that elevated kabha naadi was the predominant naadi.



We conclude that in neikuri KABAM NEIKURI showed the predominance in all types of cancer patients specifically in breast cancer patients. From this inference it is learnt that the siddha treatment should be designed in such a way to neutralize the kabha kuttram to treat cancer patients.

Future studies will be carried out in different types of cancer patients with larger sample size.

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