ETIOPATHOGENESIS OF TAMAKA SHWASA: A LITERARY REVIEW

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ABSTRACT
Tamaka Shwasa (Bronchial asthma) is considered as Pranavaha Srotodusti janya vikara. Dyspnoea is a predominant symptom in Tamaka Shwasa. In its early onset it is easy to treat but in later stages it attains the yapya or asadhyya (incurable) stage. The prevalence rate of Bronchial Asthma is increasing rapidly due to raised environmental pollution by vehicles and industries. This environmental interaction is leading to many respiratory disorders among which one of the major distressing disease is Bronchial asthma, which has been described as Tamaka Shwasa in Ayurveda. Dhooma (smoke), dhuli (dust), vata etc. are the main causative factors of Tamaka Shwasa according to acharya charaka.

KEYWORDS: Tamaka Shwasa, Bronchial Asthma, Pranavaha Srotasa, dhooma, dhuli, Environmental pollution.

INTRODUCTION
According to Ayurveda Shwasa Roga is of five types. Tamaka Shwasa is one of the subtypes of Shwasa Roga. Tamaka Shwasa is predominant in kapha & vata dosha and it arises from the seat of pitta.[¹] It is characterised by swaskrichata, kasa, peenas etc. with the feeling of entering in darkness by the patient.

Nidana (Etiological factors)
Etiological factors can be categorised as follows;[²]

1) Aharaja Nidana
2) Viharaja Nidana
3) Nidanarthakara Roga

1) Aharaja Nidana
a) Vata Prakopakaka
Rakshanna (chana, moonga, peas, toast etc.), visamasana (Irregular meal), sitasana (cold food), sita ambu (cold water), vistambhi bhojana.

b) Kapha Prakopaka
Nispa Masa (Black gram), pinyaka (oil cake), til tail (sesumam oil), pista (flour preprations), shaluka (tubers), Jalaja & Anupa mansa (aquatic & marshy meat), Guru Bhojana (heavy diet), Auma Khira (unboiled milk), Dahi (curd), Abhisyandi anna (channel blocking regimens)

2) Viharaja Nidana
Raja (dust) Dhuma (smoke), Vata (wind), sheetsthan sevana (residing in cold place), vyayama (excessive indulgence in sex) Atyapatarpuna (malnutrition), Marmanghata (trauma over vital organs), Yamana Virechana atiyoga (excessive purification)

3. Nidanarthakara Roga
Aamprodosa, Anaha,Atisara, Jwara, Pratishaya, Ukrakshata, Dhatukshaya, Raktapitta, udavarta, Visuchika, Alasa, Pandu, Daurbalya etc disease may cause Tamaka Shwasa.

Purvarupa
In Ayurveda samhitas, Purvarupa of Tamaka shwasa are not described separately, so the purvarupa of shwasa roga may be considered as the purvarupa of Tamaka Shwasa which are as follows;[³]

- Hridayapeeda
- Parshvashula
- Anaha
- Pranavaya Vilomata

Rupa
Following symptoms are seen in Tamaka shwasa:[⁴]

1) Peenasa (Rhinitis)
2) Greeva Shir Sangraha (Stiffness of head neck)
3) Ghurghurakan (wheezing sound)
4) Tivra Vega Shwasa (tachypnoea)
5) Pratamyati Vega (Deterioration of consciousness)
6) Kasa (cough)
7) Pramohama Kasamanashcha (while coughing becomes unconscious frequently)
8) Shleshmanya Muchyamane bhrisham bhavit dukhitah (Until the expectoration of provoked kapha patient remains in agony and finds temporary relief).
9) *Na Nidra labhate shayan shwaspeeditah* (in lying posture dyspnea is aggravated & patient can’t sleep).
10) *Aseeo labhate Soukhyam* (Feels comfort to breath in sitting position).
11) *Saukhayam Ushnam* (Likes hot things).
12) *Ucharitaksho* (Eyes appears elevated)
13) *Lalata Sweda* (perspiration on the forehead)
14) *Vishushkasya* (Dryness of mouth)

**Bhed (Types) of Tamaka Shwas**

There are two types of Tamaka Shwasa

1) **Pratamaka**- When Tamaka shwasa is associated with *Jwar* (Fever) and *Murcha* (unconsciousness) it is known as Pratamaka Shwasa.

2) **Santamaka**- It is caused by udavarta dust ingestion, humidity and suppression of natural urges; aggravates severely in darkness and subsides by cold items. It is said as Santamaka because the patient feels as if sinking in darkness.

**Samprapti (Pathogenesis)**

Due to obstruction in Pranavaha srotas (Respiratory passage), Prakupita Vata travels pratiloma (opposite direction) in the respiratory channels and causes stiffness in head and neck, it aggravates cough and results in peenas and dyspnoea causing Tamaka Shwasa.

**Samprapti Chakra**

Vata Kapha Vardhaka Nidan Sevana

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Vata kapha dusti

↓

Pranavaha Srotodusti

↓

Srotoavrodha due to kapha

↓

Results in vata prakopa

↓

Pratiloma gati of vata and stiffness of neck and head

↓

Samudheerna of kapha resulting in peenas

↓

Obstructed vata produces tivra vega shwas with ghurghurukam shabda

↓

Tamaka shwasa

**Samprati Ghataka**

*Dosha - Kapha, Vata*  
*Dushya - Rasa*  
*Adhisthana - Pitta Sthan (Amashaya)*  
*Srotasa- Pranavaha Srotas*  
*Srotodusti – Sanga evum vimarga gaman*  
*Swabhava - chirkari*  
*Sadhyasadyata - Krichcha sadhya*

**Sadhyasadhata (Prognosis)**

Tamaka Shwasa is generally yapya i.e. palliable, but it is curable in its early stages.

**Pathyapathy(Do’s & Don’t**

A) **Pathya**

*Ahara* - Sali rice kulattha, yava Godhuma, patola shaka, bala mulaka shaka, pakva kapithham, matulungam, Ajadugdham, Ajaghrutam, ushnodaka, Madya, Jangal mansa, Mansa rasa garlic, honey, draksha nididhika.

*Viharaja* - Ushna jala, swedana, abhyanga, medicated dhoomapana, virechana, vanama karma, diwasvapna.

B) **Apathya**

*Ahara* - Nispava masha pinyaka, anupa mansa, til taila, guru bhojan, dahi, sheeta ambu(cold water), sitasana (cold food), matasya (fish), kanda, raksha annapan.

*Viharaja* - Exposure to dust, smoke and wind residing in cold place, vyayama (exercise), excessive indulgence in sexual activities, raktamokshan.
CONCLUSION

Tamaka Shwas is a vatakaphaja vyadhi which originates from the pitta sthan & manifests in pranavaha srotasa (respiratory channels). This article aims at the literary review of etiopathogenesis of tamaka shwasa (Bronchial Asthma).

Nidan Panchaka is very beneficial for complete understanding of a particular disease, so that it can either prevented or managed easily in early stages of diseases. Nidan Parivarajan is said as first line of treatment as per ayurveda Hence the main causative factors of Tamaka Shwasa such as Dhuma (smoke), Raja (dust), sheet bhojana (cold items) etc should be avoided, so that the disease can be cured easily with less efforts.

Now a days pollution has reached to its extent and this is resulting to various dreadful respiratory disease among which one is Tamaka Shwasa. By the proper knowledge of Nidana we can see that environmental pollution is one of the major cause of Tamaka Shwasa. So while moving out in such a polluted areas we should use proper masks to avoid the entry of certain smoke and dust, as it is quiet well said that prevention is better than cure, which is also prayojan of Ayurveda.

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