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Case Study

MANAGEMENT OF ANOVULATION THROUGH AYURVEDIC APPROACH

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ABSTRACT

Anovulation refers to the absence of ovulation, a process where a mature ovum is released from the ovary. It can be caused by various factors, including hormonal imbalances, stress, and certain medical conditions. Difficulty in conceiving can be a sign of anovulation, as it prevents the release of an egg for fertilization. Anovulatory factor is an important cause in infertility among women about 40% of cases. Ovulation induction is a rescuer in such patients. Infertility can have a significant impact on people's lives, affecting their mental health, relationships, and finances. Infertility can cause emotional distress, anxiety, depression, and grief. Infertile people may also experience a loss of control over their lives and feel a sense of hopelessness. According to Ayurveda, *Vandhyatva* is a *Vata Dosha Pradhana Vyadi* and Ovulation is under the control of *Vata* especially *Apana Vata*. In this case report a patient age of 24 years came to our opd suffered from infertility from 5 years. After taking her detailed history involvement of *Vata* and *Agnimandhya* noticed. The line of treatment in this case followed by *Pippalyadi churna* for *Aampachan, Anuvasan basti* of *Lahshun* oil for *Vatanuloman* and *Strotoshuddhikaran*.

INTRODUCTION

Infertility is defined as no pregnancy with unprotected intercourse for 1 year. [1] Bandhyatva (infertility) is an independent disease also in Ayurveda. Bandhyatva is included in twenty Yoni Vyapada in Sushruta Samhita. Acharya Charaka referred Bandhyatva due to abnormality of Beejamsa and Vaghbhatta also consider the same. Pushpaghni Jataharini [2] is mentioned by Kashyap in which female having regular cycle but ovulation does not occur, so it is fruitless. First time Bandhyatva has classified in detail by Acharya Harita.

As per Ayurveda, important factors for of *Garbha* are 4. That are 1. *Ritu 2. Kshetra 3. Ambu and 4. Beeja*^[3]. Also abnormality of properly functioning *Vayu* and *Shatbhavas*, any one of causes *Vandhyatva* (infertility). Ayurvedic treatments help not only

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strengthening the reproductive system but it also improve the local cellular immunity.

Case Report

A 24 years old female Muslim patient, homemaker visited the OPD of Madanmohan Malviya Government Ayurveda College, Department of Prasuti Tantra and Streeroga on 13th June 2024, with complaints of inability to conceive after 5 years of marriage with associated complaints of irregular menstruation with scanty bleeding with length of the cycle of 28 to 30 days. Detailed history revealed that she had scanty menses since menarche.

Clinical findings

Menstrual History

Age of menarche: 10 years

Patient said that her duration of menstrual cycle was of 5 days with regular interval of 28 days to 30 days, amount of bleeding is scanty.

Obstetric history

G1P0A1L0

A1-March 2021, POG 2 weeks, spontaneous abortion.

Family history

No relevant family history.

Past surgical history

There was not significant history found.

Personal history

Appetite: Slight diminished

Sleep: Normal Micturition: Normal

Bowel: Constipation: on/off

General examinations

Built- Normal, Weight -74kg, Height - 155 cm, BMI-30.8 Pulse rate- 80/min, B.P- 110/70mm of Hg, Respiration rate - 18/min, and Temp. -98.6°F.

Per abdomen- It was soft, non-tender and no organomegaly was detected.

Pelvic examination:

Per speculum: Cervix is healthy, vaginal wall were normal in color and texture, wall were moist with normal vaginal discharge.

Per Vaginal: Fornix- Non tender, CMT- not present,

Uterus was normal in size and shape.

Physical examination Ashtavidhapariksha

Nadi– Vat-pittaj

Mutra – Samyak mutrapravriti

Mala– Nirama Jihwa- Nirama Shabda– Samyak Sparsha- Samanya Drika– Samanya

Aakriti– Sthool Dashvidhapariksha

Prakriti (nature)- Vatakafaj

Sara (purest body tissue) - Mamsasar Samhanana (body compact) - Madhyam Pramana (body proportion)- Madhyam Satmya (homologation) -Sarvaras Satva (mental strength) - Madhyam

Vaya (age)- Yuvavastha

Vyayamshakti (to carry on physical activities)– *Avara* (least capability)

Aharashakti- (food intake and digestive power)
Madhyam

Iaranashakti - Madhyam

Systemic Examination

CVS: Heart sounds (S1S2): Normal

Respiratory system: Normal bilateral air entry, no

added sounds.

No abnormality found on other system *Samprapti Ghataka* (Pathogenic factor)

Dosha - Vata, Kapha Dushya – Ras dhatu

Agni (digestive fire) - Mandagni

Srotas (channel) Rasvah srotas, Artavahasrotas Srotodushti- Siragranthi (cyst), Beejdushti

Vyaktisthana- Beejashaya Granthi

Investigation

Ultrasound scan of Pelvis- multiple small follicle (4-8mm) arranged peripherally. Polycystic ovaries.

Haemoglobin-13.7gm%,

ESR- 10mm/hr RBS-100mg/dl **Follicullar Study**

Picht Oronz MCE 4 Om

Right Ovary- MSF 4-8mm Left Ovary MSF 4-8mm

No dominant follicle noted on either side.

ET 5.2mm B/L PCOD **Diagnosis**

The clinical features along with the ultrasound scan report suggests that it is case of B/L polycystic ovaries and was diagnosed as *Beejashya Granthi* (Beejdushti).

Therapeutic interventions

Based on Ayurvedic line of management of anovulation and we formulated the line of treatment. Patient was advised the following medicines initially for a period of 3months to observe changes in the follicular study. The treatment was scheduled initially for 3 months with a follow up once in 15 days.

Timeline

The treatment was carried out with the following medicines for 3 months.

Table 1: Medication

S.no.	Medicine	Dose	Time	Duration
1.	Pippalyadi churna	3gm	Before food B.D.	3 months
2.	Lahshun Oil (Matra basti)	60 ml	After breakfast	7 days each cycle after cessation of menses
3	Phala Ghrita	10ml	After food B.D.	3 months
4	Panchvalkal kwath	Yoni	After breakfast	7 days each cycle after cessation of menses
		prakshalan		

RESULTS

Table 2: Subjective Criteria

S.no. Symptoms		Before Treatment	After Treatment
1.	Alpartav	Present	Absent
2.	Indigestion	Present	Absent
3.	Constipation	Present	Absent

Table 3: Objective Criteria						
U.S.G. (TVS)	Before Treatment	After Treatment				
Follicular study	Anovulation	Ovulation				

Result

The result of this case study on Ayurveda management on anovulation (Abeejotsarg/Artav dushti) showed ovulation in patient. After the treatment she also got relief in scanty menses and low appetite. Her ultrasound examination reports showed ovulation. She got complete relief with Ayurvedic treatment. Till now she there is not any recurrence of symptoms.

DISCUSSION

Anovulation is a condition which explains the failure of ovulation. Artava is considered as Stri Beeja (ovum) as far as the conception is concern. Artavdushti is one type of Artava vikara the result of which is responsible for inability of Prajotpadana i.e., *Vandyatwa*^[4]. *Artava* is formed as a *Upadhatu* after the proper digestion of Ahara rasa by Prakruta Agni. If Agni is disturbed by Ahita ahara vihara formation of Rasadi dhatu there by Artava is also affected which can be considered as anovulation. Different ovulation induction drugs are in clinical use to treat the anovulation. Clinically anovulation is treated with different ovulation induction drugs. The side effects like ovarian hyper stimulation, early pregnancy loss, multiple pregnancies of conventionally practiced ovulation induction drugs necessitate the need of other alternate safe treatment with no side effects. For the management of anovulation there are good numbers of formulations and treatment modalities mentioned in Ayurvedic classics and are well tested and trusted. Pippalyadi Yoga^[5] is one such combination with Trikatu and Nagakeshara churna in equal quantity to be consumed with Ghrita mentioned in Bhaishajya Ratnavali Stri rogadhikaara in the treatment of Vandyatwa.

Anuvasana basti is an ideal treatment in Beeja Dosha sambandhi Vandhyatva. In cases of Beeja Dosha Vandyatwa, like Alpa dosha, Alpa arthava and Nasta Beeja Anuvasana Vasti is ideal, so Lahshun oil^[6] was preferred.

Mode of action of drugs

1. *Pippalyadi Churna*: Posses *Deepana, Pachna, Srotroshodak, Rasayan* properties which acts on *Aama* and pacify vitiated *Doshas* mainly *Kaphavatshamak*. On the account of having a dominance of *Katu rasa, Ushana veerya, Katu vipaka* clear the state of *Mandagni* which is main causative factor of anovulation due to hindrance in *Utrotar dhatu nirmana*.

Most of content drugs of this formulation having Hepato-protective and antioxidant properties which ultimately helps in regulation of ovarian cycle.

Sahapana- The drug is given with the Sahapana of Ghrita which adds Rasayana property and also decreases Tikshna Guna of formulation. In addition, Ghrita contains beta-carotene and Vit. E, which are antioxidants themselves. It also contains Cholesterol which provides the basic material for the production of sex hormone. Saturated fats boost immune system also.

Aushadha Sevana Kala- was Pragbhakta i.e., before meal which is best Kala for Apana Vata Dushti. By virtues of these, it helps in removal of Sanga and so as to proper functioning of Apana Vayu. Antioxidant drugs are supposed to remove free radicals which are similar to Aama

2. Lahshun Taila matra Basti Vata (one of the three Dosha responsible for all bodily movements) is mainly responsible for all types of Yoni Roga (gynaecological disorders). Beejotsarga (ovulation) is depends upon balanced Vata. Basti is best treatment for vitiated Vata from the root.

Vatanulomana of Apan vayu and physiological functioning of Vata can achieved by Matra basti and may help in ovulation.

Oil given by *Basti* spreads all over the body and it pacifies the vitiated *Dosha* along with *Vyana Vayu*. It may lead to *Samyaka Rasa Raktadi Dhatu Nirmana*. This *Samyaka Rasa* reaches the *Beejagranthi* and with the help of normal *Apana Vayu Beejotsarg* happens.

Phala-Ghrita[7]

Properties of Phalaghrita

Phalaghrita is mentioned in the treatment of Vandhyatva in Sharangadhara^[8], Vagabhatta^[9], Yogaratnakar^[10] and Bhavaprakash^[11]. Vandhyatva is a Sannipataja vyadhi with dominance of Vata.

Ghrita is Tridoshaghna due to its properties and milk is also Vata-pitta shamaka, Jivaniyaand Rasayana. So, Phala-ghrita has the properties of Ghrita, milk and other ingredients. Phala-ghrita has mainly Tikt Madhura, Tikta and Katu rasa, Snigdhaguna, Laghu guna. It has both Vipaka Madhura and Katu. Veerya is also both Ushna and Sheeta. It also has Pachana, Dipana, Lekhana, Shothahara, Balya, Anulomana, Yoni Pradoshanashaka and Prajasthapana actions.

Hence this drug was selected for oral administration in the present study

Panchvalkal Kwath[12]

Panchvalkal i.e., bark of five trees viz., Vata, Udumbara, Ashwatta, Parisha and Plaksha. Panchvalkal has Kashya Rasa (astringent properties).

So *Panchavalkala* is one of the ideal combinations for a vast range of therapeutics focused in Ayurveda like *Vranaropana* (wound healing)^[13], *Shothahara* (anti-inflammatory), *Graahi, Visarpahara, Vedanasthapan* (pain reliever), *Stambhana* (striping action). So this drug was selected for present study.

CONCLUSION

This case study concludes that the significant relief can be achieved in patients of anovulation from holistic approach of Ayurvedic treatment. *Strotoshodhan* is done with *Anuvasan basti karma* resulting in pacification of vitiated Doshas. Thus formation of *Sudhh antapushapa*. This case study provides a positive outlook on the potential of Ayurvedic treatment in managing anovulatory cycle.

Patient Perspective

The patient was satisfied with the improvement. From her prospective Ayurveda could provide effective natural treatment in managing anovulation. She appreciated how Ayurvedic treatment does not involve hormonal therapy, surgery (ovarian drilling) unlike conventional methods. She found comfort and feel supported during therapy.

Patient consent: Written consent for publication of this case study in your journal was obtained from the patient.

Pathya-Apathya: To avoid psychological stress. To avoid spicy and excessive sweet foods, fast foods (pasta, pizzas), baked goods, fermented foods and cold drinks. To consume more green leafy vegetables (spinach, cabbage, capsicum, broccoli), sesame seeds, flax seeds, fruits (orange, apple, papaya).

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