

Evolution of disease

Preface

Evolution of disease deals with 1. Various aetiological factors 2. How the aetiological factors bring about changes in the structural and functional units of the body that is vata, pitta and kapha 3. How these molecular changes bring about structural derangement in various tissues and organs 4. How these structural changes derange the function of organs 5. How the deranged function of one organ leads to derangement of other organs that is complications.

Ayurveda describes in detail the various stages of evolution of disease as 1. Chaya that is accumulation of doshas because of action of aetiological factors, 2. Prakopa that is further increase in in the doshas, 3. Prasara that is dissemination of doshas which correspond to the stage of septicemia, viremia or toxemia, 4. Sthanasanshraya that is localisation of dosha in a particular tissue or organ, 5. Vyakti that is manifestation of disease because of functional derangement, 6. Bheda that is further differentiation into the sub-type of the disease.

Ayurveda emphasises that the physician should not allow the disease to evolve further by recognizing manifestations of the disease in its incubation period and guiding the patient appropriately. It is surprising that even 5,000 years ago, Ayurvedic physician could visualise the derangement at molecular level as the root cause of the disease. Ayurveda has rightly emphasised on the importance of understanding the Evolution of disease (pathogenesis). Unless the physician gets insight into the Evolution of the diseases, he cannot treat the patient appropriately. A physician who does not bother to go to root cause of the disease suppress the symptoms but is unable to eradicate the disease. This book describes in detail the basic principles of pathogenesis which will help the reader to understand the pathogenesis of any symptom or disease.

One can't but appreciate the wisdom of our ancient physicians, when one realises that our understanding of disease process and its evolution has not altered significantly even today, inspite of all the modern research. I am sure that not only Ayurvedic physicians, but students, teachers and research workers of modern medicine also will be benefited by reading this book.

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Index

Chapter 1 : Roganam Utpatti Vibhagashcha (Disease - Its Origin and Classification)

1. Origin of diseases

2. Classification of diseases
 - A. Diseases of body and mind
 - B. Nija and Agantu diseases
 - C. Ekadoshaja, Dwandwaja and Sannipatika diseases
 - D. Sushruta's classification
 - E. Diseases of tissues, associated tissues and waste products
 - F. Diseases according to the state of nutrition
 - G. Prakruti-sama-samavaya and Vikruti-vishama-samavaya
 - H. Major and Minor diseases
 - I. Disease according to region of the body affected
 - J. Anubandhya - Anubandhi doshas and diseases
 - K. Pachanatmaka, Shodhanatmaka and Prachayatmaka diseases

Chapter 2 : Roganam Karanani (Aetiological Factors)

1. Beeja-bhagavayava-dushti (Chromosomal and genetic factors)
2. Doshaprakruti (Constitutional factors)
3. Dosha vruddhi karanani (Factors which increase various doshas)
4. Pradnyaparadha
5. Kalakruta karanani that is Environmental factors
6. Vaya (Age)
7. Lingam (Sex)
8. Daishika Karanani (Regional factors)
9. Vyavasayika Karanani (Occupational factors)
10. Indriyanam Heena, Mithya Atiyoga (Excessive, inadequate or abnormal use of sense and motor organs)
11. Vegavarodha (Suppression of natural urges)
12. Srotodushti (Vitiation of body channels)
13. Agni (Enzymes)
14. Koshtha (Motility of Intestines)
15. Aharaja (Dietetic factors)
16. Aama

17. Manasika Karanani (Psychological causes)
18. Krumiroga (Infectious and parasitic diseases)
19. Janapadodhwansa (Natural calamities and epidemics)
20. Grahabadha
21. Vaidyakruta (Iatrogenic diseases)
22. Purvajanmakruta (Unknown factors)

Chapter 3 : Janmabala Pravrutta Vyadhi (Congenital Anomalies)

1. Aetiology
2. Manifestations
3. Prevention

Chapter 4 : Vegavarodha (Suppression of Natural Urges)

1. Suppression of passage of gas through anus
2. Suppression of defaecation
3. Suppression of micturition
4. Suppression of vomiting
5. Suppression of cough
6. Suppression of sneezing
7. Suppression of exertional breathlessness
8. Suppression of yawning
9. Suppression of belching
10. Suppression of ejaculation
11. Suppression of tears
12. Suppression of hunger
13. Suppression of thirst
14. Suppression of sleep
15. Complications, Sequelae, Prognosis and Treatment

Chapter 5 : Srotodushti (Vitiation of body channels)

1. Prana vaha srotas
2. Annavaha srotas
3. Udaka vaha srotas

4. Rasa vaha srotas
5. Rakta vaha srotas
6. Mansa vaha srotas
7. Meda vaha srotas
8. Ashthi vaha srotas
9. Majja vaha srotas
10. Shukra vaha srotas
11. Pureesha vaha srotas
12. Mootra vaha srotas
13. Sweda vaha srotas
14. Artava vaha srotas

Chapter 6 : Agni (Digestive and tissue enzymes)

1. Vishamagni
2. Teekshnagni
3. Mandagni
4. Samagni

Chapter 7 : Aharaja Karanani (Dietetic factors)

Chapter 8 : Aama

1. Characters of Aama
2. Symptoms of Saama vata and Niraama vata
3. Symptoms of Saama and Niraama pitta
4. Symptoms of Saama and Niraama Kapha
5. Treatment of Aama doshas

Chapter 9 : Krumiroga (Infectious diseases and parasitic infestations)

1. Bahyakrumi that is External germs and parasites
2. Abhyantara that is internal germs and parasites
 - a. Raktaja Krumi
 - b. Shleshmaja or kaphaja krumi
 - c. Pureeshaja krumi

Chapter 10 : Grahabadha

1. Manifestations of affection by supernatural powers
2. Predisposing factors
3. Prognosis

Chapter 11 : Janapadodhwansa (Natural calamities and epidemics)

Chapter 12 : Samprapti Vijnyanam (Pathogenesis)

1. Chaya : Stage of accumulation of doshas
2. Prakopa : Stage of accumulation of doshas in excess
3. Prasara : Stage of dissemination of doshas
4. Sthanasanshraya : Stage of localisation of doshas
5. Vyakti : Disease state
6. Bheda

Chapter 13 :Rogalakshanani Tesham Mahatvam Cha (Symptoms and their significance)

1. Fever
2. Atisara
3. Pain
4. Tumour

Chapter 14 : Rogapaharakshamata (Defence mechanisms of the body)

Chapter 15 : Roganam Moolakaranani (Root causes of diseases)