

ISSN 2456-3110 Vol 2 · Issue 2 Mar-Apr 2017

## Journal of Ayurveda and Integrated Medical Sciences

www.jaims.in







# Preventive, promotive and curative aspect of *Dhumapana* in *Urdhvajatrugata Roga*

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## ABSTRACT

*Dhumapana* is very effective treatment for upper clavicular diseases (*Urdhvajatrugata Roga*). It is also effective in coughing (*Kasa Roga*) and in induction of emesis. However it is not widely practiced. The curative aspect of *Dhumapana* is somewhat known in clinicians but its preventive and promotive aspect is neither much known nor practiced. Different types of *Dhumapana* are mentioned in Ayurvedic classics, made from different *Dhumavarti*, using different drugs; according to the need of action. It works on *Vata* and *Kapha Dosha*. It can be used for *Shamana* and *Shodhana Karma*. It can be advised at different stages of treatment to achieve these *Karma*. In this article an effort has been made to elaborate the preventive, promotive and curative aspect of *Dhumapana*.

**Key words:** *Preventive, promotive, curative, Dhumapana, Urdhvajatrugata Roga.* 

## **INTRODUCTION**

The literary meaning of '*Dhuma*' is smoke and '*Pan*' means inhalation of smoke or drinking.<sup>[1]</sup> *Dhumapana* is very effective ancient therapy/Procedure (Karma) for upper clavicular diseases but less practiced. In Ayurvedic classics *Dhumapana* is mentioned under the broad umbrella of *Nasya Karma* which is an important *Panchakarma* procedure.<sup>[2]</sup> Panchakarma procedures have preventive, promotive and curative aspect; therefore *Dhumapana* is also prescribed to do so.

The classification of *Dhumapana* according to different *Aacharyas* is as follows,

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#### Submission Date : 11/04/2017 Accepted Date: 25/04/2017

Access this article online			
Quick Response Code			
	Website: www.jaims.in		
	DOI: 10.21760/jaims.v2i2.7721		

## Types and classification<sup>[3],[4],[5]</sup>

Charaka	Sushruta	Vagbhatta	
Prayogika	Prayogika	Madhyam	Shamana
Snaihika	Snaihika	Snigdha	Brumhana
Vairechanika	Vairechanika	Teekshna	Shodhana
-	Kasaghna	-	Kasaghna
-	Vamaniya	-	Vamaka
-	-	-	Vranadhupa na

### Prayogika Dhumapana

*Prayogika* means, a *Dhumapana* which can be given daily (*Nitya*) and without any complication.<sup>[6]</sup> One can use *Prayogika Dhumapana* in his *Dinacharya*. *Acharyas* have mentioned that one should use *Prayogika Dhumapana* in different *Kala* (time), like After - bath, food, vomiting, sneezing, brushing teeth, *Nasya*, *Anjana* and after completing sleep in morning.<sup>[7]</sup> One should take *Prayogika Dhumapana* maximum 2 times in a day either through mouth or through nose.<sup>[8],[9]</sup>

#### Snaihika Dhumapana

Snaihika Dhumapana means, a Dhumapana which is done with Sneha and a Dhumapana which does Snehana.<sup>[10]</sup> Snaihika Dhumapana should be used after - passing urine and faeces, sneezing, laughing, anger and coitus.<sup>[11]</sup> One should take Snaihika Dhumapana maximum 1 time in a day either through mouth or through nose. It should be done till lacrimation begins.<sup>[7],[8]</sup>

#### Vairechanika Dhumapana

Vairechanika Dhumapana means a Dhumapana which eliminates Utklishta Dosha (particularly Kapha) from nose.<sup>[12]</sup> Vairechanika Dhumapana should be used after - bath, daysleep and after vomiting.<sup>[10]</sup> One should take Vairechanika Dhumapana maximum 3/4 times in a day through nose. It should be done until Dosha Darshana.<sup>[7],[8]</sup>

### Kasaghna Dhumapana

Kasaghna Dhumapana means a Dhumapana which cures Kasa (coughing). Occasionally it can be used in Kantha Roga (diseases of throat).<sup>[11]</sup> It should be used only when Kasa symptom is present. One should use Kasaghna Dhumapana between the morsels of food.<sup>[8]</sup> Dalhana has mentioned that it should be used as Vairechanika Dhumapana, until the elimination of Kapha Dosha.<sup>[13]</sup>

## Vamaniya Dhumapana

Vamaniya Dhumapana means a Dhumapana which induces vomiting. One should do Aakanthapana of Yavagu (as done in Vamana Karma) before taking Vamaniya Dhumapana to induce vomiting. It should be done till Samyak Vamana Lakshana are observed.<sup>[12]</sup>

According to Dalhana, though *Kasaghna* and *Vamainya Dhumapana* have been mentioned separately but they are the part of *Prayogik*, *Snaihika* and *Vairechanika Dhumapana*.<sup>[14]</sup>

## DISCUSSION

#### Preventive aspect of Dhumapana

In Charaka Samhita, while describing the preventive measures of a disease, *Aacharya* first describes the

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measures that prevent the upper clavicular diseases, as all the *Indriya* (Senses) - are situated in *Shira* (Head).<sup>[15]</sup> As these senses connect the person to the external environment, it becomes very essential to keep all the senses disease free and proper functioning for lifelong period. *Dhumapana* plays an important role to achieve this goal.<sup>[16]</sup>

Daily practice of *Dhumapana* prevents perticularly *Vata-Kaphaja Roga* of upper clavicular region.<sup>[17]</sup> For example avoiding *Dhumapana* is one of the causative factor of *Kapha* predominant *Mukharoga*.<sup>[18]</sup>

A person who takes *Dhumapana* as a part of *Dinacharya*, if he gets any *Vata-Kaphaja Urdhavajatrugat Roga*, it will not be so severe even though the causative factors are powerful.

Dhumapana is also indicated in Vasant Rutu (Spring season).<sup>[19]</sup> Before this season the Kapha gets accumulate due to Sheeta Guna of Hemant Rutu. The heat of sun in Vasant (spring) liquefies the accumulated Kapha and gives rise to various diseases. To prevent it one should take Dhumapana in this season as it eliminates the accumulated Kapha Dosha.

*Shira* is one of the locations for *Kapha Dosha*<sup>[20]</sup> So *Kaphaja* diseases in this area will be very potent and difficult to treat. So, it is better to prevent the accumulation of *Kapha Dosha* rather curing it in later stages. *Dhumapana* is the chief treatment for it.<sup>[21]</sup>

*Dhumapana* also helps in preventing diseases as an after procedure, eg. in *Nasya*<sup>[22]</sup> and *Vamana*.<sup>[23]</sup> After these procedures *Dhumapana* is advised to remove the residual *Shleshma* which can lead to other disease if not removed.

*Vairechanika Dhumapana* is prescribed as *Paschata Karma* in *Tarpana* and *Putpaka*<sup>[24]</sup> In which aggravation of *Kapha* takes place as the effect of the main procedure, which may damage the sense organ if not removed by *Dhumapana*.

## Promotive aspect of Dhumapana

*Dhumapana* is mentioned in *Matrashitiya Adhyaya*, as a daily regimen. By this one can achieve not only prevention of disease but it is also helpful in strengthening of the scalp hair, skull bones, sense organs and voice.<sup>[25]</sup>

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## Therapeutic aspect of Dhumapana

The types of *Dhumapana*<sup>[26]</sup> (according to their *Karma* - mode of action) are;

- 1. Snaihika For pacification of Vata Dosha.
- 2. *Vairechanika* For elimination of *Dosha* from upper clavicular region.
- 3. Kasaghna To cure coughing.
- 4. Vamaniya For induction of Vamana.

#### Snaihika Dhumapana

It can be used as the main procedure or as a part of any other procedure at different stages.

It is indicated for pacification of *Vata Dosha* in pure *Vata* predominant condition. The drugs having *Snigdha Guna* along with *Sneha* are selected. The pacification of *Vata* is done by *Snigdha Guna* and *Uplepa* Karma.<sup>[27]</sup> This type of *Dhumapana* is prescribed in *Vataroga, Vatika Shirahshoola, Dantaharsha, Vataja Kasa, Vaiswarya* (hoarseness of voice), *Vatika Sarvasara* etc. conditions.

Although *Dhumapana* is contraindicated in *Pittaja-Raktaja* condition but in treatment of *Rakta Abhisyanda* if there is *Vata* involvement, *Snaihika Dhumapana* is prescribed.<sup>[28]</sup> This indicates that *Dhumapana* is effective in Pittaja -Raktaja conditions also if there is *Vata* involvement.<sup>[29]</sup>

One can use Snaihika as well as Prayogika Dhumapana as Poorvakarma of Samshodhana therapy. In Samshodhana therapy the physician should make Dosha in Utklishta stage first and then remove it by nearer route. Here Snaihika Dhumapana or Prayogika Dhumapana can be used to convert the Dosha in Utklishta stage eg. If one wants to aggravate Shirogata Doshas the Dhumapana should be done from mouth first<sup>[30]</sup> and then eliminate these Dosha with help of Vairechanika Dhumapana or Vairechnanik Nasya from nose. As Dhumapana is one of the Nasya Karma and Nasya Karma is a part of Sneha Pravicharna, so like Snehana before Vamana-Virechana one should use Snehaika/Prayogika Dhumapana before Vairechanika Dhumapana or Vairechanika Nasya.

#### Vairechanika Dhumapana

It works with its *Ruksha*, *Tikshana*, *Ushna* and *Vishada* properties.<sup>[31]</sup> It eliminates the *Kapha Dosha* and clears the channels by *Vishada* property. This type of *Dhumapana* is prescribed in *Kapha* predominant conditions. eg. *Kaphaja Shirashoola*, *Karnakandu*, *Kaphaja Sarvasara*, *Kaphaja Aushtharoga*, *Adhimansa*, *Jvara*, *Kushtha*, *Santarpanottha* disease, *Murchha* etc.

In surgeries of some *Kapha* predominant diseases like *Galshundi* and *Kaphaja Galganda*, *Vairechanika Dhumapana* is prescribed as *Pashchat Karma Vairechanika Dhumapana* is also prescribed in treatment of *Sansyasa*, thus showing its effect on brain also.<sup>[32]</sup>

#### Kasaghna Dhumapana

It is indicated in *Kasaroga Avastha*.<sup>[33]</sup> The drugs, having *Kasahara* property are used.<sup>[34]</sup> In this type of *Dhumapana* the inhalation must be with mouth<sup>[35]</sup> and the length of the *Dhumanetra* is shorter in comparison to other *Dhumanetra*.<sup>[36]</sup> *Acharya* Charaka has also accepted the role of *Dhumapana* in treatment of *Kasa* by suggesting *Vairechanika Dhumapana* from mouth in *Vata-Kaphaja Kasa* when it is associated with *Pratishyaya* and *Shirashool*. It is also indicated in *Kaphaja Kasa*. In treatment of *Kshataja Kasa* also the *Dhumapana* is prescribed.<sup>[37]</sup> It removes the aggravated *Kapha Dosha* from the chest and relieves the coughing.<sup>[38]</sup> It should be taken between the bolus (*Grasantare*)<sup>[39]</sup> and repeatedly.

## Vamaniya Dhumapana

This type of *Dhumapana* is indicated to induce vomiting. It is prescribed when accumulated *Shleshma* has filled the chest and throat.<sup>[40]</sup> This might be invented for *Sukumara* people. By inhaling the smoke it may stimulate the the center which is responsible for emesis and induces *Chardana* and removes *Kapha Dosha*.

## Mode of action

Dhumapana works on Vata and Kapha Dosha. Due to Sukshma Guna of drugs used for Dhumapana; it opens/enters the smallest channels, with Ushna and Tikshna Guna it liquefies and eliminates the Dosha

from their nearer routes.<sup>[41]</sup> However gaseous form of medicine increases the bio availability of it. The gases are absorbed in blood by pressure difference and greater surface area in lung. By using the particular process of *Dhumapana* i.e. use three puff of smoke without exhalation, one can achieve its absorption at maximum level.

## **CONCLUSION**

Dhumapana is very effective in prevention of disease, promotion of health and treatment of Urdhvajatrugata Roga. No any other treatment works on Vata and Kapha Dosha related disorders as Dhumapana does. It does Shodhana and Shamana both the Karma. It is equally effective in Kasa - lower respiratory tract disorders. Besides all these, it is also effective to induce emesis.

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**How to cite this article:** Kunjal H. Bhatt, Hemang U. Raghavani, Kishore G. Satani. Preventive, promotive and curative aspect of *Dhumapana* in *Urdhvajatrugata Roga*. J Ayurveda Integr Med Sci 2017;2:165-169. http://dx.doi.org/10.21760/jaims.v2i2.7721

Source of Support: Nil, Conflict of Interest: None declared.

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