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“Anatomical Concept of Raktavaha Srotas Moolasthan”

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Abstract :- Ayurveda is a life science. The researchers of ayurveda could rule out the presence of srotas spreading throughout the human body. Srotas is the channel that transports only Dhatu under metabolic transformation. Some authors views that Srotas can be interpreted as microvascular carrier, which specialized for exchange of the materials. These Srotas are governed by Vayu which is using all the Srotas of the body to carry out the functional and physiological activities of the human body without which the human society will not exist. Several Synonymous words have been described by the acharyas for Srotas.

The Srotas have their own moolasthan or root. Chakrapani mentioned Moolasthan of Srotas as Prabhavasthana means the anatomical seat of respective srotas, main seat of

pathhological changes, having diagnostic value or its be the focus of treatment.

Keywords :- Moolasthan, Srotas, Raktavaha, Dhamani.

Introduction :-

In the Past few years, we have invented many things in the medical field which includes new techniques, effective medicines, new therapies, etc. To know a perticular treatment of a disease one should have well knowledge about the anatomy of human body.

Ayurveda has very vividly described the anatomy of the human body. But in contrast to the modern sophisticated technology in ancient time ayurveda has given vivid description about the anatomy (Rachana) in terms of Kala, Koshtha, Srotas, Dhamani, Dosha,

Dhatu, mala etc. The physiology and Pathology concept of human body cannot be clear without the specific knowledge of Moolasthanas of Srotas. It will be helpful for the diagnosis of diseases, & give guidance for proper treatment to cure such a disease. Ayurvedacharya like Charaka, Sushruta, Vagbhat, etc have given some criteria to diagnosis a particular disease on the basis of Doshas, Dhatu, Malas, Srotas, etc. Channel or pores which carry nutrients and give the supply to Dhatus of the body and also carry Vata, Pitta, Kapha.

According to Vagbhat in Ashtanghridaya Sharirsthana mention two types of srotas that is Abhyantar srotas and Bahya srotas. According to Charaka there are 13 types of Srotas & also according to Sushruta there are 12 types of Yogavahi Srotas. The Moolasthanas of Raktavaha Srotas are Yakrit and Pleeha according to Charaka and Vagbhat. According to Sushrut the Moolasthanas of Raktavaha Srotas is Yakrit, Pleeha & Raktavaha Dhamanis.

Acharyya Charaka has described srotas in Vimanasthana Chapter 5 (Srotovimaniya Adhyaya) in detail but he gave incisive definition of Srotas in Sutrasthana chapter 30 (Arthadasamahamulika) as Sravanatsrotangi, means the organ which

to differentiate it from sira, Dhamani. The number of srotas is that much as the number of Specific structures present in the body of Purusha.

Chakrapani further explained the term “Murtimanta” meaning structural existence used here to denote of the structural organization as are not omnipresent and having limitations to their quantities.

Sushruta defined Srotas as the hollow channel except sira and Dhamani, which originating from root space spreads in the body and carries (Specific entities).

Vagbhat follows the view of Charaka but he opines that sira and Dhamani are the modified forms of srotas. Vagbhat terms the Srotas as Jivita, Ayyantana, The term srotas means a channel. It is derived from the root. Charaka has defined it as “sravanatrotamsi” means the structure through which sravanam takes place.

The term Moola is used in different meaning in ancient Indian Literature. Acharya Charaka has used this term in meaning of Karan or Adhara means reason or base. In Sushrut Samhita & Ashtang Hridaya, Moola word has been used as tracer, director or prob. In broad term Moolasthanas means

Utpattisthama (seat of origin of Dhatu and Mala), sangrahashthana (Seat of Storage) Naidaniksthama (diagnostic importance), Chikitsatmaksthana means important in treatment.

Aims & Objective :-

To study the anatomical aspect of Raktavaha Srotas Moolasthanas as per Ayurveda and modern science which is helpful for diagnosis & treatment of various diseases.

Materials & Methods :-

For the purpose of literary review of sharir rachanatmak aspect of Raktavaha Srotas Moolasthanas from Ayurvedic & Modern science texts studied in detail.

Observations & Discussion :-

The channel our srotas which carry Rakta (blood) to system and its spread the entire body said in Charak Vimansathan chapter 5.

To know the Rachana sharir (Anatomy) of Raktavaha srotas their Moolasthanas is considered. Both Charaka & Vagbhata considered Yakrit (Liver and Pleea (Spleen) but Sushruta has described Yakrit, pleeha and Raktavahhi Dhamani as Moolasthanas. Raktavahi Dhamanis are none other than

blood vessels means arteries, veins & capillaries. In Ayurveda there is no clear description of Yakrit (Liver) & Pleea (Spleen).

Liver is made up of liver cells called hepatocytes and a system of blood vessels. Liver consists of many lobes, each lobe consists of segments, lobules. Each lobule is honey comb like structure. The cells are arranged in different plates. Each plate is one cell thick with a central vein. In between the cells are bile canaliculi. Each lobule is surrounded by portal vein and tributary of bile duct. In between the plates, the sinusoid receives blood from a branch of portal vein and a branch of hepatic artery of the portal triad. Sinusoids are lined by endothelial cells. Few macrophage cells called Kupffer cells are also found in between the endothelial cells. Sinusoids are surrounded by the perisinusoidal space or space of Disse, which contains cells, which store vitamin A. Portal vein, hepatic artery and hepatic bile duct and a lymphatic vessel.

The liver is supplied by Hepatic artery (20% blood supply) and portal vein (80% blood supply) empty into hepatic sinusoidal network, which drain to hepatic veins, which drain to the Inferior vena cava.

The Spleen is a lymphoid organ. Spleen plays multiple supporting roles in the body. It acts as a filter for blood as part of the immune system. Old red blood cells are recycled in the spleen, and platelets and white blood cells are stored there. The microstructure of spleen consists of Red pulp & white pulp. Red pulp contains splenic cords surrounded by sinusoids & white pulp contains lymphoid aggregations with eccentric central artery. Spleen has thick capsule, sends septa into substance of spleen. White pulp is aggregation of lymphocytes around the artery. The periaarterial lymphatic sheath made of T lymphocytes. At some places it forms lymphatic nodules with germinal centers called as Malpighian bodies. They contain B lymphocytes. Red pulp forms the major part of spleen. It is made of lymphocytes arranged like branching and anastomosing cords along the sinusoids. Central artery from pulp enters red pulp and divides into straight vessels called as penicilli. It is then surrounded by sheath of macrophages and is called as ellipsoid which has a narrow lumen. Further it dilates to form ampulla and blood enters sinusoids of red pulp by two ways. In closed circulation theory blood directly enters into sinusoids from ampulla. In open circulation theory blood passes out of capillaries between the cords and

then enters sinusoids. The spleen is supplied by the splenic artery. It is the branch of celiac trunk, and celiac trunk is the main branch of abdominal aorta. The spleen is drained by splenic vein.

Conclusion :-

Structurally the srotas are the hollow channels originating from the root space, spread within the whole body to act as a transport system for the fulfilment of nutritional needs of organism. Raktavaha srotas from its Utpattisthana we can compare with Haemopoietic system. From the Sangrahashthana come to know liver and spleen acts as a reservoir of blood. From the vahansthana we can also compare with circulatory system of the body and its Moolasthan we can compare with the portal system and from its Moolasthan it is easy to diagnose the disease and the doctor can give the proper. We can conclude that the Raktavaha srotas is nothing but whole circulatory system, which is mainly liver and spleen.

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