# STUDY OF PRAKRUTI WITH PERSPECTIVE TO ANGULI PRAMANA

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## **ABSTRACT**

Ayurveda in its principle has given importance to individualistic approach rather than generalize. Application of this examination can be clearly seem like even though two patients suffering from same disease, the treatment modality may change depending upon the results of dashvidha pariksha. Prakruti and Pramana both used in dashvidha pariksha. Both determine the health of the individual and Bala (strength) of Rogi (Patient). Ayurveda followed swa-angula pramana as the unit of measurement for measuring the different parts of the body which is prime step in assessing patient before treatment. Sushrut and Charak had stated different Angula Pramana of each Pratyanga (body parts). Specificity is the characteristic property of Swa-angula Pramana. This can be applicable in present era for example artificial limbs. A scientific research includes collection, compilation, analysis and lastly scrutiny of entire findings to arrive at a conclusion. Study of *Pramana* and its relation with *Prakruti* was conducted in 150 volunteers using *prakruti prakishan* proforma (ayu software) with an objective of evaluation of Anguli Pramana in various prakriti. These volunteers were randomly divided into three groups of age 18-20yrs, 21-25yrs, 26-30yrs respectively. It was observed co-relating Pramana in each Prakruti and Granthokta Pramana that there is no vast difference in measurement of head, upper limb and lower limb. The observational study shows closer relation of features with classical texts.

Keywords: Anguli Pramana, Prakruti, Swa-anguli pramana, Dashavidha Pariksha.

### **INTRODUCTION**

In Ayurveda Sharir is given prime importance as one among those factors which contribute to ayu of an individual, the factors being Indriya ,Satva & Atma. The complete knowledge about sharir at all times is very much essential for physician in order to provide a healthy life for mankind<sup>1</sup>. The essentiality of *pramana* is depicted in the fundamentals of Ayurveda as the mana pramana of hitayu ,ahitayu,sukhayu,and dukhayu is one which constitute Ayurveda<sup>2</sup>. Maintenance of health and cure of disease is the principle of Ayurveda<sup>3</sup>. This principle of Ayurveda can be achieved with the help of pramana & prakruti.Before starting with the chikitsa which is considered as kaya in the field of medicine, the

wise physician should perform the *pareksha of* karyadesh i.e atur sharer<sup>4</sup>.Acharya Charak explained dashvidha pariksha vidhi & prakruti and pramana pariksha are one among them<sup>5</sup>.The basic goal behind pareksha (examination) is to get knowledge concerning the bala(strength) of the rogi(patient), where Aacharya Sushrut considered it as the main tool to get the information regarding ayu along with that of bala<sup>6</sup>.

Pramana of purusha gives the detailed information regarding each parts in term of its external features, this can be helpful in understanding the anatomical knowledge required for the practice of Ayurveda.

In classics anguli pramana of different parts of the body is categorically mentioned but their relation with prakruti has not been widely dealt with.

Though while explaning the lakshanas(characteristics) of prakruti Astang hrdyakara divulges Pralam bahu in kapha prakruti and deergha kaya in vata prakruti kapaha prakruti in general seems to have suvibhakta gatra, this hint at the relation between prakruti and *pramana*, but the measurement (*pramana*) of the body parts in different prakruti is not been found in any smahitas.

In this study an effort is made to estimate anguli pramana in different prakruti.

# **AIM AND OBJECTIVES**

- To study structural prakruti parikshan using anguli pramana.
- To study the concept of *prakruti*(body constitute) in Ayurveda.
- To study the concept of *pramana sharir*.
- To co-relate the concept of prakruti and anguli pramana.

# **MATERIAL AND METHODS**

Literary Study-

Review of literature, Praman Sharir, Prakruti and anthropometry.

Observational Study-

The study was done in Bharati Vidyapeeth Campus, Dhanakawadi, Pune; on 150 cases of prakruti and pramana sharir. Study was limited to certain criteria, anguli pramana of external structure such as Parshini(heel), Gulpha(ankle), Aratani, Shira(head), Parva(digits), Skandha(shoulder), Sthula Asthi(long/big bones).

## **Inclusion Criteria**

Healthy individual from both genders ranging from 18-30 years, were divided in 3 groups viz a) 18-20 yrs ,b) 21-25 yrs ,c) 26-30 yrs

## **Exclusion Criteria**

Individuals with visible congenital and acquired deformities'.

Individuals with any known pathological conditions of head, lower and upper limb.

#### ASSESMENT CRITERIA

- Prakruti of individuals were taken with help of prakruti proforma given in ayu software.
- Width of madhayama sandhi of madhyam anguli (width of inter phalengeal joint of middle finger).

# PRAMANA OF PRATYANGAS (Body parts)

In ayurvedic literature the anthropometric techniques are personalized and various points are considered<sup>7,8</sup> as follows:

- 1. SHIRA (heads circumference) the maximum distance round the head with the tape placed above the eyebrow ridges and positioned over the greatest posterior projection at the back of the head.
- 2. SKANDHA (shoulder joint)
- 3. AARATANI (from elbow joint to little finger)
- 4. PRABAHU (from shoulder joint to elbow joint)
- 5. *PRAPAN I*(from elbow joint to wrist joint)
- 6. JANGHA (from knee joint to ankle joint)[length] [circumference]
- 7. *URU* (from hip joint to knee joint) [length] [circumference]
- 8. *JANU* (knee joint) [circumference]
- 9. *GULPHA* (ankle joint) [circumference]
- 10. PARSHINI (Heels) [length] [breadth]

# **METHODOLOGY:**

Prior to the initiation of the study, examination of the volunteers was carried out to ensure the normal stature and anatomical configuration of pratyangas. Measurement of each individual was taken. Width of inter phalangeal joint of middle finger was considered as a tool of measurement. The middle finger was measured (width of interphalengeal joint) with vernier caliper to arrive at uniform standarized result (for swa-anguli pramana). The measurement was carried out for length and circumference of the body parts (pratyangas) in centimeters with the help of measuring tape. Then *anguli pramana* was taken out by dividing it with swa –anguli pramana.

For e.g:  $X_{cm} = swa \ anguli \ pramana$ .

Y = measurement of body parts in cm.

Then Y/X = anguli pramana of that body parts

Measurement was carried out with length and circumference of the body parts, the data received recorded in specific forms they are noted with age sex, religion, occupation, education.

## **OBSERVATIONS AND RESULTS:**

Individualistic approach of *pramana* sharir and *prakrut*i helps to plan the treatment and decide the prognosis depending on the results of dashvidha pariksha. Applicability of *pramana sharir* and *prakruti* in the assessment of disease prognosis and mortality is true from centuries.

The description of specific anatomical landmarks for *shira*, *skandha*, *aartani*, *prabahu*, *prapani*, *jangha*, *uru*, *janu*, *gulpha*, *parshini* is not explained by *ayurvedic* author or commentators. Landmark use for the measurement is according to the landmark mentioned in the contemporary science.

Observation of present study revealed that Corelating Pramana in each Prakruti and granthoktha Pramana it has been found that there is no large difference in measurement of shira upperlimb and lower limb.(Differences may be due to sex ,religion.) statically there is no significant difference seen in 3 different Prakruti in different age group & granthokta Pramana. From the observation we may infer the standard measurement of upperlimb and lowerlimb of vata pradhan, pitta pradhan, kapha pradhan person. For eg. Anguli Pramana of aratani vata prakruti person is 23.04 A, Anguli Pramana of aratani of pitta prakruti person is 22.3A, Anguli Pramana of aratani of kapha prakruti person is 23A. For Age group 26-30 yrs.

## **DISCUSSION**

In this study out of 150 volunteers 63% were females and 37% were males. Among 18-20 yrs age group which contain 50 volunteers out of that 16% were of *vata prakruti*,54% were of kapha prakruti,30% is of *pitta prakruti*. Among 21-25 yrs age group volunteers out of that 20% were of vata prakruti,32% were of pitta *prakruti*,48% were of *kaph prakruti*.Among 26-30yrs age group which contain 50 volunteers out of that 30% were of *vata prakruti*,32% were of *pitta prakruti*,38% were of *kaph prakruti*.

There is no gross difference between the *granthokta pramana* and *pramana* of each *prakruti* in different age .Except head circumference (28-30 angula) and length of *uru* (23-24 angula).Applying one way annova test p value is greater than 0.05 hence there is no significant difference between *prakruti pramana* in 3 different age group and *granthokta pramana*.

# **CONCLUSION**

Science always encompasses principles and facts that are methodically attested and undeniably accepted. *Pramana* was the criterion to measure the stature and dimensions of the body parts as they are tools to assess the patient before and after treatment. Anthrometry of the contemporary system is defined as the study of the human body in terms of bone, muscle, adipose tissue and correlated with risk of systemic as well as life style disorder.

Prakruti helps to determine the general built and characteristic of an individual who is important in detecting vyadhi and predicting prognosis of a disease in addition to plan the treatment accordingly. The characteristic features of each prakruti assessed during the study conducted are found to have been in

concurrence with those mentioned in the classic.

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Source of support: Nil
Conflict of interest: None Declared