Several etiological factors contributing to diseases and the vitiation of dosha attack the body every now and then. Some of them can be avoided by adopting proper precautionary measures while some factors like kala, krimi, desa etc. are mostly inevitable.

If the body’s power of resistance i.e. vyadhikshamatva is high and dhatus, srothas and agni are functioning well the body fights against etiological factors successfully there by maintaining its health. But of the etiological factors are stronger than the resistance power of the body they vitiate the dosha and indirectly the dushya also and the process of disease starts.

The roga has five means of diagnosis. They are nidana (cause), rupa (signs& symptoms), upasaya (diagnostic test) and samprapthi (mode of manifestation of disease).

According to VAGBHATA

All the stages from the very contact of the body with hethus to the development of disease including all its avasthas are together called samprapthi of disease.

Samprapthi is also called gathi and agathi.

Every fact connected with a process of the disease at its various stages is considered in detail under samprapthi. Hence a knowledge of samprapthi forms essence of nidana panchaka and vikrithi vijnana.

The outcome of samprapthi i.e. the disease is the resultant effect of the war b/w the factors which fight against the disease and those which produce the disease. When the factors like dosha, dushya, desa, bala, kala, agni, prakruthi, age, power of mind, diet and behavior remain favorable to health they fight against the disease. But when the factors are unfavorable they help the formation of disease and also its severity.

In the definition of samprapthi

Vagbhata:- emphasized the importance of nature and manner of vitiation of doshas as also the nature and manner of vitiation of its spread inclusive of the role of dhatus and srothases.

Susrutha:- stresses the importance of deformity and vitiation of dhatus and srothases.

Madhava & Charaka: - also attach importance to the same aspect, but they stress more on the site of pathology i.e. the particular organ of the body.

The importance of srothas lies in the fact that the same dosha can produce different types of diseases according to the srothas or the particular organ i.e. the site in the body it gets lodged where there is a deformed and vitiated site in the srothas. Vagbhata has explained this fact cling the e.g. of kapha and pitta which produce different diseases according to the nature of the site or srothas and the dhatu concerned.

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