

ROLE OF DUSHYA

Dushyas include dhatus, malas and srothases. Vitiating of doshas alone will not produce sammurchana unless there is a suitable ground in the form of an abnormality and vitiating of srothases.

It is the vital stage in the formation of dosha dushya sammurchana. Just like a traveler first takes shelter in a waiting room and then starts activities like cooking washing etc. The vitiated doshas traveling in this body take shelter in dushya and then start their activity of sammurchana.

The same disease may be produced by different doshas just because they affect a specific site or sthana. Susrutha has given a list of such diseases. In the abdomen doshas produce gulma, cold abscess (vidradhi), udara (including acitis), loss of appetite, distention, cholera (vishuchika), diarrhea (athisara) etc. In basthi (urinary apparatus) they produce prameha, calculi, anuria (muthraghata), painful or burning micturition (muthrakrichra), etc. In rectum and anal canal they cause piles (arsa) and fistula (bhagandara). Similarly they produce hydrocele (vrddhi) in the scrotum, diseases of ear, nose, throat, eyes, brain etc. in the supra cervical region, glands, tumors, enlargement of thyroid (galaganda), cold abscess of lymph glands (apachi) etc. In medo dhathu elephantiasis (slipada), rheumatoid arthritis or gout (vata raktha) etc. in the leg. When doshas take sthana samsraya all over the body, they produce a disease which is manifested on the entire body such as fever, rajayakshma etc.

Just like doshas hethus like krimi, poisons etc. also produce different types of diseases according to the site of sthana samsraya. E.g. Streptococcus haemolyticus produces bacterial endocarditis or pericarditis in the heart, pneumonia in the lungs and meningitis in the meninges.

Sthanasamsraya is the stage in which doshas just start the process of sammurchana. In this condition certain symptoms are produced, they are purvarupas. The specific nature of purvarupa is mainly due to the sthana and not due to doshas. But when dosha dushya sammurchana is completed the disease manifests itself in its full form and in this stage it exhibits the signs and symptoms specific to the particular dosha as well as to the disease proper. They are called rupas.

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