International Journal of Ayurveda and Pharmaceutical Chemistry



Volume 7 Issue 3 2017 www.ijapc.com



e ISSN 2350-0204

Greentree Group



REVIEW ARTICLE

www.ijapc.com

e-ISSN 2350-0204

Garbhini Paricharya for Sukhaprasava

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ABSTRACT

Pregnancy is a beautiful phase in every women's life. Maintenance of health of a pregnant women and wellbeing of the foetus is the aim of antenatal care. Ayurveda the science of life believes in prevention of disease than cure, *Swastasya Swaastya Rakshana Aaturasya Vikaraprashamana*. To avoid the morbidities associated with pregnancy our acharyas have explained *Garbhiniparicharya*; the regimen to be followed during pregnancy. Antenatal care in Ayurveda involves *ahara, vihara* and modification in psychological behavior. Acharyas have described monthly dietary regimen or *maasanumasika Garbhiniparicharya* and demeanor to be followed during pregnancy. Subsequently *Garbhiniparicharya* would result in proper development of foetus and proper movement of *apanavayu* and prepare pregnant woman for *sukhaprasava* physically and psychologically.

KEYWORDS

Garbhini ,Garbhiniparicharya, Apanavayu, Sukhaprasava



Received 13/10/17 Accepted 08/11/17 Published 10/11/17



INTRODUCTION

The term *GarbhiniParicharya* is a compound of two separate words i.e., *Garbhini&Paricharya*. According to Amarkosha, *Garbhini*means a lady in which *Garbha* is present¹. In Ayurvedic science 'char' or 'charya' refers to the 'service' or 'nursing' *&Paricharya* as the caring in all aspect.

Systematic supervision(examination advice) of a woman during pregnancy is called antenatal care(prenatal care)². Acharyas have described monthly dietary regimen in order to meet increased calorie requirements of the pregnant women. They have also described many behavioral changes to enhance mental and spiritual status of the pregnant women. Many ancient treatise describedherbal have also medication & procedures to treat complications during pregnancy. Garbhiniparicharya provides the needs of the growing fetus, the maintenance of maternal health, the strength and vitality required during labour and for successful lactation^{3,4}.

Charaka has compared a pregnant women to a pot filled with oil as the minimal oscillation of such a pot can cause spillage of oil similarly slight excitement in the pregnant women can initiate *Garbhapata* (abortion), hence our Acharyas have given a detailed Systematic regimen for the pregnant women⁵.

Labour is a physiological process which is defined as series of events that take place in the genital organs of a pregnant women in an effort to expel the viable products of the conception out of womb through vagina into the outside world. Labour is termed as normal when it is spontaneous in onset, vertex presentation, at or near term, without any undue prolongation, termination with minimal intervention and leaving behind a healthy baby and a healthy mother⁶.

OBJECTIVES

The main aim of this present article is to study regarding garbhiniparicharya for sukhaprasava.

MATERIALS & METHODS

Classical Text books, Various published articles, website data, articles on *Garbhiniparicharya* and antenatal care were studied and used asmaterial to highlight the subject.

The whole GarbhiniParicharya can be discussed under three main headings.

1. *MasanumasikaPathya*: month wise dietary regimens



- 2. *GarbhopaghatakaraBhavas*: regimens and articles that is harmful
- 3. *Garbhasthapakadravyas*: substances which help in continuation of pregnancy

Masanumasikapathya (month wise dietary regimen):

During pregnancy fetus starts to get nutrition from mother through placenta. Adequate nutrition is needed for monthly constant and proper development of embryo. The requirement of nutrition varies according to development of fetus. Thus there will be month wise changes in the dietary requirements of the mother. By following these prescribed monthly dietetic regimens, the pregnant woman will be healthy and delivers a baby having good health, strength, complexion, voice and energy.

The monthly regimen helps in:

- 1. Softening of pelvis, waist, sides of the chest and back
- 2. Downward movement of vata (*vataanulomana*) this is needed for the normal expulsion of fetus during delivery.
- 3. Proper evacuation of urine and stool.
- 4. Promotion of strength and complexion
- 5. Delivery with ease of a healthy child endowed with excellent qualities in proper time.

The mother's food habits and nutritional status before conception as well as during

pregnancy influences the outcome of pregnancy.

1stmonth: - plain milk as much as one can consume at intervals.

2ndmonth: - milk medicated with *madhura* drugs

3rdmonth: - milk with honey & ghrita

4thmonth: - milk with *Navneeta*

5thmonth: - milk with *ghrita*

6thmonth: - ghrita medicated with madhura group,

7thmonth: - Same as 6 month.

8thmonth: - ksheerayavagu with ghrita

9thmonth: - *Anuvasanabasti* with oil prepared with *madhura drugs&yoni pichu*⁷.

AcharyasushruthaadvicedGhrita or Rice Gruel medicated with gokshurain 6th month and *prithakaparnyadiGhrita* in 7th month⁸.

Aacharyacharak has indicated anuvasanabasti and yoni pichu in 9th month of pregnancy during garbhiniparicharya in sharirsthana adhyaya ie direction to use Anuvasanabasti and Pichu:

☐ *AnuvasanaBasti*:From the first day of 9th month twice a week till delivery.

☐ *Yoni Pichu* :At night daily from 9th month till delivery.

Effect of Basti and Pichu on Prasava: Basti is considered as the best treatment forvata disorders⁹. In case of pregnant woman, basti is indicated to prevent the pathogenicity of



vayu. Apanavayu plays an important role in act of contraction and relaxation of uterus, expulsion of foetus¹⁰. and Duringprasavakala, the vyanavayu stimulates the act of contraction and relaxation in the uterine muscles and due to it, apanavayu becomes active to expel the Garbha fromgarbhashaya.

Garbhopaghathakarabhavas (Activities and substances which are harmful to fetus): Garbhopaghathakarabhavas are the ahara and vihara which causes harm to the garbha (fetus). These may cause some congenital defects in the child and are not conducive to the birth of a healthy child. These can be classified under two different headings namely ahara (diet) and vihara(behavior).

Contraindicated diet for pregnant women:

Consumption of excessive heavy, pungent substances like wine and vishtambiahara(hard to digest)¹¹.

Contraindicated life style for pregnant women:

Coitus, exercise such as lifting heavy weight, squatting, abnormal sitting, vehicle ride, sleeping in supine position, misdeeds of $indriva^{12}$.

Garbhasthapakadravyas (Substances beneficial for maintenance of pregnancy): Garbhasthapakadravyasare the

which substances act againstgarbhopaghatakarabhavas and help in the proper maintenance of the garbha. These are to be used on a regular basis as they are very useful for the continuation of proper health and development of the and of mother fetus. Few the Aindri garbhasthapakaaushadhis are (Bacopamonnieri), braahmi (Centellaasiatica), *Amogha* (Stereospermums uaveolens), Sahasravirya (Cynodondactylon), Satavirya (Asparagus racemosus), Avyatha (Tinosporacardifolia), Vatyapushpi

(Sidacardifolia), Shiva

(Terminaliachebula), Vishwasenkanta (Callic arpamacrophylla), Arista (Picrorhizakurroa) etc. These should be taken orally as preparations in milk and ghee¹³. A bath with cold decoction of these drugs should be given during *pushyanakshatra*. These should be kept in close contact with the mother and can be used as amulets around the right arm and on the head. Drugs mentioned in the jeevaneeyagroupcan also be used. Kasyapa has advised that the pregnant women should amulet of trivrit have (Operculinaterpethum)tied in their waist¹⁴.

DISCUSSION

Starting from samhita period Garbhiniparicharya is very well



documented in Ayurvedic classics. Scholars have prescribed monthly dietary regimen and life style practices for whole pregnancy according to the need of mother's health, fetal growth and development. Nausea and vomiting are the main complications experienced by majority of women during pregnancy. Due to this, there is a possibility in pregnant women to get dehydrated and malnourished. Scholars have advised liquid diet instead of heavy and solid food in first trimester to avoid such type complications. Ahara rasa produced in pregnant women is utilized for, nourishment and growth of baby and formation of stanya, hence monthwise dietary regimen is to be followed¹⁵.

Gokshura (Tribulusterestris) advised in sixth month has diuretic and nephroprotective properties which in turns reduce the pedal oedema. Ghrita prepared with Prithakparnyadi (Vidarigandhadi) group of drugs helps in mitigating vata and pitta and gives bala to both mother and fetus. SnigdhaYavagu gives strength to the body, nourishes the body tissue and pacifies the VataDosha. *Ushnodak* (luke warm water)has pachana, trishnasamana dipana, aruchihara properties thus it is advised throughout the pregnancy.

Owing to *snehana* property of *Anuvasnabasti*, the abdomen, flanks, sacrum and all the genital organs becomes snighda. The *snigdha* property removes the *rukshta of vayu* and thus it controls exaggerated vata.

CONCLUSION

The child birth should be an event of joy and satisfaction. Maintenance of health of the women and wellbeing of the foetus is the aim of antenatal care. *Garbhiniparicharya* is very well documented in Ayurvedic classics. Scholars have prescribed monthly dietary regimen and life style practices for whole pregnancy according to the need of mother's health, fetal development and its well being, and promotes for *sukhaprasava*.

Labour should be natural and spontaneous in onset. When the foetus is expelled out through vagina with less duration and intensity of pain to mother, it is called prakrita and sukhprasava. Hence to get the fruitful outcome of nature, Acharyas have advised garbhiniparicharya from conception till delivery, which includes administration of anuvasanabasti and use of yonipichu in navamamasaand month wise dietary regimen. This ayurvedic regimen improves the physical and psychological condition of pregnant women and makes her body suitable for sukhaprasava.



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