# Ayurvedic Literature Review of Pratishyaya w.s.r. Rhinitis

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**Review Article** 

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### Abstract

Ayurveda is the ancient most medicine science with equal emphasis upon prevention and cure. Due to environmental pollution, global warming, and life style disorders, a very common disease, Pratishyaya/Rhinitis occurs much more frequently than before. Pratishyaya has been considered as a separate clinical condition in Uttar Tantra of Sushruta Samhita. Improper management or negligence can lead to lots of complications like Badhirya, Andhata, Gandhanasha, Kasa etc. Rhinitis is an inflammation of the nasal membranes, characterized by watery nasal discharge, nasal obstruction, sneezing and nasal itching. This may also be associated with symptoms of itching in the eyes, palate and pharynx. Many treatment modalities are explained in modern system of medicine like corticosteroids, antiallergics, inhalers, antihistamines etc., but none of them are totally effective in curing the disease as well as preventing its recurrence, more over they have their own side effects.

Keywords: Pratishayaya; Ayurveda; Rhinitis.

# Introduction

The human body is continuously under the influence of environmental stresses as pollution, chemicals, pesticides, genetically modified food, smoke and errant diet as untimely meals, over eating, cold drinks, ice cream etc., which gives rise to respiratory tract disease. These factors lower the immunity of nasal mucosal membrane leading to various diseases. Among these diseases, *Pratishyaya* is a very common one.

*Pratishyaya* is described since *Samhita kala* in *Brihattrayee* as well as *Laghutrayee*. It is described as a premonitory symptom/ *purvarupa* of Tuberculosis/*Rajyakshma* and as a symptom of *Vega vidharanaj*, *Kshayaja* and *Vishamasanaja Yakshma*. In *Sushruta Samhita*, it is given in more detailed as a separate chapter.

Acharya Charaka described Pratishyaya as a lakshana of Sahasajanya, Dhatukshayaj, Sandharanajanya and Vishamashanaj Shosha in the chapter-Shoshanidan of Nidan Sthana. In eighth chapter-Rajyayakshma chikitsadhyaya of Chikitsa Sthana, Pratishyaya is given as a purvarupa and lakshana of Yakshma. In this chapter, samprapti as well as general treatment of Pinas (Pratishyaya) is described. In twenty sixth chapter-Trimarmiya chikitsaadhyaya, nidana and pathya of Pratishyaya is given. The Symptoms as well as treatment of specific types of Pratishyaya i.e. Vataj, Pittaj, Kaphaj and Sannipataj Pratishyaya is described in this chapter. If patients neglect, all types of Pratishyaya, it can change into Dushta Pratishyaya.

According to Ayurveda, Pratishyaya is one of the most important disease among Nasa roga (Nasal Disease) defined as a condition where the secretion produced due to vitiation of Vata and Kapha at the root of nose which flows down through the nose against the inspired air [1]. Acharya Susruta has described five types of Pratishyaya among in 31 nasaroga [2].

Etymology: Prati + Shyeng + Gatav = Pratishyaya

The word Pratishyaya is derived from "Shyeng" Dhatu which refers to move, when this Dhatu is prefixed by "Prati" and suffixed by "Gatav", the word Pratishyaya is form.

**Definition:** The word Pratishyaya is derived from two words – "prati" and "shyaya".

Prati – against the direction

Shyaya - moving or flowing

Acharya Charaka defined it as Kapha, Pitta, Rakta which being present in Ghrana moola, combines with Vata Dosha resulting in the secretion which flow against the inspired air [3].

# Importance of *Pratishyaya*

- 1. Pratishyaya is the causative condition for all the other diseases of the nasal cavity, and hence it is explained with priority in the nasarogas.
- 2. Pratishyaya is the only disease explained in Shalakya tantra which develops complications even before the signs and

symptoms occur. Hence if treated when the purvaroopas are seen, the further pathology can be stopped.

Considering all these facts, Pratishyaya has a special importance and should be treated as soon as detected in its initial stages.

Nidana of Pratishyaya - Nidana of Pratishyaya are classified under

- 1. Sadyojanaka Nidana
- 2. Kalantarajanaka Nidana

Aharaj Nidana	Charaka[4]	Sushruta[5]	Vaghbhat[6]	Kashyapa[7]
Ajeerna	+	-	-	-
Sheeta Ambu	+	-	-	-
Ati Ambupana	-	-	+	+
Mandagni	-	-	-	+
Dvividha Dughapana	-	-	-	+
Excessive intake of Guru, Madhura, Sheeta padarthas	-	-	-	+
Vismashana	-	-	-	+
Intake of Ati Sheeta Jala by persons of Shleshma Prakriti	-	-	-	+

Viharaja Nidana	Charaka	Sushruta	Vaghbhat	Kashyapa
Vega Sandharana	+	+	+	+
Rajah Sevan	+	+	+	
Dhooma Sevana	+	+	-	-
Ati Bhasana	+	-	+	-
Ritu Vaishamya	+	-	-	-
Shirobhitapa	+	+	-	-
Ratri jagarana	+	-	+	-
Ati Divaswapana	+	-	+	-
Avasyaya	+	+	+	
Ati Nariprasanga	+	+	-	-
Ati Jala Krida	-	-	+	-
Ati Pratapa	-	+	-	-
Ati Ashru Srava	+	-	-	-
Neechaatiucchaupadhan	-	-	+	-
Ati Parshwa Shayana	-	-	-	+
Nitya Anupahita Shayana	-	-	-	+
Apavrita Mukha Shayaya	-	-	-	+
Snana with Sheeta Jala	-	-	-	+

#### Table 1: Nidana of Pratishyaya

1	Manasika Nidana	Charaka	Sushruta	Vaghbhatta	Kashyapa
L.	4ti Krodha	+	-	-	-

# **Stages of Pratishyaya**

Acharya Dalhana described two stages of Pratishyaya as [8] - (1) Amavastha (2) Pakwavastha

3

*Amavastha:* The symptoms are- Aruchi, Vaktravirasam, Nasasrava, Ruja, Arati, Shirogurutvam, Kshvathu and Jwara.

*Pakwavastha:* This stage comes after the Amavastha in which Tanutvamamalingam, Shirah Nasa Laghuta and Ghanapittakaphatvam are the symptoms.

### **SAMPRAPTI**

These etiological factors of rhinitis provoke the pathology in a different way through the Shadkriyakala.

Here Vata, Pitta, Kapha and Rakta gets vitiated with their own etiologically factors. The vitiated Vata when reaches Shira Pradesha Kapha, Pitta and Rakta avarana of Dosha for the gati of Vata and Doshas get lodged in Shira Pradesha. Vriddha Vata expels out Kapha, Pitta and Rakta through nasal route thus giving rise to the disease Pratishyaya [9].

Observing the causative factors, allergy is noted as an important etiology. As practically seen, 20% of population does suffer from one or another allergy sometime in life [22].

**PURVA ROOPA** – It has been stated by Sushruta. Madhava Nidana and Bhavprakash have followed Sushruta in describing the purvaroopa [12].

- 1. Shirogurutvam (heaviness in the head)
- 2. Kshvathu Pravartanam (Sneezing)
- 3. Angamarda (Bodyache)
- 4. Parihristaromta (Generalised horripilation)

#### Classification

Acharya Susruta, Vagbhat, Madhavakar, Bhava Mishra, Sharangadhara have described five types of Pratishyaya on basis of Doshas. But Acharya Charaka and Kashyapa have not accepted Raktaja Pratishyaya [10, 11]. According to Rasa Ratna Samuchchaya, there are six types of Pratishyaya.

Vataja Pratishyaya – Clinical features according to *Charaka* (C.Ch.26/105)

Ghranarti Toda	Pricking pain sensation in nose
Kshavathu	Sneezing
Jalabhsrava	Watery nasal discharge
Swarabheda	Hoarseness in voice
Shirashoola	Headache

Clinical features according to Sushruta (Su.Ut.24/6-7), Madhava Nidana & Bhava Mishra

Anadhapihita nasa	Nasal obstruction and stiffness
Tanusrava pravartini	Watery nasal discharge
Galtalvoshath shosha	Dryness in throat, palate, lips
Shankh nistoda	Pricking sensation in temporal
	region
Swaropghata	Hoarseness in voice

Clinical features according to Vaghbhat (A.H.Ut.19/3-4)

Mukhshosha	Dryness in mouth	
Bhranshm shava	Sneezing	
Ghranoprodha	Nasal blockage	
Nistoda danta shankh	Pricking sensation in temporal region, teeth	
Shirovaytha	Headache	
Kitika ev Sarpanti	Ant moving like feeling around the eyebrows	
Swarsaad	Hoarseness in voice	
Chiratpaka	Late viscous secretion	
Shishira Kaphashruti	Watery nasal secretion	

*Pittaja Pratishyaya* – Clinical features according to *Charaka* (C.Chi.26/106)

Nasagrapaka	Inflammation of tip of nose
Jwara	Fever
Vaktrashosha	Dryness in mouth
Trishna	Thirst
Ushnapittasrava	Hot & yellow nasal discharge

Clinical features according to Sushruta (S.S.Ut.24/8), Madhava Nidana & Bhava Mishra

Ushnapittaksrava	Hot & yellow nasal discharge
Krishata	Weakness
Panduta	Pallor
Trishna	Thirst
Dhumra-vahini-vamana	Vomiting

Clinical features according to Vaghbhat (A.H.Us.19/5)

Trishna	Thirst
Jwara	Fever
Ghranapitika	Furuncles in nose
Bhrama	Giddiness
Nasagrapaka	Inflammation of tip of nose
Ushnatamrapittasrava	Hot & yellow nasal discharge

*Kaphaja Pratishyaya-* Clinical features according to *Charaka* (C.Chi.26/106)

Kasa	Cough
Aruchi	Anorexia
Ghanasrava	Thick nasal discharge
Kandu	Ithching

Clinical features according to Sushruta (S.S.Ut.24/9), Madhav Nidana & Bhav Mishra

Clinical features according to Vaghbhat (A.H.Us.19/6)

Aruchi	Anorexia
Shwasa	Difficulty in breathing
Vamana	Vomiting
Gatragaurava	Heaviness in body
Mukha madhurya	Sweetness in mouth
Kandu	Itching
Shukla-kaphasruti	Whitish nasal discharge

#### Raktaja Pratishyaya

According to *Charaka*: he has not described *Raktaja Pratishyaya*.

Clinical features according to Sushruta (S.S.Ut.24/12-13), Madhava Nidana and Bhava Mishra

Rakta srava	Bleeding from nose
Tamrakshi	Copper coloured eyes
Daurgandha Swasa Vadan	Foul breathing
Gandhan na vetti	Loss of sense of smell
Krimipatana	Worms fall from nose

Clinical features according to Vaghbhat (A.H.U.19/8)

Urah suptata	Stiffness in chest
Tamranetra	Copper coloured eyes
Swasaputita	Foul breathing
Shrotra-akshi-nasa kandu	Itching in ear, eye and nose
Pittokta lakshanam	Characteristics of pittaja Pratishyaya

#### Sannipataja Pratishyaya

According to Charaka: Symptoms are Sarvanirupani, *Tivraruja, Dukhadayee*. (C.Chi.26/106).

According to Susruta: it occurs again and again but stops suddenly. (Su.Ut.24/10-11)

According to Vagbhat: Symptoms are *Sarvaja lakshana*, *Akasmat vridhishanti*. (A.H.Ut.19/7).

*Dusta Pratishyaya:* If *Pratishyaya* not treated properly, leads to *Dust Pratishyaya*.

#### Management of *Pratishyaya*

The dietary measures, medications for *Sodhana* and *Shaman* and various treatment modalities for *Pratishyaya* are explained in detail by *Acharya Sushruta* [13].

The first step in the treatment is *Nidana-Parivarjan*. As only local treatment is not enough to treat the disease, oral medication is also necessary which helps to remove the pathology and also improves the immunity status.

As per *Acharya Sushruta, Langhana* along with *deepana* and *pachana dravyas, Swedana, Vamana, Avapeedana Nasya* and *ghrita pana* (except Navin Pratishyaya) are the common treatment methodologies suggested in all types of Pratishyaya. Panchakarma is of significant detox value against all the three Tridosha [21].

**Treatment of** *Apakva Pratishyaya* – Swedana from Kanji etc. Amla pathartha, intake of hot substances, use of milk mix with Adarka and use of ekshu preparation like Gud, Fanita yoga etc [14].

**Treatment of** *Pakva Pratishyaya* – Tikshna Shirovirachana, Dhoompana, Asthapana basti, Kaval, Nasya and use of Haritaki [15].

#### Treatment of Vataja Pratishyaya [16]

- *Ghritapana* Oran administration of *Panch lavan siddha ghrita* and *Vidharigandhadi gana sidhha ghrita*.
- Nasya
- Arditokta chikitsa Shirobasti, Nasya, Dhooma, Upnaha, Sneha & Nadi Swadana, Ksheer taila pana and Abhayang.

#### Treatment of Pittaja & Raktaja Pratishyaya [17]

• Perisheka

Ghritapana

- Pradeha
- Virechan
- Nasya

#### **Exclusive treatment**

- 1. Oral administration Kakolyadi gana siddha ghritapana and Shreeveshtaka, Sarjarasa, Priyanghu, Madhu, Sarkra, Draksha, Madhulika, Gojihva, Gambhari, Madhuka mix with ghee.
- 2. Parisheka from Sheeta Dravyas.
- 3. Pradeha from Sheeta Dravyas.
- 4. *Virechan* from Madhura dravyas
- 5. Nasya Dhavtwak, Triphala, shyama, Tilvaka, Madhuka, Shreeparni, Haridra rubbed with water, milk and tila taila used for Nasya.

# Treatment of Kaphaja Pratishyaya [18]

- 1. Ghritapana
- 2. Yavaghu pana
- 3. Vaman
- 4. Kaphaghna Karma
- 5. Nasya

#### 6. Dhoompana

#### Exclusive treatment

- *1. Yavaghu pana Yavaghu preparation* of *Tila* and *Masha*.
- Nasya Bala, Atibala, choti Kantkari, badi Kantkari, Vidang, Goshura, Swetamoola, Gambhari, Punarnava rubbed with *Tila taila* used for Nasya.
- 3. Dhoompana-Sarla, Kinhi, Devdaru, Nikumbha, Hinghota rubbed with water and make Varti, used for Dhoompana.

# Treatment of Sannipataja Pratishyaya [19]

- Ghritapana
- Tikshna dhoompana
- Use of Katu Aushadi
- Nasya
- Kavala
- Shirovirechana

### **Exclusive Treatment**

- Nasya Rasanjan, Atish, Musta, Devdaru rubbed and mix in *Tila taila* and water used for *Nasya*. Jangal meat, milk, Dashmool, Vidharigandhadi gana drugs rubbed and mix with Eladigana drugs & ghee, used for Nasya.
- Kavala Decoction of Musta, Tejovati, Patha, Katphala, Katuka, Vacha, Sarspa, Pippalimoola, Pippali, Sandhav, Chitraka, Tutha, Kranja, Lavan, Devdaru. Also used as Shirovirechan (Taila preparation).

Sushruta has specially mentioned krimighna chikitsa such as use of Vidangadi medicine in Nasya form and Krimighna Karma [20].

### **Certain Instructions to be followed**

- The patient suffering from *pratishyaya* should avoid cold breeze and polluted air.
- It is advisable to use a mask or cover the face and nose to avoid pollutants and causative organisms to enter the nose.
- Artificially cooled air should be avoided as it absorbs all the moisture and causes severe drying effect of the nasal mucosa.
- Regular nasal douching should be done with saline water to reduce the crusting of the nasal mucosa. Regular *Nasya chikitsa* should be followed.

# Conclusion

Ayurvedic formulations can be adopted for more effective, non chemical treatment of Pratishyaya. All formulations are proposed to be taken up for evaluation of their effect in Pratishyaya w.s.r to rhinitis to come up with safe and cost effective treatment for this ailment.

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6

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