Review of Ancient modalities described in ayurveda texts to explore foreign particles embedded in human body

Sunil Kumar Pandey¹, Prashant L. Rasale*²

¹. Lecturer, Dept of Shalyatantra A & u Tibbia College karol bagh New Delhi.
². Asst. Professor, Dept of Shalyatantra A & u Tibbia College karol bagh New Delhi.

*Corresponding Author: drprashantrasale@rediffmail.com

ABSTRACT:

Pranashtha Shalya is a Sanskrit word meant for foreign particles embedded in human body which is not seen externally but body gives some specific signals of its identification or few special activities are need to discover a foreign particle in human body. In the ancient era though there is not such tool like x ray, USG or scans the surgeons of that era were has skill and knowledge of its identification and procedure of its removal After review of various ancient texts of indian medicine and surgical methods used in ancient era it is found that there was need of such skill to overcome various surgical condition. Today even we have newer interventions like ct scan, MRI and USG guided instruments etc but the basic principle is remains old on.

KEYWORD: shalya, pranashataashalya, foreign body, ayurveda, surgery
INTRODUCTION:

Modern medicine defines a foreign body as any object originating outside the body. Common roots of entries are most commonly through natural orifices into hollow organs, e.g., through mouth to stomach, through anus to rectum, through nose to respiratory tract. Foreign bodies can enter through wounds. General features include pain, ulceration, foreign body sensation. Foreign bodies can be inert or irritating if they are irritating, they cause inflammation, scarring, and hence leading to infection. Some examples are their coin, which causes local pressure on the tissue but generally is not a medical emergency to remove. Button batteries generate OH- ions and cause chemical burns. It is a medical emergency.

Alimentary Canal One of the most common locations for a foreign body is alimentary tract. It is possible for foreign bodies to enter through mouth or rectum; diagnosis can be done with investigations like X-Ray, USG, Colonoscopy, and Endoscopy. Treatment options are extraction with the help of a probe, by giving laxatives and purgatives to cause them to come out with faces. Rarely, surgical intervention is required. Complications are ulceration, infection, obstruction, and perforation.

It is possible for a foreign body to enter the airways and cause choking. Common materials are button batteries, silver ball, etc. Features include choking, pain, coughing, and sneezing. Treatment options are by causing reflex sneezing, extraction with the help of a probe. Surgical intervention may be required if the foreign body is deep in the tract. Complications may occur like aspiration asphyxia and injuries to the tract.

Eyes-Dust particle, bacteria etc can enter the eyes through hair, unclean hands, handkerchiefs, towels, etc. Features include pain, irritation, foreign body sensation, and hyperlacrimation. Treatment options are washing eyes with clean water, topical antibiotics. Complications can occur like Keratitis, Conjunctivitis, Keratoconjunctivitis. Techniques like X-Ray, Ultrasound, CT-Scan, and MRI can figure out location of such foreign body and hence can extract it surgically.

In the ancient era though there is not such tool like X-ray, USG or scans, the surgeons of that era were has skill and knowledge of its identification and procedure of its removal. After review of various ancient texts of Indian medicine and surgical methods used in ancient era it is found that there was need of such skill...
to overcome various surgical condition, various methods of identification and removal of foreign bodies are described below.

**Diagnosis of Foreign Particle**

**Foreign Particle under skin** :- if hidden foreign body is under skin then it is seen that a red swelling or pain at the foreign body site after snehan(massage ), swedan(fomentation) and rubbing of that specific region with soil ,wheate or black gram.or if u apply a solid ghee or clay and chandan mix then ghee will spread over that area or applied paste of mixture will be dry out.¹

**Foreign Particle under muscular tissue** :- if hidden foreign body is under muscular tissue then redness, swelling and pain will be appear at the foreign body site after snehan(massage ), swedan(fomentation) and unopposed treatment modalities²

**Foreign Particle in vessels & tendons** :- hidden foreign body in vessels , tendons and different channels of body tissue can be identified by travelling the patient in defected wheel vehicle on damaged uneven roadway after this the body area in which foreign body is hidden on can find redness and pain is prominent in that region.³

**Foreign Particle in boney tissue** :- if hidden foreign body is under osteoid tissue then pain will be appear at the foreign body site after snehan (massage ), swedan (fomentation) , bandaging and pressure procedure.⁴

**Foreign Particle in joints** :- if hidden foreign body is in joint region then redness and pain will be appear at the foreign body site on flexion ,extension etc joint movement after snehan(massage ), swedan (fomentation) , procedure.⁵

**Foreign Particle in unknown site** :- foreign body in important and delicate structure can be identified as in case of vessels and tendon. Unknown foreign bodies can create pain and redness in specific region after activities like elephant travelling,horse riding and climbing over trees and act of archery,exercise, fast walking, wrestling ,swimming ,jumping yawning blenching coughing sneezing etc⁶

Foreign body remained in body if they are plant origine they will liquefy muscle and blood tissue. If foreign bodies of metal origine like gold silver copper aluminium are remained in body for prolong duration then they will liquefy and absorbed in the body. Like this any soft and delicate unremoved foreign body may liquefy with body heat and it may get absorbed in body tissue.⁷
conclusion: - ancient medicine system has wise knowledge of diagnosis and treatment of foreign bodies entered in human body.

References: -


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