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"CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF AWASTHIKI CHIKITSA IN UDARA"

Dr Pradnya Patil1, Dr Sudhir Koli 2

- Dr Pradnya Patil, MD Kayachikitsa, Associate Professor, Department of Kayachikitsa, Loknete Rajarambapu Patil Ayurvedic Medical College, Hospital, PG Institute & Research Centre, Islampur
- 2. Dr Sudhir Koli, MD Kayachikitsa, Professor, Department of Kayachikitsa, Acharya Deshbhushan Ayurvedic Medical College and Hospital, Bedkihal

Abstract

Udara roga, one of the ashta mahagada, is a severe disorder in ayurveda, primarily caused by agnimandya and vata vitiation, leading to fluid accumulation and metabolic dysfunction. It progresses through different stages like ajatodakawastha, picchavastha and jatodakawastha which manifesting as abdominal swelling, indigestion, and systemic complications. The ayurvedic approach emphasizes nidana parivarjana, deepana-pachana and detoxification through virechana and basti. Herbal formulations like trivrut leha, eranda taila, and gomutra aid in toxin clearance, while takra and dugdha prayoga help restore balance. Dosha-specific treatments for vatodara, pittodara, and kaphodara ensure personalized management. Pathya-apathya plays a crucial role, promoting light, digestible foods and restricting heavy, incompatible diets. By integrating shodhana, shamana and dietary discipline, ayurveda provides a holistic and structured approach to treating udara roga, aiming for long-term digestive and systemic health.

Keywords: *Udara Roga*, Ayurveda, *Agnimandya*, *Vata* vitiation, *Jalodara*, *Virechana*, *Basti*, *Deepana-Pachana*, *Shodhana*, *Pathya-Apathya*

Introduction:

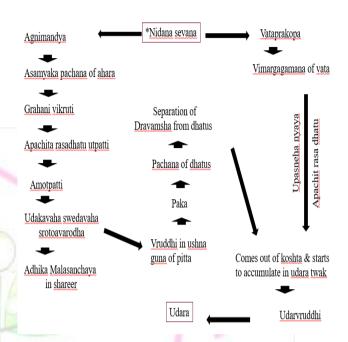
Mandagni is considered the fundamental cause of most diseases in ayurveda, mainly in udara roga it plays a central role¹. Sushrutacharya classifies udara under ashtamahagada, indicating its severity and complexity in management. When digestion is weakened, the improper metabolism of food leads to the formation of aama, which further obstructs the udakavaha and swedavaha srotas, causing fluid retention in the abdominal cavity.

यस्यवातः प्रकुपितत्वकमांसान्तरमाश्रितः । शोथंसंजनयेत्कुक्षावुदरंतस्यजायते॥² (Cha Su 28/31)

Here, aggravated *vata*, along with other *doshas*, accumulates in *twak* and *mamsantara*, leading to *shotha* in the abdominal region, which manifests as *udara roga*. Though all three *doshas* are involved, *vata* is the primary factor, disturbing digestion and metabolism. This results in symptoms like *shushka vaktra*, *krusha gatra*, *adhmana*, *pranashta agnibala*, *kukshi adhmana*, and *shotha in padas* and *karas*.

कुक्षेराध्मानमाटोपःशोफःपादकरस्यच मन्दोऽग्निःश्लक्ष्णगण्डत्वंकाश्यंचोदरलक्षणम्। |⁴ (Cha Chi 13/21)

Samprapti of udara

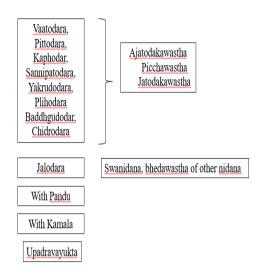


In *udara*, the root of the problem lies in *agnimandya and vimargagamana* of *vata*. When digestion weakens, it disrupts *grahani*, leading to improper formation of *rasadhatu* and the accumulation of *ama*. This *ama* clogs the *udakavaha* and *swedavaha srotas*, disturbing the body's natural fluid balance. As a result, *pitta's ushna guna intensifies*, *causingpachana* of *dhatus*. This entire process leads to the separation *of dravamshafrom* the *dhatus*, which then starts accumulating inkoshta, eventually manifesting as jalodara⁵.

Awasthas of udara

Udara roga progresses through three distinct awasthas, namely ajatodakawastha, picchawastha and jatodakawastha, In ajatodakawastha, there is a mild reddish discoloration (arunavarna), abnormal abdominal sounds

(sashabda), heaviness (natibharikam), prominent veins (sirajalagavakshitam), excessive salivation (lalasrava), and



altered perception taste (asyavairasya)⁶. As the condition advances to picchawastha, fluid starts accumulating, leading to guru kukshi, stimita udara, aakothita shabda, and mrudu sparsha'. In jatodakawastha, the abdomen becomes excessively enlarged (kuksheratimatravruddhi), veins disappear (sirantardhanagamanam) and udakpurnad<mark>rutisaksh</mark>obha and samsparsatvam confirms the presence of severe ascitic fluid⁸. Every types of *udar* will present with these three awastha's. Some patient may approach with pandu, kamala, and in upadrava awastha, so this also considered as awastha of udara.

Ayurvedic management of udara roga:

Understanding these progressive stages allows for timely intervention and a structured treatment approach. In *udara*

roga, the treatment isn't just about managing symptoms—it's about addressing the root cause. The first step is nidana parivarjana, avoiding what's triggering the imbalance. Then comes deepana-pachana, rekindling digestion, followed by tridoshahara chikitsa to restore doshika balance, and nitya virechana to keep the system clear of accumulated toxins⁹

Since *udara roga* involves *shotha*, reducing inflammation is key. *Vastraveshtana helps* prevent bloating post-*virechana*, while *basti* ensures proper *vata* regulation. *Takra* and *ksheer prayoga* support digestion and nourishment. If fluid retention becomes severe, *jalavisravana* helps drain excess accumulation. Together, these treatments create a well-rounded, holistic approach to healing *udara roga* from its core¹⁰.

Nidana parivarjana: nidana parivarjana involves avoiding causative factors such as atyushna, amla, lavana, kshara, and mithya samsarjana.

Deepana-pachana: is essential to restore agni and prevent further formation of *aama* with *pippali*, *musta*, *and trikatu* being commonly used.

उदरेदोषसम्पुरर्णेकुक्षौमन्दोयतोऽनल ः ।तस्माभोज्यानियोज्यनिदिपनानिलघुनिच \mathbf{u}^{11} (Bh.Ra 40/2)

Tridosha chikitsa: since *tridosha prakopa* is present in *udara roga, tridoshahara* therapies are implemented.

सर्वमेवोदरंप्रायोदोषसंघातजंयत:

अतोवातदिशमनिक्रियासर्वत्रशस्यते॥¹² (Bh. Ra. 40/1)

Virechana:

Regular virechana is highly beneficial as it removes excessive doshas and mala sanchaya, relieves srotavarodha, and improves agni.

दोषोतिमात्रोपचयात्स्रोतोमार्गनिरोधनात्।संभव त्युदर्तस्मान्नित्यमेनंविरेचयेत॥¹³ (Cha Chi 13/61)

Virechana is considered the primary shodhana therapy for udara roga. In ajatodakawastha, mrudu virechana using trivrut kalka siddha dugdha, eranda taila, and aragvadha kalka is recommended. In picchawastha and jatodakawastha, where dosha atimatra upachaya is present, tikshna virechana gomutra is advised. with Classical formulations like haritaki churna, ichhabhedi rasa and jalodarari rasa are useful.

Following virechana, vastraveshtana is essential to prevent kukshi adhmana due to the sudden evacuation of doshas, maintaining abdominal integrity.

वेष्टयेद्वाससोदरम्।तथाऽस्यानवकाशत्वाव्दा युर्नाध्मापयेत्पुनः। 14 cha chi 13/60

Basti:

सुविरिक्तस्यनरस्ययस्यपुनराध्मानंस्यात्तं उ दिरणंनरंपुनरेवनिरुहै:

सुस्निग्धैरम्ललवणैच्शोपाचरेत्।¹⁵(A.H Chi15/51)

Basti is indicated in ajatodakawastha when associated with punaradhmana. Niruha basti with snigdha, amla, lavana has to be given. Kapha-pitta avarana of vata is treated with tikshna basti using kshara or gomutra, while ruksha baddha shakrut is managed with anuvasana basti using til taila and eranda taila. 16

Takra prayoga in udara:

गौरवारोचकार्तानांसमन्दाग्नतिसारिणाम्।तक्रं वातकफार्तानाममृतत्वायकल्पते॥¹⁷(Cha chi 13/102-106)

In *udara roga, takra* isn't just a drink—it's a powerful healing remedy when used the right way. The key is to keep it neither too thick nor too watery, just the perfect balance, with a mildly sweet *(madhura)* taste to support digestion and dosha balance.

For *vataja udara*, adding *pippali* and *saindhava* helps warm things up and regulate digestion. In *pittaja udara*, a

cooling touch is needed, so sharkara and vashtimadhu churna work wonders. If kapha is the troublemaker, then ajamoda, saindhava, jeeraka, trikatu, and a little madhu (honey) help cut through the heaviness and boost metabolism. when all three doshas of control are out (sannipataja udara), a stronger mix of trikatu, yavakshara, and saindhava is needed to reset the system. And in jalodara, where excess fluid is a concern, trikatu churna is the go-to, helping to remove the excess buildup and improve digestion.¹⁸

Dugdha prayoga in udara:

प्रयोगाणांतुसर्वेषामनुक्षीरंप्रयोजयेत्।दोषानुब न्धरक्षार्थंबलस्थैर्यार्थमेवच॥¹⁹(Cha Chi 13/193)

शुध्दानांक्षामदेहानांगव्यंछागंसमाहिषम्।²⁰(Ch a Chi 13/108)

According to Sushrutacharya, kevala dugdha pana is highly beneficial in udara roga. In cases of jalodara, continuous milk consumption for six months is recommended as a therapeutic approach. Milk acts as a virechaka, helps in balavardhana, and supports dhatuvriddhi, making it a crucial part of the treatment plan. 19.20

Dosha-specific chikitsa for udara roga

With this general line of management specific treatment options

considering *doshika* predominance has to be considered, as follows.

Vatodara:

वातोदरंबलवतःपुर्वस्नेहैरुपाचरेत्।स्निग्धायस्वे दितागायंदद्यात्स्नेहविरेचनं॥²¹(Cha chi 13/59)

Vatodara is managed with snehana using vidarigandhadi ghrita, swedana, sneha virechana and basti therapy using dashmoola kwath and eranda taila. 21

In ajatodakawastha, after agnidipti, asthapana basti with dashmoola kwath and tikshna virechana aushadhi kalka is used to clear toxins and balance vata. If the patient is weak for virechana or has symptoms like spurana, akshepa, asthisandhi-parshava-prushta-trik vedana, mala baddhata, and rukshata, anuvasana basti with dashmoola and amlakanji siddha eranda taila or tilataila is preferred for nourishment and detoxification.²²

For udara roga, treatment varies by stage. Sushrutacharya recommends snehana with vidarigandhadi gana siddha ghrita and salvana upanaha, while ashtanga hridaya suggests mishraka ghrita pana and bhaishajya ratnavali advises lasun taila pana to regulate digestion and vata.²³

In jatodakawastha, *nitya virechana* is crucial, especially for *balawan rogi*, using s*nehavirechana* with *eranda taila* or

and maintain digestion. According to bhaishajya ratnavali and yogaratnakara, eranda taila prayoga is effective in udara roga, especially for vata regulation and detoxification. When combined with dashmoola kwath, it reduces inflammation, while triphala kwath and gomutra enhance bowel movements and toxin elimination. For deeper cleansing, dashmoola kwath and gomutra with eranda taila help strengthen digestion and clear ama. 25

Pittodara

पित्तोदरेतुबलिनंपुर्वमेवविरेचयेत्।दुर्बलंत्वनुवा स्यादौशोधयेत्क्षीरबस्तिना॥²⁶(ChaChi 13/68) पुनःक्षीरंपुनबस्तिपुनरेवविरेचयेत्।²⁷
(A.H.Chi 15/65)

In *pittodara*, treatment varies based on the patient's strength. A balavana rogi should first undergo virechana, while a durbala rogi should initially receive anuvasana basti, followed by shodhana using ksheera basti.For snehana. sushrutacharya prescribes kakolyadi gana siddha ghrita, which nourishes and prepares the body for detoxification. Ashtanga hridaya emphasizes a stepwise approach: ksheera pana, basti, repeated virechana.²⁸Anuvasana basti is specifically recommended for durbala patients, where dugdha yukta samshodhana basti and kakolyadi gana

kwath are used for gentle purification. For virechana in balavana rogi, charaka prescribes formulations like trivrut kalka siddha dugdha, eranda taila siddha dugdha, and aragvadha kalka siddha dugdha, while Sushrutacharya suggests trivrut triphala siddha ghrita. If kapha association (kaphanubandha) is present, gomutra-yukta dugdha is used, whereas for vata involvement (vatanubandha), tikta ghrita with dugdha is preferred for detoxification effective and doshic balance.²⁹

Kaphodara

यच्छितलंशुक्लसिरावनध्दंगुरुस्थिरंशुक्लान खाननस्य।30 (Su Ni 7/10)

recommends Charakacharya snehana, swedana, and tikshna virechana to eliminate toxins, along with a diet rich in katudravyaand ksharayukta dravya to support digestion.³¹According to Sushrutacharya, snehana with pippalyadi gana siddha ghrita prepares the body for detoxification, while virechana using snuhiksheer siddha ghrita helps eliminate aggravated doshas. Basti therapy with maricha, pippali, gomutra, yavakshara-mishrita taila is used to regulate vata and clear blockages. For external application, udaralepa with moolakabeeja kalka or kulathya kwath with trikatu mixed churna is suggested.³²Additionally, *bhaishajya ratnavali* prescribes *punarnavarishta*, *abhayarishta*, and *kumaryasava*, which aid in digestion, detoxification, and liver support.

Sannipatodara:

सन्निपातोदरेसर्वायथोक्ताः

कारयेत्क्रिया: I³³Cha Chi 13/74

In sannipataja udara, treatment is guided by dosha involvement, and as per charakacharya, all standard therapies should be applied accordingly. For Sushrutacharya virechana, prescribes saptala-sankhini siddha ghrita, along with stronger eliminative therapies like snuhi dugdha, sura, and gomutra siddha ghrita to clear deep-seated doshas. Ashtanga hridaya recommends danti-dravanti phala taila for internal administration to enhance detoxification and regulate metabolism.³⁴The key to managing sannipataja udara is balancing all three doshas while ensuring proper elimination and digestive strength.

Udara with kamala:

Some *Udara* cases may present with kamala. In such cases, treatment variation needed by differentiating between Koshtashakhashrita kamala and shakhashrita kamala.

In *koshtashakhashrita* kamala, purification should be done using mild and

tikta virechana dravyas, as recommended in charaka Samhita संशोध्योमृद्धिस्तिक्तैःकामलीत्विरेचनै

|35(Ch. Chi. 16/ 40). For *shakhashrita* kamala, where obstructive pathologies are involved, *kapha*-reducing and *pitta*-increasing therapies are essential, as per chakrapani's

commentaryकफहरंपित्तवृद्धीकरंसमंचिकि

त्सितमं³⁶ **Treatment** focuses on srotoshodhana using katu rasa, tikshna and ushnadravyas to clear blockages and restore bile flow. A combination of trikatu *churna* with *matulunga swarasa* and madhu is effective in breaking down kapha obstruction. Once pitta returns to its normal pathway, indicated by yellowcolored stools (purisha pittrarangita) and resolution of complications, the standard kamala treatment line is followed, as described in charaka Samhita

"स्वस्थानमागतेपित्तेपुरी<mark>षेपित्तर</mark>ञ्जिते|

निवृत्तोपद्रवस्यस्यात्पूर्वःकामलिकोविधि

|³⁷(Ch.Chi.16/131-132).For

koshtashakhashrita kamala, where both koshta and shakha are affected, the treatment approach includes a balance of kapha-reducing, pitta-enhancing, and detoxifying therapies to restore normal liver function. Ayurvedic formulations like patolmooladi kashaya, patolkatukrohinyadi

kashaya, and vasa guduchyadi kashaya are used to detoxify the liver, improve digestion, and reduce inflammation, ensuring proper metabolic function.

Udara with pandu:

तत्रपाण्ड्वामयीस्निम्धस्तिक्ष्णैरुध्वीनु

लोमिकै :|³⁸Cha Chi 16/40

In the treatment of udara with pandu, use snigdha-tikshna dravyas with urdhvabhagahara and anulomana properties to restore blood quality and digestion. Ayurvedic formulations like mandura vatika, punarnava mandura, and dhatri loha are beneficial in managing anemia, improving hemoglobin levels, and supporting liver function.

Upadravayukta awastha:

छर्दितिसारतमकतृष्णाश्वासकासहिक्कादौरब ल्यपार्श्वशुलअ<mark>रुचिस्वरभेदमुत्रसंगादयः।</mark> ³⁹Cha Chi 13/49

In asadhya avastha, symptoms like chhardi, atisara, tama, Trishna, shwasa, kasa, hikka, daurbalya, parshva shula, aruchi, swarabheda and mutra sanga indicate a severe prognosis. Treatment should be disease-specific, focusing on palliative care and symptom management.

Depending on severity:

The treatment approach for jalodara varies based on its severity. In uncomplicated cases, *samanya chikitsa* is

followed, using goarka, haritaki, snuhi, icchabhedi rasa, and jalodaradi rasa to regulate fluid balance and digestion. in severe cases, where complications like hemorrhoids or esophageal varices arise, jalodara chikitsa is applied while avoiding tikshna virechana using gomutra or snuhi. Instead, milder therapies like eranda taila, dugdha, and trivrut lehya are preferred. In complicated cases with ruptured esophageal *varices*, encephalopathy, or hepatorenal syndrome, the prognosis is poor, requiring a combination of jalodara chikitsa, shotha chikitsa, and raktapitta chikitsa for symptomatic relief and palliative care.

Shamana:

The samanya chikitsa for udara roga follows fundamental principles aimed tridoshas, at balancing correcting agnimandya through *deepana* and promoting light, easily digestible food. Beneficial therapeutic *formulations* include gomutra, ikshurasa, dugdha, and takra, which help regulate metabolism and support overall digestive health. 40 Few shamana medicines indicated in udara are dashamoola panchakoladi kashaya, patola muladi kashaya, punarnavadi kashaya, avipathikara choorna, mandoora vatakam, yakrut pleehodarari vati, rohitakaristam, kumaryasavam, gomutra haritaki, dashamoola hareetaki.

Pathya and apathya in udara roga

In udara roga, dietary regulation plays a crucial role. Pathya includes milk, *jangala mamsa rasa*, and easily digestible grains *likeshashtikashali*, *yava*, *godhumaetc* which help maintain digestive strength and metabolic balance.⁴¹

औदकानूपजंमांसंशाकंपिष्टकृतंतिलान् || व्याया माध्वदिवास्वप्नंयानयानंचवर्जयेत्। तथोष्णलवणाम्लानिविदाहीनिगुरूणिच || ना द्यादन्नानिजठरीतोयपानंचवर्जयेत्⁴² (Cha Chi 13/99-100

On the other hand, *apathya* include aquatic meat, heavy foods, processed grains, sesame and incompatible food combinations. Activities such as excessive exercise, long-distance travel, day sleep and intake of excessively salty, sour, spicy, or heavy-to-digest foods should also be avoided. Overeating and excessive water intake further disturb digestion and should be restricted.

Conclusion

Udara roga, a severe disorder linked to agnimandya and vata vitiation, demands a holistic ayurvedic approach. Nidana parivarjana eliminates causative factors, while *deepana-pachana* restores agni. *Virechana* is the primary purification therapy, supported by *basti*, *takra*, and

dugdha prayoga for digestion and fluid balance. Tailored treatments for vatodara, pittodara, kaphodara, and sannipatodara ensure targeted dosha management. Herbal formulations like dashamoola kashaya, punarnavadi kashaya, and mandura vatika aid detoxification liver and function. Pathya ahara like light, digestible foodssupport recovery, while apathya ahara like heavy, incompatible foods must be avoided. Lifestyle modifications further enhance treatment efficacy. Thus, ayurveda provides a structured, root-cause approach to udara roga, focusing on detoxification, dosha balance, digestive restoration for long-term health.

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