



DISSECTION OF BREAST TO CONFIRM PANCH PESHI (FIVE MUSCLES) BY ACHARYA SUSHRUTA

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ABSTRACT

Ayurveda is a science based on practical results obtained through different experimentation and studies on almost everything which effects life. Acharya Sushruta has explained different parts and subparts of body which can be seen after dissection. He says that body should be dissected after keeping in water. It should be dissected within limited time of seven days. He says that female breast has Panch Peshi (five muscles) extra than man. They were observed after dissection of preserved breast in formalin, Anatomy Museum, Shri Krishna Govt. Ayurveda College and Hospital, Kurukshetra (Haryana).

Keywords: Ayurveda, Acharya Sushruta, Breast, Formalin, Panch Peshi.

INTRODUCTION

Acharaya Sushruta has explained different types of muscles, bones, organs, vessels, layers in human body. He says a person who wants to be a perfect surgeon must see all parts and subparts of body through dissection. While explaining different number of muscles it is written in Sushruta Samhita that female has twenty muscles extra than man. Breast has five muscles. To study it practically it was decided to take breast specimen preserved in formalin, which can be compared with body preserved in still river water¹.

Preserved breast in formalin was taken from Anatomy Museum, Shri Krishna Govt. Ayurveda College and Hospital, Kurukshetra (Haryana).

Each breast has five muscles. They grow in youth.¹After purification only dead body must be used for dissection. During dissection every part should be examined to have its thorough knowledge².

Procedure of Dissection: Due to need of dissection dead body with full parts, death not due to poison or any chronic ailment, less than hundred years age (usually at that time life time used to be longer), excreta from intestines must be removed, in still water place the dead body in a cage fully wind up with dry stems, barks and straw etc. Let it to undergo putrefaction in darkness of river. Dark and still water will have optimum required temperature. After proper putrefaction remove it. Then with the help of scalpels made up of barks, brushes of stems scrap it slowly and slowly from outside to inside to see all skin layers with all parts and subparts of body within seven days.³

Anatomy of breast: The breast is composed of glandular, ductal, connective, and adipose tissue. Embedded in the fibrous tissue are fat and lobules which make up the mammary glands, accessories to reproduction in women, but rudimentary and functionless in men. In men, little fat is present in the breast, and the glandular system normally does not develop. In women,

the breasts are the most prominent superficial structure on the anterior thoracic wall, and the amount of fat in the glandular tissue determines the size of the breasts. A small part of the mammary gland often extends into the axilla, forming the axillary tail of Spence.

The breasts lie on the deep pectoral fascia (investing the pectoralis major) and the fascia of the serratus anterior. They are bounded by the clavicle superiorly, the lateral border of the latissimus muscle laterally, the sternum medially, and the inframammary fold inferiorly. The breast is attached to the dermis of the overlying skin by connective tissue structures known as Cooper's ligaments (aka suspensory ligaments or retinacula cutis), which suspend the breast on the chest wall. The mammary glands are modified sweat glands and are composed of 15-20 lobules, each drained by a lactiferous duct. Each lactiferous duct independently drains on the nipple and is preceded by a small dilated portion known as the lactiferous sinus⁴.

Dissection of breast: Breast of female was taken from anatomy museum preserved in formalin for more than 2-3 years of Shri Krishna Govt. Ayurveda College, Kurukshetra (Haryana). This specimen was chosen for dissection especially keeping in view that Acharaya Sushruta has explained method of dissection in which dead body is kept under still dark river water. When body is kept under water then cells imbibe water and swells up. This helps in making each layer of muscle distinct. This is an excellent way by which body each layer will differentiate but will not mix up resultant of putrefaction. It is given that dissection must be completed within seven days as if delayed the body may degenerate. This cannot be useful for study purpose or in condition of dissection.

DISCUSSION

On examination it was observed main periphery of breast were showing three layers of concentric rings from inside out. Just like a cone made up of three sheets joined in centre at nipple.

Fourth muscle can be taken as tail of Spence. Fifth Muscle is nipple itself, which was impossible to be further divided into any layers being a button like structure with 18 holes in it. They must be openings of lactiferous ducts.

CONCLUSION

Achayara Sushruta has given finest way of dissection till date. After death due to decomposition, preservation or naturally all layers of body cannot be differentiated. But it can be done after being kept in still dark water. Same way dissection of formalin preserved breast five Peshis could be seen.

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