

**AYURVEDA AND SURGERY****Dr. Aiyanna P. P.<sup>1\*</sup> and Dr. Poornima Jalawadi<sup>2</sup>**<sup>1</sup>Assistant Professor, Dept. of Shalya Tantra, JSS Ayurveda Medical College.<sup>2</sup>Assistant Professor, Dept. of Shalya Tantra of Shalya Tantra, JSS Ayurveda Medical College.**\*Corresponding Author: Dr. Aiyanna P. P.**

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Surgery is an ancient medical speciality that uses operative manual and instrumental techniques on a patient to investigate and to treat a pathological condition such as disease or injury. Today when we think of surgery it is usually the robotic surgeries, cutting edge technology, antiseptic theatres and sophisticated surgical equipments. But real fact is that surgery is science that was practiced even thousands of years ago in India. Ayurveda being the oldest system of medicine is the pioneer of surgery. Sushruta samhita is very first surgical treatise written in the world which has a specialized branch called shalya Tantra.

Acharya sushruta has described various surgical procedures like Excision [Chedana], Incision [Bhedana], Curating [Lekhana], Paracentesis [Vyadana], Probing [Esana], Extracting[Aharana], Puncturing [Visravana] and suturing [seevana]. Acharya sushruta had laid emphasis on study of the human anatomy. Along with his contemporaries he conducted surgical procedures like cataract, plastic surgery of the Nose, Ear, and Lips, Haemorrhoids, Hydrocoele, Hernia, Surgical management of fistula, Surgery in intestinal obstruction, management of non healing ulcers, tumors. Along with these, detailed description of fractures and their management. Description of physiotherapy is also available in Sushruta samhita. We can also find description of 101 blunt surgical instruments, 20 sharp instruments. The various operative stages like purvakarma [pre-operative], pradhanakarma[operative], paschathakarma[post-operative] procedures, importance of sterilization, fumigation techniques are also described in detail and also the importance of surgery in various diseases which cannot be treated with mere medications. Extraction of foreign bodies and its effects are also explained in detail. When we study all these concepts and compare with today's surgical techniques, it is very clear that the present day procedures are refined form of the techniques followed by our Acharyas. The idea of plastic surgery went from India to UK from there on to the rest of the world. Foreign invasions, spread of Buddhism, lack of knowledge sharing to next generation, lack of documentation and many other reasons lead to decline of Shalya Tantra

system has answered the majority of the ailments through well developed advanced surgeries, in certain diseases like Anorectal conditions, vascular diseases, wounds, ulcers, skin disorders, neurological conditions and so on effect of the treatments, pain caused, the cost of the treatment, Cure rate are not satisfactory. Ayurvedic medicines and Parasurgical procedures like Ksharakarma, Agnikarma, Jaloukavacharana shows the glimpses of its excellnces in treating such conditions. Any system of science cannot develop in isolation. There should be a continuous cross talk and application of mutual thoughts for progress. Hence it becomes duty of every one to put forth their efforts in developing these techniques. Ayurveda is an ocean of knowledge consisting many concepts in concise form and appropriate selection, understanding and application of these concepts will lead to the best solution ever.

Now time has come to analyze why surgery in Ayurveda has still remained backward despite its tremendous concepts and historical contributions in development of surgery. This should be answered by our policy makers and educationists. Although well developed Allopathic