

# INTERNATIONAL AYURVEDIC MEDICAL JOURNAL







Review Article ISSN: 2320-5091 Impact Factor: 6.719

## A CONCEPT OF MALA IN BRIHATRAYI

Bhagya Shree Potter<sup>1</sup>, Komal Ben chavda<sup>2</sup>, Ashok Kumar Sharma<sup>3</sup>, Ayushi Nigam<sup>4</sup>, Amanpreet Kaur Broca<sup>5</sup>

- 1. P.G. Scholar Department of Kriya Sharira, MMM Gov. Ayurveda College, Udaipur (Raj.)
- 2. P.G. Scholar Department of Kriya Sharira, MMM Gov. Ayurveda College, Udaipur (Raj.)
- 3. Head of Department of Kriya Sharira, MMM Gov. Ayurveda College, Udaipur (Raj.)
- 4. Assistant Prof. of Kriya Sharira, MMM Gov. Ayurveda College, Udaipur (Raj.)
- 5. Medical Officer, Shalya unit Govt Ayurvedic Hospital, Department of AYUSH, Govt of UT Jammu and Kashmir.

Corresponding Author: bhagyashreepotter415@gmail.com

https://doi.org/10.46607/iamj1511032023

(Published Online: March 2023)

**Open Access** 

© International Ayurvedic Medical Journal, India 2023

Article Received: 05/02/2023 - Peer Reviewed: 18/02/2023 - Accepted for Publication: 09/03/2023.



## **ABSTRACT**

According to Ayurveda, the state is known as "Swastha" when the Doshas, Dhatus, and Malas are in Sama-Awastha and Indriya, Aatma and Mana are all functioning normally. Mala is a significant subject in the Ayurvedic curriculum, especially Sharira Kirya or human physiology. Mala are substances or waste products that are expelled from the human body. The by-products of the physiological and metabolic processes taking place inside the human body are represented by Mala. For the maintenance of better health, it's crucial to effectively eliminate diseases. Waste products of food are urine (Mutra) and faces (Purisha), while waste products (by-products) of Rasa Dhatu are Kapha, Waste products of Rakta Dhatu are pitta, and waste products of Mamsa Dhatu are Kha-Mala. The waste product of medo dhatu is sweat (Sweda) waste products of Asthi Dhatu are hair (Kesha and Loma) while Sneha of eyes, faces, and skin are the waste products of Majja Dhatu. The three primary waste products, which come from eating, are faeces (Purisha), urine (Mutra), and sweat (Sveda). According to some, sustaining good health depends on the efficient removal of malas. Malas has the power to change Dhatus,

which in turn affects how the *Doshas* are balanced. Several illnesses may result from this. Wastes produced by the body's processes for burning energy must therefore be eliminated.

**Keywords:** *Mala*, Urine, *Mutra*, *Purisha*, *Sweda*, Health, *Ayurveda*.

## INTRODUCTION

The Doshas, Dhatus, and Mala are the body's Moola (root). <sup>1</sup> The body cannot sustain its balance without them. When these three work together, the body is healthy when they don't, deformity emerges in the body. Malas are those elements of the body that are regularly expelled from it, keeping it clean. When these wastes are properly eliminated, health is maintained. Various diseases are produced when they build up excessively. "Anna-mala" refers to malas that form during the digestive process, while "Dhatumala" refers to malas that form during the metabolism of *Dhatus*. Mala is the term for when the body becomes filthy. Mala refers to individuals who contaminate the *Dhatus* and *Updhatus* of the body. The importance of Mala for the human body is similar to that of *Doshas* and *Dhatus*. Sweat (*Sweda*), urine, and Purisha have been given the descriptive designation "Mala." <sup>3</sup> The Vatadi three Doshas, which consist of seven Dhatus from Rasa to Shukra and Swedaadi Mala are referred to as the body's eternal (lifetime) root (base). The stool that maintains the body in place must be present in the body in a specified quantity. When faeces start to decompose inside the body, the body gets feeble. The body is maintained and improved by the proper balance of the Doshas, Dhatus, and Mala. When these factors are out of harmony, the body becomes ill. That's why Acharya Charaka has called Dhatuvaishamya a disorder<sup>4</sup>, Acharya Vagbhatta has called Doshavaishamya a disorder.5

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The *Pitta* located between the stomach and the duodenum divides the food into *Rasa* and *Mala*. Besides *Vayu*, there are two divisions of this *Mala*, *Purisha*, and urine. When the food is digested properly, then the clean part of it is called *Rasa*. The fecal part is called kitta. Thus the diet results have two parts.

## (1) Prasad Bhag – *Rasa* (2) Mal part - *Kitta*

The *Kitta* component confirms the presence of urine, *Purish*, sweat (faeces), *Vata*, bile, phlegm, and excreta from the genitals, including hair, beard hair, follicles, nails, and others, as well as ear, eye, nose, mouth, and pores. <sup>7</sup> *Sarabhoot Rasa* and *Asarabhoot Mala* are two categories of food that have been processed by the action of digestive bile. *Mala* exists in two distinct forms liquid and solid. *Ghan Mal* is from *Purisha*. The rest of the fluid, which is known as "urine" travels through particular routes to the urinary bladder. <sup>8</sup>

## Malas of Seven Dhatus -

Waste products of *Dhatus* are formed during the metabolism of *Dhatu*.

## 1) Waste product of Rasa Dhatu - Kapha

Mala of Rasa Dhatu is Kapha which is formed during the metabolism of Rasa dhatu. The waste product of Rasa, kapha accumulates at the site of Kapha Dosha & excreted from the nose & throat. Rasa vriddhi or Rasa kshaya can increase or decrease its waste product Kapha respectively.

## 2) Waste product of Rakta Dhatu - Pitta

Mala of *Rakta Dhatu* is *Pitta* which is formed during the metabolism of *Rakta Dhatu*. *Rakta* mala '*Pitta*' accumulates at the site of *Pitta* & excreted with feces & urine imparting yellow color to them. *Rakta-vriddhi* or *Rakta-kshaya* can increase or decrease its waste product *Pitta* respectively. Waste products *Kapha* & *Pitta* are *Vaikrita Doshas* formed from food, while *Doshas* which are present since conception & which form *Prakriti* (constitution) are called *Prakrita Doshas*.

## 3) Waste product of Mamsa Dhatu - Kha-mala

The waste product which accumulates in the external orifices of the body is called *Kha-mala*. *Kha-mala* accumulates in the nose, ears, and oral cavity, oleates the orifices & protects the orifices from external

organisms. For example, wax in the ear prevents foreign bodies to enter the ears. *Kha- mala* in the nasal cavity moisten the nostrils, organisms are trapped in this *Kha mala* of nostrils & organisms cannot enter the respiratory tract.<sup>9</sup>

## 4) Waste product of Meda Dhatu - Sweda

## 5) Waste products of Asthi dhatu- Kesha and Loma

Earth is the main *Mahabhuta* of hair. *Loma* Hair on the skin of extremities and chest is called as loma. <sup>10</sup> The root of a *loma* is called as *lomakupa*. Disorders of *Asthi Dhatu* affect the nourishment of hair. For example, hair loss is aggravated in *Asthi kshaya*. Therefore in the treatment of hair loss, the role of *Asthi Dhatu* should not be neglected. According to *Sharngadhara Samhita*, hairs are secondary tissue of *Majja Dhatu*. <sup>11</sup> In *the Vata* constitution nails are dry, small, and rough. There is a tendency to nail-biting. In *the Pitta*, constitution nails are red colored. In *the Kapha*, constitution nails are long nails. *Rakta-*

sarata's nails are red and beautiful. In *meda-sarata* nails are unctuous and lustrous. In *Asthi-sarata* nails are large, firm, and hard. In *shukra-sarata* nails are oily, firm, and whitish.<sup>12</sup>

## 6) Waste product of Majja Dhatu - Akshivit & twak sneha

An unctuous substance excreted along with feces, an unctuous layer spread over the skin, and an unctuous substance which accumulates in the eyes is called 'Akshi vit twak sneha', which is formed during the metabolism of unctuous Majja Dhatu. This unctuous waste product makes the concerned constituents very soft. Feces become very soft and is excreted smoothly. Skin also becomes soft & smooth, and eyes become soft and smooth & are protected from bright light, dust & heat. 13.

7) Waste product of Shukra Dhatu – According to Ashtang Sangraha Ojas is the waste product of shukra dhatu

Dhatu	MALA			
	Charaka	Sushruta	Vagbhata	Sharagdhar
Rasa	kapha	Kapha	Kapha, Lasika	Jala of Jihva ,Netra and Kapola
Rakta	Pitta	Pitta	Kandara, Sira	Ranjaka pitta
Mamsa	Mala of nose and ear etc.	Mala of nose and ear etc	Mala of nose, ear, eyes, Romlupa, etc	Mala of Ear
Meda	Sweda	Sweda	Sweda	Tongue, Teeth, Kaksha, Gananindriya
Asthi	Kesha, Loma	Nakha, Loma	Nakha, Loma, Kesha	Nakha Loma, Kesha
Majja	Snehansh of Netra(Eyes), Purish and Tvacha	Snehansh of <i>Netra</i> , <i>Purish</i> , and <i>Tvacha</i>	Snehansh of Netra, Purish, and Tvacha	Mala of Netra (Eyes)
Shukra			Ojas (Astanga Sangraha)	Yuvanpidika, Smoothness of mouth

#### 1. Purisha –

Purisha is a solid waste product (Purisha Parthivam). 

15 Avashtambha (to give support) is the function of Purisha. Purisha is formed and eliminated from purisha vaha srotas. Purisha vaha srotas roots are in the Pakvashaya and the Sthulaguda respectively. Purisha-dhara kala is crucial to the development of Purisha. Mala-dhara

kala is another name for Purisha dhara kala. <sup>16</sup> Shakrit, upaveshana, vit, gutha, and varchas are the synonyms of Purisha. Purisha predominantly consists of Agni and vayu Mahabhuta. Another function of Purisha is Dharana of ways and Agni Formation and regular elimination of Purisha maintains the balanced state of Vata (Samana & Apana) and Jatharagni, the urge of hunger, ingestion

of food, its digestion and excretion of waste products is a cyclic process and formation and elimination of purisha maintains this cycle. Disorders of purisha affect the normal functioning of Agni and Vayu. 17 Its consistency is influenced by the amount of food and water consumed. While nirama purisha is lighter and floats on the water, Sama purisha is heavier, smells bad, and sinks in the water. In numerous disorders, including Kamala (jaundice), Grahani, Atisara (loose movements), Pravahika, etc. the colour, consistency, and smell of purisha alter. Purisha is often semisolid and yellowish in hue. Purisha's consistency varies according to the constitution. In Vata Prakriti it is hard, in Pitta, it is semi-solid or watery and in Kapha it is soft and solid Rasa of Purisha is Katu. Pakvashaya, which supports the body always contains a little amount of Purisha. Weakness, tiredness, and dehydration brought on by Atisara (loose motion) suggest that the body needs assistance from the *purisha* in *Pakvashaya*. *Purisha* is the only component that provides support (Avashtambha) for the body due to severe *Dhatu kshaya*. <sup>18</sup> The *Antra* (colon), which is anatomically connected to the hepatic region and the *Unduka*, is the location of mala-dhara kala (cecum). Kitta's liquid and solid components are divided by Mala-Dhara kala. In the course of food digestion, purisha is created. Regular Purisha elimination suggests that Agni, Samana vayu, Pachaka pitta, and Apana Vayu are all functioning in harmony. 19 Pramana (Quantity) of Purisha is eight Aniali.20

## 2. Mutra –

Mutra or urine is a liquid waste product of food. <sup>21</sup>
Laghu (light), Tikshna (sharp), and hot (Ushna) are the qualities of Mutra. It is pungent and salty. The roots of Mutravaha Srotas are found in the Basti and Vankshana (pelvic region). Poshaka mutra gathers Kitta from every part of the body. It begins to form in Pakvashaya (large intestine). Poshaka Mutra and Kitta are divided by Purisha-Dhara Kala in the Pakva Mutra-Vaha Srotas. The urinary bladder and ureters are thought to be pelvic organs, making the Shaya and Pakvashaya the origin of the Mutravaha Srotas. <sup>22</sup>According to Sushruta Samhita, basti

(urinary bladder) and *Medhra* (penis) are the roots of Mutravaha srotas.<sup>23</sup>A pelvic organ called the basti is located there. That's Bahirmukha Srotas (external orifice). Basti is a Pranayatan (place of prana) and a Sadyahpranahara Marma (place of sadyah) (Marma causing sudden death due to injury). Urine production and excretion are tied to this vital organ's penis. Mutra predominantly consists of Jala and Agni Mahabhuta.<sup>24</sup> *Kleda* is unctuous moisture in the body. Transportation and excretion of *Kleda* with urine are called as Kleda-Vahana body constant draining of urine in *Basti* is called as *Basti-Purana*. If urine fails to conduct Kleda, Kleda accumulates in the body. which can result in many diseases like Prameha and obesity.<sup>25</sup> This verse describes how urine is produced. In Pakvashaya, the urine-formation process starts. The divided Poshaka Mutra from the Kitta is absorbed from Pakvashaya and transferred to the Basti in the way described below. Similar to how a river's water continuously drains into the ocean, Poshaka Mutra is transported to Basti by urine ducts (Mutravaha Nadi) from Pakvashaya. The Pakvashaya and Amashaya, which continuously drain Poshaka Mutra to Basti, are surrounded by urinary ducts and their fine branches in the stomach cavity. Compared to a new *Ghata*, an earthen pot submerged in water, Basti-Purana (urine drainage) is a continual procedure. New earthenware has a lot of pores and is water friendly, urine from the urinary ducts enters the Basti in this way, permeating the system in a way that causes urine to develop and be stored in the Basti. Because of the work of *Apana Vayu*, urine is expelled when the Basti water is full of it. It is difficult to overlook the fact that kidneys produce urine. Researchers' most recent theories state Pakvashaya is where Poshaka Mutra is created. This is subsequently taken into the circulation, where several metabolic waste products combine with Poshaka Mutra before being later transported to the bladder via the ureters. The process of micturition is controlled by Apana Vayu.26

## Sweda-

Sweda (sweat) is the waste product of Medo Dhatu. It predominently consists of Jala and Teja

Mahabhuta.<sup>27</sup> Sweat excretion is decreased because of Kleda vidhriti or keeping some moisture in the skin. Sweating excretion is decreased in cold climates because the body needs more *Kleda* (moisture).<sup>28</sup> Sweda is the site of pitta & it controls the hotness of pitta dosha by altering Symptoms of Increased Sweat. Swedavaha srotas is a site of Sweda. Medo Dhatu and Lomakupa (pores of the skin) are the roots of Swedavaha srotas. Sweda is formed during the metabolism of *Medo Dhatu*. Heavy exercise, in a hot climate, enhances sweat formation. Loss of hair on the skin, dry skin, roughness of hair on the of decreased sweat. skin are the symptoms of decreased sweat. Due to dryness, the Vata constitution tends to be less sweating, Due to the coldness of Kapha Dosha, the Kapha constitution has less sweating. Due to the hotness of *Pitta*, *Pitta* prakriti person has profuse sweating with a strong odor.

## DISCUSSION

To ensure regular and proper evacuation, the three biological humours need to remain in a state of equilibrium. Any disparity or imbalance among these three biological excretions might cause tympanites, flatulence, abdominal colic, malabsorption, chronic diarrhoea, dysentery, and, importantly, most constipation. Another factor is the production of ama, which when combined with an imbalance or discrepancy between these three biological humours results in diseases like *Amvata* (rheumatoid arthritis), Sandhigatavata (osteoarthritis), Katishool (low back pain), Tamak svasa (asthama), gastric ulcers and Pakvasjavagata vata (irritable bowel syndrome). The amount of stool necessary to keep the body in place must be present in the body. The body becomes weaker as faeces begin to break down inside it. The importance of Mala for the human body is similar to that of Doshas and Dhatus. Through fermentation, faeces generate heat inside the body. It helps the body's heat production and temperature control mechanisms. According to Ayurveda, a doctor must safeguard the patient's faeces in the case of a weak patient, particularly when dealing with incapacitating illnesses like tuberculosis. Because one of the main sources of heat generation in a weak person is faeces. *Mala* is a significant subject in the Ayurvedic curriculum, especially *Sharira Kirya*, or human physiology. Since malas are the by-products of biological processes, they provide crucial hints to human pathology.

## CONCLUSION

Three major classes of *Malas* are regarded as *Purishstool*, *Mutra*(urine), and Sweda (sweat)in the Ayurvedic medical system. Due to their influence on the *Vikriti*-pathology, which is brought on by an unbalanced combination of the three biological humours, malas are more commonly referred to as *Dushya*-pollutants. The ability of malas to detoxify people is precisely why it gets its name. *Malas* is the third most crucial component of the human body, behind the three biological humours and the seven tissues.

#### REFERENCES

- Vagbhata, Ashtanga Hrdaya with Sanskrit commentary by Arundatta and Hemadari, annotated. by Dr. Anna moreswarkunte and Krsna Ramchandra Sastri Navre, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Reprint 2009, Sutrasthan 11/1: 182
- Vagbhata- Ashtanga Samgraha with Hindi commentary by Kaviraj Atridev Gupta, Chowkhamba Krishnadas Academy, Reprint 2016, Sutrasthan, Shalok no. 20/3
- 3. Vagbhata, Ashtanga Hrdaya with Sanskrit commentary by Arundatta and Hemadari, annotated. by Dr. Anna moreswarkunte and Krsna Ramchandra Sastri Navre, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Reprint 2009, Sutrasthan 1/13
- Charaka Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Sutra Sthana, 9/4.
- Vagbhata, Ashtanga Hrdaya with Sanskrit commentary by Arundatta and Hemadari, annotated. by Dr. Anna moreswarkunte and Krsna Ramchandra Sastri Navre, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Reprint 2009, Sutrasthan 1/20
- 6. Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 21, sutra 10
- Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay

- Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Sutra Sthana, 28/4.
- 8. Sharagdhara Samhita (Dipika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan 2001, purvakhand 6/6
- Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Chikitsasthana, 15/16,17, 18
- Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan: 2007. Sharirasasthana. 8/51
- 11.Sharagdhara Samhita (Dipika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan 2001, purvakhand 5/27, p.57
- 12 Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Sharira Sthana, 8/51
- Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Chikitsasthana, 15/16,17,18
- 14. Vagbhata- Ashtanga Samgraha with Hindi commentary by Kaviraj Atridev Gupta, Chowkhamba Krishnadas Academy, Reprint 2016, Sutrasthan, Shalok no. 20/3
- Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 15, sutra 18
- 16. Vagbhata, Ashtanga Hrdaya with Sanskrit commentary by Arundatta and Hemadari, annotated. by Dr. Anna moreswarkunte and Krsna Ramchandra Sastri Navre, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Reprint 2009, Sutrasthan 11/5
- 17. Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 15, sutra 8
- 18. Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007.Chikitsasthana, 8/42

- Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sharirasthana, chapter 4, sutra 16,17
- Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Sharira Sthana, 7/15
- 21. Vagbhata, Ashtanga Hrdaya with Sanskrit commentary by Arundatta and Hemadari, annotated. by Dr. Anna moreswarkunte and Krsna Ramchandra Sastri Navre, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Reprint 2009, Sharirasthan 3/61
- Charaka. Charaka Samhita (Charak Chandrika Hindi commentary). Brahmanand Tripathi, Ganga Sahay Pandey, editors. 1st ed. Varanasi: Chaukhamba Surbharti Prakashan; 2007. Vimansthana 5/8
- 23. Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sharirasthana, chapter 9, sutra 11
- Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 15, sutra 8
- 25. Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 15, sutra 8
- 26. Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 3, sutra 21,22,23
- 27. Dr. Ambikadatta shastri, Sushrut samhita, Ayurved tatva sandipika Hindi commentary, edition reprint 2010, Publication- Chukhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Varanasi, Sutrasthana, chapter 15, sutra 8
- 28. Vagbhata, Ashtanga Hrdaya with Sanskrit commentary by Arundatta and Hemadari, annotated. by Dr. Anna moreswarkunte and Krsna Ramchandra Sastri Navre, Chowkhamba Sanskrit Sansthan, Reprint 2009, Sutrasthan 11/5: 183

## Source of Support: Nil Conflict of Interest: None Declared

How to cite this URL: Bhagya Shree Potter et al: A Concept of Mala in Brihatrayi. International Ayurvedic Medical Journal {online} 2023 {cited March 2023} Available from: http://www.iamj.in/posts/images/upload/579\_584.pdf