

INTERRELATION OF ENDOCRINE GLANDS WITH SHATCHAKRA AND VATA DOSHA IN AYURVED

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ABSTRACT :

The endocrine system maintains homeostasis by controlling hormones. The endocrine system produces hormones from glands and homeostasis is the maintenance of the internal environment by keeping your hormones constant.

In some Indian religions, a chakra (Sanskrit *cakra*, "wheel") is thought to be an energy point or node in the subtle body. Chakras are believed to be part of the subtle body, not the physical body. More importance is given to *Shatchakra* in Yoga vigyan for stability. According to Ayurved, *Vata dosha* has prime control over all functions of the body. Now a days, there is need to establish the relation between modern science, Yoga and Ayurved for maintaining good health of an individual. Ayurved and Yoga are interdependent science which are already being used in day today practice. Its true need to interpret both sciences with modern science which will really show magical results. Endocrine disorder is commonly seen in the present era. So, to improve the function of endocrine glands, we may follow the knowledge *Shatchakra* and *Vata dosha* described in Ayurved *samhitas* which actually works together as a system to balance physical and mental health of an individual. The effort is made to establish interrelationship of endocrine glands with *Shatchakra* and *Vata dosha* in Ayurved.

Key words: Endocrine glands, *Shatchakra*, *Vata dosha*

INTRODUCTION: Now a days, there is a present era. An estimated 108 million people need to establish the relation between endocrine glands, Yoga and Ayurved for maintaining good health of an individual. Ayurved and Yoga are interdependent science which are already being used in day today practice. It is true need to interpret both sciences with modern science which will really show magical results. Endocrine glands release hormones into circulating blood that influence the function of cells at another location in the body. Multiple hormone system of the body play a key role in regulating almost all functions including metabolism, reproduction, development, water and electrolyte balance and behavior.¹ Endocrine disorder is commonly seen in the

in India suffer from endocrine and metabolic disorders.² So, to improve the function of endocrine glands, we may follow the knowledge *Shatchakra* and *Vata dosha* described in Ayurved *samhitas* which actually works together as a system to balance physical and mental health of an individual. The effort is made to establish interrelationship of endocrine glands with *Shatchakra* and *Vata dosha* in Ayurved.

AIM AND OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To establish relationship between endocrine glands, *Shatchakra* and *Vata dosha*.
- 2) To highlight importance of *Shatchakra* in prevention of endocrine disorders.

3) To describe vital function of *Vata dosha* in balancing the functions of endocrine glands.

MATERIAL:

- 1) Literature regarding endocrine glands.
- 2) References about *Shatchakras* in Yoga and Ayurved.
- 3) Descriptions of *Vata dosha* from Ayurved samhitas and texts.
- 4) Research articles related to *Shatchakra*, endocrine glands and *Vata dosha*.

METHODS:

a) Endocrine glands: Endocrine glands are glands of the endocrine system that secrete their products, hormones, directly into the blood rather than through a duct. The major glands of the endocrine system include the pineal gland, pituitary gland, pancreas, ovaries, testes, and thyroid gland, parathyroid gland, hypothalamus and adrenal glands. The hypothalamus and pituitary gland are neuroendocrine organs³.

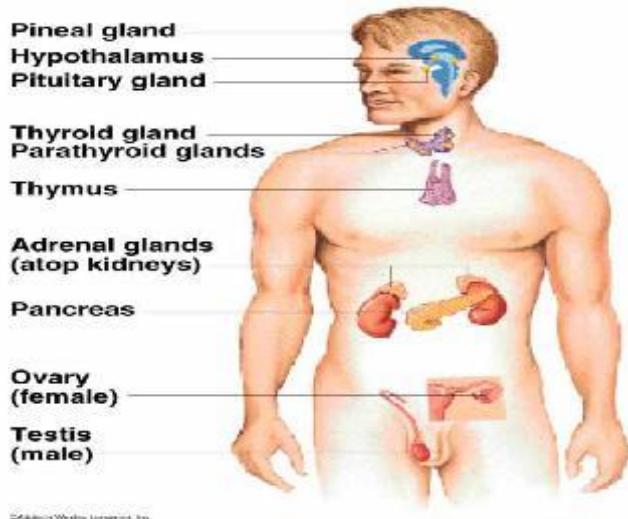


Fig .1 – location of endocrine glands in the body

b) *Shatchakra*: The chakras are thought to vitalize the physical body and to be associated with interactions of physical, emotional and mental nature. There are six Chakras. *Muladhara* is in the anus. *Svadhishtana* is near the genital or-

gan. *Manipura* is in the navel. *Anahata* is in the heart. The *Vishuddhi Chakra* is in the front of the neck. The sixth Chakra, the *Ajna* is in the head (between the two eyebrows).⁴

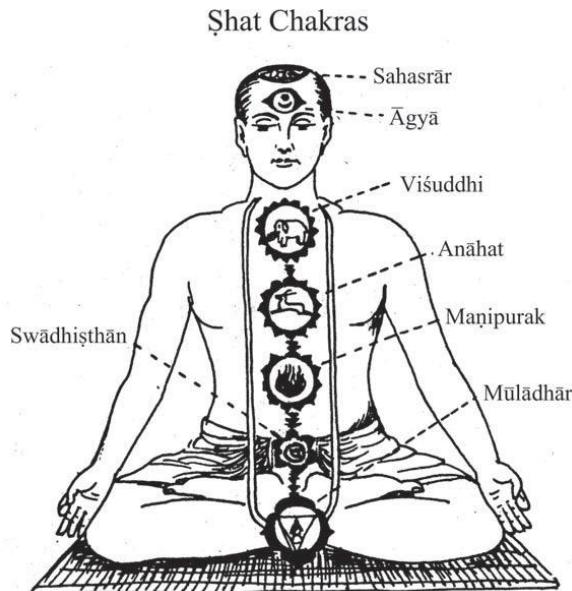


Fig.2 – positions of *Shatchakra* in body

c) Vata dosha : *Vata* is of five divisions. Firstly, *Pranavata* located in head and moves in the chest, throat supports mind, heart, sense organs and intelligence attends to expectoration, sneezing, belching, inspiration and swallowing. *Udana Vata* is situated in chest it moves in the nose, umbilicus, throat helps in initiation of speech, effort, enthusiasm, strength, colour, memory. *Vyana Vata* located in heart moves all over body and is responsible for all types of activities. *Samana Vata* located near digestive fire moves in *Koshta* withholds, digests absorbs and eliminates the food. *Apana Vata* located near large intestine moves in the waist, bladder, genitals and is responsible for elimination of semen, menstrual fluid, faeces, urine, fetus.⁵

DISCUSSION:

1. Relation between Endocrine glands and Shatchakra: The hormonal glands are also considered to be associated with the la-

tent centers (chakras) of supernormal energy. Their stimulation is associated not only with the activities at the physical level in the body but also at the mental and emotional levels. The *Sadhanas of Kundalini Jagrana* involves penetration and stimulation of the *Shat chakras* at an orderly pace. The effects of associated processing within the body may be understood in gross scientific terminology if we consider the eternal connection of the *Shat chakras* with the endocrine glands. This approach would explain how the spiritual *sadhanas* are useful in regulating all aspects of personality development and opening the paths of all round progress and elevation in a natural way.⁶ If we consider the site of endocrine glands and *Shatchakra* in the body, individual chakra might be controlling Endocrine glands present in same area through *Vata dosha*.

Chakra	Site in the body	Endocrine gland
Ajnya	Head	Pituitary and pineal
Vishuddha	Neck	Thyroid and parathyroid
Anahat	Thorax	Thymus
Manipur	Abdomen	Pancreas and Adrenal
Swadhisthan	Pelvis	Gonads
Muladhar	Pelvis	Gonads

2. Relation between *Shatchakra* and *Vata dosha*: Individual *Vata* is said to be related with *Chakra*. By considering the *Sthana* or important *Karma* of that particular *Vata* as told in *Samhitas* and relating it to the *Sthana* of *Chakra* and hence making a full circle of interrelationship resulting in establishing the possible relation between the *Chakra* and *Vata*.⁷ *Prana vata* is said to be related to *Ajnya Chakra* and *Anahata Chakra*. The most important function of *Prana vata* is supporting mind, heart, sense organs and intelligence. If we consider the *Sthana* of *Mind*, then it is *Hridaya* and the *Sthana* of *Anahata Chakra* is also *Hridaya*. Likewise if we consider the *Sthana* of sense organs, intelligence, then it is related to Head, and *Sthana* of *Ajnya Chakra* is also Head. Hence making a full circle of interrelationship and resulting in establishment of possible relation between the *Anahata Chakra*, *Ajya Chakra* and *Prana Vata*. *Udana Vata* is said to be related to *Visudha Chakra* and the most important function of *Udana Vata* is *Vak Pravrutti* and for the *Vak Pravrutti* important *Anga* required in the body is *Kantha Pradesha* and this is said to be the *Sthana* of *Visudha Chakra* hence making a full circle of interrelationship and resulting in establishment of possible relation

between the *Visudha Chakra* and *Udana Vata*. *Samana Vata* is said to be related with *Manipura Chakra* and the *Sthana* of *Samana Vata* is *Agni Samipa* and the *Sthana* of *Agni* is said to be *Grahani* which comes at the level of *Nabhi*, which is also the *Sthana* of *Manipura Chakra*. Hence making a full circle interrelationship and resulting in establishment of possible relation between the *Manipura Chakra* and *Samana Vata*. *Apama Vata* is said to be related with *Muladhara* and *Swadisthana Chakra*, the important function of *Apama Vata* is *Niskramana* of *Mutra*, *Shukra* in males through the *Linga Marga*, *Raja Srava*, *Garbha* in females through *Yoni Marga* and *Niskramana Karma* of *Purisha* through the *Guda Marga* hence highlighting the functional relationship between the *Apama Vata* and *Linga, Guda* which are also the *Sthana* of *Swadisthana* and *Muladhara Chakra* hence making a full circle of interrelationship and resulting in establishment of possible relation between the *Swadisthana*, *Muladhara Chakra* and *Apama Vata*. *Vyana Vata* is said to be not related with any of the *Chakras* since it is present throughout the body and is responsible for all the activities of the body.⁸ By this, we can say

that all this *Chakras* will govern and control the function of *Vata dosha* and since it is *Atyanta Sukshma Rupa* and hence supporting the statement that the knowledge gained by our sense organs is much less, knowledge beyond the perception of sense organs in much more.⁹

CONCLUSION:

By considering the above discussion, we may conclude:

- 1) *Ajnya Chakra* may be control the function of Pituitary and Pineal glands through *Pranavata*.
- 2) *Vishuddha Chakra* may be control the function of Thyroid and parathyroid glands through *Udana vata*.
- 3) *Anahat Chakra* may be control the function of Thymus gland through *Udanavata*.
- 4) *Manipur Chakra* may be control the function of Pancreas and adrenal gland through *Samanavata*.
- 5) *Swadishtana* and *Muladhar Chakra* may be control the function of Gonads through *Apana vata*.

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Declared