



LITERATURE REVIEW ON KUDORI MARUTHUVAM IN EMERGENCY TREATMENT OF SIDDHA SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

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ABSTRACT

Siddha Medicine is most ancient medical system in the world, which included 32 types of Internal medicine and 32 types of External medicines, to treat the 4448 diseases. This system of medicine has been classified into three major groups that *Vinnavar maruthuvam*, *Makkal maruthuvam* and *Asura maruthuvam*. Siddha system of medicine has recognized Surgery, as one of its branches of treatment and it is included within the *Asura maruthuvam*. This surgical procedures like *Kudori* (make an incision by using the tool of “*kudori*” and apply some medication on the incision), *keeral* (Incision), *kuruthivangal* (Venesuction), *attai vidal* (Leech application), *salaagai idal* (Probe), *varthivaithal* (Medicated wick), *oothal* (Blowing) and etc. *Kudori* means operation for healing, which make an incision by using the tool of “*kudori*” and apply some medication on the incision. This treatment is mostly used by Siddha Physicians in emergency conditions like snakebite, scorpion bite, epileptic, severe eye diseases and psychiatric disorders. It is like as an emergency medical system of allopathic medicine.

Keywords

Siddha Medicine, *Pura maruthuvam* (External therapy), *Aruvai* (Surgery), *Kudori*,

INTRODUCTION

There is no specific period that can be ascribed, for the origin of this branch in Siddha System of Medicine. While *Siddhars* developed the science of medicine by intuition, through the astute observation and experience they have designed and introduced the surgical methods in the treatment of certain diseases, which could not be cured by oral medications. Thus the branch of Surgery in Siddha Medicine would have been developed.

Kathi sathiram kavinkurumpi vaangiyum

Mugavaa thanudan mullu vangiyum

Aazhi kolu madutha piraiyum

Kathiri kaiyudan parakarai vaangiyum

Muchala kaiyodu munimozhi yottum

Matta kolum marum uchiyum

Seppu kizhaiyum seriya salagaiyum

Vattakai thannudan valarpanj samukamum

*Seppu salakaiyung kompu **kudoriyum***

Vengala kuzhalum eya salagaiyum

Kaya kolum kankathi thandum

Ivaivai yayutha mirupath tharung

Sivanava narulaal thikazhsathra yuthamae.

-Agathiyar nayana vithi

At present in this system, only a few works on “Surgery” are available. According to the Tamil literature as already mentioned the antiquity might be ascribed as the twelfth century B.C. Among the various *Siddhars*, only the efforts of *Agathiar* encompass all the details of the Surgery and its application. These are mentioned in “*Agathiar Rana Perunool*” and “*Nagamuni nayana vithi.*”

The Surgical instruments were also used extensively in Cataract Surgery, Lymphadenitis, Dental Extraction and Cautery. *Agathiyar* explains Twenty-six (26) instruments with finer details including material of construction, dimension, and shape in the treatise on eye diseases authored. Another set of Ninety-eight (98) instruments is listed in text of *Naagamuni nayana vithi*. These varieties include, extractors of different kind like nail extractors, tooth extractors, thorn extractors, ear wax extractors, tongs, incising knives of

different dimensions depending upon the area of use, puncturing needles, suturing needles, bone cutters, dissecting scissors, curved scissors, probes with varying length and tips with three facets, bloodletting tubes, drains, douche applicator. The material of assemble is usually by gold, silver and copper. Further important therapy of *Kudori maruththuvam* was found from the text of *Agasthiyar nayana vithy*. Incision, excision, scrapping, puncturing, probing, extraction, letting out of fluid and suturing are the broad classification of surgical procedures listed in *Siddha* texts. Different instruments were used in surgical procedures mainly to treat war wounds, carbuncles, swellings, abscess, removal of neo growth, pustular swelling, haematoma, fistula in ano etc.

The meaning of *Kudori* is that, to perform incisions for assure best therapeutic healing (*Aattruvatharkaga keerugai*). It is otherwise called *Kudori vaithal*, *Kudori pannal*, *Kudori yadal*, *kudori Oondral*.

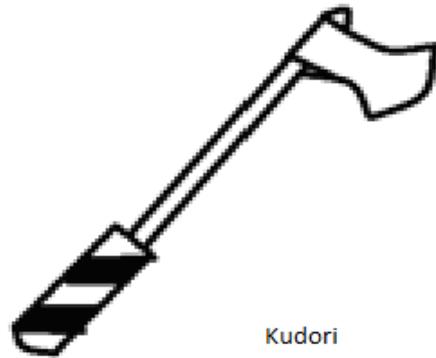
Kudori maruthuvam makes as a small incisions or punctures in any part of the body for the purpose of abstracting blood or any fluid in certain diseases, as anasarca, etc or making a slit with a knife in any part of the body for purposes of administering medicines to affect a cure in certain diseases.

Instruments of *Kudori Maruththuvam*

In *kudori maruthuvam* the tool of “*kudori*” do mostly make an incision. The following instruments are also commonly used in *kudori maruthuvam*;

- ❖ *Mulluvangi* (an instrument to clip)
- ❖ *Kaththi* (Knife)
- ❖ *Nel* (unpolished rice)

Kudori instrument (*karuvi*) looks like Axe (*kodari*). It has two ends one is flat and sharp and another end has handled made on wood. Its length 7½ inches, it weight about ¼ palam (8.75gm). But presently some traditional physicians are using as an instrument about ½ feet length broomstick end of that sharp glass piece.



Method of *Kudori* Treatment

This instrument has to be sterilized before the treatment in order to prevent infection. At first, superficial veins has to be made prominent. Then, the sharp edge of the kudori instrument has to be tapped over the prominent vein to make injury. Then, medication is applied over it and dressed well. This procedure may be practical in Vertex, Muscles, Occipital region of scalp and Skin.

Specific locations for *Kudori*

The ancient Siddha physicians prefer the following specific locations for the treatment of *kudori maruthuvam*.

1. *Uchi* (vertex)
2. *Pidari* (back of the scalp)
3. *Netriyin naalam* (vein of forehead)
4. *Thasai* (muscles)
5. *Thol* (skin)

Indication for *Kudori*

The following disease are treated by *Kudori* in *Siddha* Medicine

1. *Paambu kadi* (snake bite)
2. *Thek kadi* (scorpion bite)
3. *Kakkai valippu* (epileptic)
4. *Kan noigal* (severe eye diseases)
5. *Pitha kirigai* (psychiatric disorders)

Some examples of *kudori* therapy:

Kudori Medicine	Indication
01. <i>Nal velai</i> juice (<i>Cleome viscosa</i>)	Unconsciousness due to snake bite
02. <i>Sarparaja mayanam</i>	Unconsciousness due to snake venom (bite)
03. <i>Sagala viriyan kadiku kudori</i>	<i>Virian kadi</i> (kraits poison)
04. <i>Sagala vidathirkum maathirai</i>	Poisonous bite.
05. <i>Vidam mandaikarinal pirmaranthil theika marunthu</i>	Poisonous bite.
06. <i>Sagala vidaththirku kalikkam/ kudori</i>	Poisonous bite
07. <i>Sagala vidaththirku kudori</i>	Poisonous bite
08. <i>Vishamirakka kudori</i>	Poisonous bite
09. <i>Adakkam ezhuppa kudori</i>	Poisonous bite
10. <i>Kudori thylam</i>	Poisonous bite
11. <i>.Kudariyaada marunthu</i>	Poisonous bite
12. <i>Cow-dung</i>	<i>Pitha kirigai</i> (psychiatric disorder)
13. <i>Koththi kattukinra urundai</i>	<i>Sukkiran</i> (One of the eye disorder)

Advantages of *kudori maruthuvam*:

- The state when the condition is unable to treated by oral administration of medicine
- Effect full in Emergency condition
- Easy procedure

- Time saving
- Low cost

CONCLUSION

Kudori maruthuvam is one of the external therapies of Siddha system of medicine. It has more important, as it plays vital role in emergency condition. Practice of *kudori maruthuvam* has to be encouraged, and evaluation of *kudori maruthuvam* for scientific validity also be done. Main aim of this Literature review is the initial step to improve emergency treatment systems in Siddha system of Medicine and eye opener to all.

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