

# Ayurvedic management of Klaibya (Impotency) – A case study

Case Report

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# Abstract

Impotency means a man who is unable to perform sexual intercourse, being powerless and unable to carry out sexual activities. Nowadays *Klaibya* is considered as one of the most common problems affecting the males having variable severity. Change in lifestyle, food habits, sedentary lifestyle and some psychological causes like *Chinta, Shoka, Bhaya, Krodha* etc. causes *Klaibya*. The male sexual dysfunctions have been elaborately described as *Klaibya* (Impotency) in Ayurvedic classics. In clinical practices *Klaibya* (Impotency) is the most common psychosexual disorders. It has a significant negative impact on the quality of life of the patients along with their partners. It is projected as a medico-social problem. *Vajikarana*, a specialized branch of Ayurveda deals in treating these problems. It refers to a problem during any phase of the sexual cycle that restricts the man from experiencing satisfaction from the activity. Nowadays the incidence of sexual dysfunction is increasing due to age, sedentary life style, unhealthy foods etc. About 5% of 35 years old men and between 15% and 25% of 50 years old men experience sexual dysfunctions. *Vajikarana* (Medicine which improves sexual capability) branch of *Ashtanga Ayurveda* (one of the subjects of Ayurved study) deals with fertility, potency and healthy progeny. In this branch diagnosis and management of infertility and Sexual dysfunction are dealt in detail.

Keywords: Chandraprabha Vati, Klaibya, Kapikacchu Churna, Mustadi Yapan Basti, Oligoasthenozoospermia, Vajikarana.

# Introduction

Vajikarana (Medicine which improves sexual capability) is branch of Ashtanga Ayurveda deals with fertility, potency and healthy progeny. (1) In this branch diagnosis and management of infertility and Sexual dysfunction are deals in detail. (2) The male sexual dysfunctions have been elaborately described as Klaibya (Impotency) (3) in Ayurvedic classics. The word Klaibya (Impotency) in Vajikarana (Medicine which improves sexual capability) refers to impotence i.e., a man who is unable to perform sexual intercourse, being powerless, helpless or the inability to carry out sexual activities. (4) It basically includes sexual desire disorders, sexual arousal disorders or erectile disorders, orgasm disorders and sexual pain disorders. Sukradhatu (Sperms) is the final tissue element produced from the progressive metabolic transformation of Annarasa (nutritious part of taken food) (5). It is responsible for Bala (strength), Varna (color) and Upachaya (metabolism) in both male and female and by this it can

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dysfunctions in the form of erectile dysfunction and premature ejaculation. Krodha (anger), Shoka (sadness), Bhava (fear), Ajirna (indigestion), Moha (Lust) etc. are the Manovikaras and Alpa Sattva (weak mentality) are the causes of the genesis of Klaibya. The external injuries, ageing, chronic debilitating disease, alcohol, endocrine abnormalities will directly show their effect on Manas. These are a few examples to show the Manas as a cause for Klaibya and it will in turn affect the Manas (Mind) simultaneously. The classification of Klaibva according to Acharva Charaka are into 4 types (8) i.e Dhwajabhangaja, Bijopaghataja, Shukra Kshayaja and Jaraja while Acharya Sushruta has classified the same into 6 types (9) i.e Manasa, Saumya Dhatukshaya/Pittaja, Shukra Kshayaja, Medrarogaja, Sahaja and Sthira Shukranimittaja, and Bhavaprakasha, Klaibya has been classified into 7 types (10) i.e Manasa, Pittaja, Shukrakshayaja, Medhrorogaja, Upaghataja, Shukrastambhaja and Sahaja.

#### General Symptoms of *Klaibya* (Impotency)

A person's persistent inability to perform sexual act even with the beloved, willing and submissive partner affecting the desire and capacity to perform sexual act due to difficulty in erection, non-erection or flaccidity of penis associated with tachypnea, perspiration, exhaustion, difficulty and or cessation of ejaculation where the efforts remain to fail are the general symptoms of *Klaibya* (11).

Different types of *Klaibya* quoted by *Acharyas* (Ayurvedic Authors)

- *Dhvajabhangaja* and *Medhrarogaja Klaibya* are due to inflammatory disease of the Penis
- *Bijophagataja Klaibya* is due to abnormality in the sperms.
- *Jaraja Klaibya* is due to decreased levels of serum testosterone in old age i.e. Andropause or Male menopause.
- *Shukrakshayaja Klaibya* is due diminution of semen as a result of various *Aharaja*(diaetary) *Viharaja* (Life style) and *Manasika* (mental) factors.
- *Shukrasthambaja Klaibya* is due to prolonged sexual abstinence.
- *Sahaja Klaibya* (congenital impotence) i.e., defects due to various chromosomal abnormalities.
- *Manasika Klaibya* is the (psychogenic impotence) is due to various *Manasika Vikaras* (disturbed mentality).
- *Marmachedaja Klaibya* (impotence due to damage to the vital parts) is a result of pelvic fracture, Pelvic surgery etc.

# Materials and Methods

#### Presenting Concern:

A 32-year male diagnosed with Oligoasthenozoospermia presented in OPD of Kayachikitsa in Dr.D.Y.Patil College of Ayurved & Research Centre, Pimpri-Pune with a desire of child. Patient has a married life of 5 years. Since 4-year couple tried to conceive but failed. Complaints of weakness, erectile dysfunction and early ejaculation are presented in (Table 1).

SN	Complaints	Duration
1	Unable to conceive	5 years
2	Weakness	1.5 years
3	Problem in erection	3 years
4	Early ejaculation	3.5 years

- **Past H/o:** He had no history of diabetes, bronchial asthma, T.B and hypertension.
- Family H/o: No family history of diabetes, hypertension, Bronchial asthma and T.B.
- Addiction H/o: He had no addiction history of smoking, tobacco and alcohol.
- Treatment H/0: Patient was taking allopathy treatment for 2 years.
- **Physical examination:** On examination the external genitals including the testes were normal in size shape and consistency. No tenderness, ulcerations or varicocele was noted.

Table 2: Samanya Parikshan

1	Nadi	80/min		
2	Mala	Samyak		
3	Mutra	Samyak		
4	Jivha	Niram		
5	Shabda	Spashta		
6	Sparsha	Anushna		
7	Drik	Samyak		
8	Akruti	Madhyam		

#### Systemic Examination

CVS- S1S2 normal, RS- Bilateral air entry normal, CNS – conscious and well oriented.

#### Diagnostic criteria

Diagnosis was made on the basis of symptoms given in ancient text and modern literature. Laboratory investigation and clinical finding was considered for making diagnosis for *Shukra Kshaya* (Low sperm count). As defined by the World Health Organisation (WHO) in 2021, low sperm count indicated if less than 39 million sperm/ml and low motility indicated if less than 42%.

#### Shukra Kshaya Lakshana (12)

- Durbalata (General debility)
- Pandutavam (Pallor)
- Sadan (Bodyache)
- Shrama (Tiredness)
- Mukha Sosha (Dryness of mouth)
- *Medha Vrishana Vedn*a (Pain in penis and Scrotum)
- Dhumayativa (Burning in penis and Urethra)
- *Chirat Praseka* or *Alpa-Rakta-Yukta Shukra Pravritti* or *Shukra Avisarga* (Delayed or blood mixed or no ejaculation)
- *Maithune Ashakti* (Problematic or not satisfactory coitus)
- Klaibya (Impotence)



# Clinical finding

### General Examination and Personal history

General Condition of the patient was good. No deviation in vital signs. He is Hindu of Indian ethnicity. He had a moderate appetite, Normal bladder, bowel habit and regular sleep pattern. He had a sedentary life style, well-built and well-nourished with BMI 28.6. His *Prakruti* was *Kapha Vataja* dominant and *Sarata* was *Mansa-Meda Sarata* with *Madhyam Satva*.

## **Clinical Investigation**

Investigation was carried out before intervention like routine haematological test complete blood count (CBC), liver function test (LFT), Kidney function test (KFT), lipid profile, blood sugar FBS and PPBS, urine routine and microscopic all investigation was under normal range.

#### Table 3: Therapeutic intervention

				Internal			
SN	Medicine			Dose		Anupana	Time of administration
1		vahasthadi nayam	20 ml/twice		Warm water	Before food	
2	Chandrap	orabha Vati		2 tabs/twice		Warm water	Before food
3	Stres	sscom		1 cap/once		Water	Bed time
4	Kapikacc	hu Churna		2 gms/thrice		Milk	After food
				External			
SN	Trea	tment		Medicine		Duration	
1	Abhy	angam		Balashwagandhadi oil		5 days	
2	Nadi	Sweda		-		5 days	
3	Vireo	chana	Trivrit Leh	yam (40gm) + Triphala Kashaya (50ml) + Drak Kashaya (50ml)	sha	1 day	
4		Shali Pinda (SSPS)		-		7 days	
5		Vapan Basti ya Basti)		Honey - 200gm, Saindhava lavana - 15gm, heerbala oil - 100ml + Sukumara Ghritam - 100p Dravya (Yastimadhu - 15gm + Satapuspa - 15gm) Kashaya (Musta - 25gm),			
6	Matro	a Basti	Kshee	erbala oil - 50ml + Sukumara Ghritam - 50ml)		5 days	
	Date	Treat		Treatment procedure		Observ	vation
02	02/02/23 Abhyan Nadi Sv		Sweda	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil followed by Nadi Sweda	Not specific was Noted		was Noted
0.	3/02/23	Abhya Nadi S	Sweda	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil followed by Nadi Sweda	He was feeling lightness of b		ghtness of body.
04	4/02/23	Abhya Nadi S	Sweda	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil followed by Nadi Sweda	He was feeling lightness of boo		ghtness of body.
0:	5/02/23	Abhya Nadi S	Sweda	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil followed by Nadi Sweda	He was feeling lightness of b		ghtness of body.
0	6/02/23	Abhya Nadi S		Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil followed by Nadi Sweda	He was feeling lightness		ghtness of body.
0′	7/02/23	Virec		Trivrit Lehyam (2 table spoon) + Triphala Kashaya (120 ml) + Draksha Kashaya (120 ml)	Patient <i>Virechana</i> medicine taken at 7:30 am Total <i>Vegas</i> – 10 Adviced <i>Samsarjana Karma</i> <i>after virechana</i>		0 am gas – 10 arjana Karma
19	0/02//23	Abhyang Matra		Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Ksheerbala oil + Sukumara Ghritam	<i>matra Basti</i> was given at pm.		-
2	20/02/23 Abhyangam SSPS Kashaya Basti			Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Mustadi Yapan Basti	Mustadi Yapan Basti was given 11:00 am.		
2	Abhvangan with Balashwagandhadi oil		<i>latra Basti</i> wa pn	s given at 2:00 n.			
22	2/02/23	Abhyang Kashay		Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Mustadi Yapan Basti	Mustadi Yapan Basti was give 11:00 am.		
2.	23/02/23 Abhyangam SSPS Matra Basti			Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Ksheerbala oil + Sukumara Ghritam	M	Matra Basti was given at 2:00 pm.	



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24/02/23	Abhyangam SSPS Kashaya Basti	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Mustadi Yapan Basti	Mustadi Yapan Basti was given at 11:00 am.		
25/02/23	Abhyangam SSPS Matra Basti	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Ksheerbala oil + Sukumara Ghritam	Matra Basti was given at 2:00 pm.		
26/02/23	Abhyangam SSPS Matra Basti	Abhyangam with Balashwagandhadi oil Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda Ksheerbala oil + Sukumara Ghritam	Matra Basti was given at 2:00 pm.		

#### **Assessment Criteria**

Assessment was made by the improvement on the subjective and objective parameters before and after treatment on *Shukra Dhatu* (Semen).

#### **Subjective Parameters**

The main symptoms of *Shukra Kshaya* (Low sperm count) shall be given grading which will be assessed.

Table 4: Grading of Sperm Count as per WHO
WHO Reference Range

Total sperm count in ejaculation	39-928 million
Ejaculation volume	1.5-7.6 mL
Sperm concentration	15-259 million per mL
Total motility	40-81 %
Progressive motility	32-75 %
Sperm morphology	4-48 %

#### **Objective Parameters**

1. Semen Analysis Report

2. Biomarker Analysis (Serum FSH, Serum LH, Serum Testosterone, Serum Inhibin-B).

Table 5:	Biomarker	Analysis
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Sr. No.	Component	Normal value
1	Serum FSH	1.5 to 12.4 mIU/mL
2	Serum LH	1.8 and 8.6 IU/L
3	Serum Testosterone (In male)	270 to 1,070 nanograms per deciliter (ng/dL), depending on age.
4	Serum Inhibin-B (In male)	80-300 pg/mL

# Results

There was marked improvement in sperm count (Table 5) as well as sperm motility after the treatment. Patient showed marked improvement in signs and symptoms of *Shukra Kshaya* (Low sperm count) and *Klaibya* (Impotency) as per the classics (Table 4) and modern parameters. There was marked improvement in serum testosterone & serum Inhibin-B level after the treatment in this case. Level of serum LH decreased after treatment (Table 6).

# Table 6: Patient showed marked improvement in signs and symptoms of Shukra Kshaya (Low sperm count) and klaibya (Impotency) as per the classics

SN	Lakshana	Before treatment	After Treatment
1	Durbalata (General debility)	4	1
2	Pandutavam (Pallor)	3	1
3	Sadan (Bodyache)	2	2
4	Shrama (Tiredness)	3	1
5	Mukha Sosha (Dryness of mouth)	3	2
6	Maithune Ashakti (Problematic or not satisfactory coitus)	4	1
7	Klaibya (Impotence)	10	24

# Table 7: Effect of therapy on objective parameters (semen analysis)

SN	Test	Before treatment	After treatment
1	Semen volume	0.5 ml	2 ml
2	Semen color	Whitish	Whitish
3	Reaction	Alkaline	Alkaline
4	Total sperm count	12 million	68 million
5	Motile sperm	32%	48%
6	Sluggish sperm	40%	52%
7	Immotile sperm	32%	21%
8	Impression	Oligoasthenozo ospermia	Normosper mia

 

 Table 8: Effect of therapy on objective parameters (Serum biomarkers of spermatogenesis)

SN	Test	Before treatment	After treatment	
1	Serum FSH	9.09 mIU/ml	8.17 mIU/ml	
2	Serum LH	12.50 mIU/ml	6.03 mIU/ml	
3	Serum Testosterone	25.20 ng/dl	380.89 ng/dl	
4	Serum Inhibin- B	102.29 pg/mL	178.99 pg/mL	

# Discussion

Gandharvahastadi Kashayam (13): It normalizes Vata-Kapha Doshas and its Anulomana (laxative) property helps in relieving constipation. It contains Gandharvahasta, Chirabilva, Chitraka, Vishwa, Pathya, Punarnava, Yavasa and Bhumiamla. Majority of contents possess Anti -inflammatory action mainly



Punarnava and Gandharvahastha. Chirabilva, Viswa and Chitraka reduce Aamavastha (first stage of any disease according to ayurved) i.e their Deepana (carminative) and Pachana (metabolism) properties.

Chandraprabha Vati (14): Chandraprabha Vati is one of the important formulations used in the classics. It is considered as Sarva Roga Pranaashini which cures all types of diseases. In Sharangadhara Samhita, 37 ingredients have been mentioned, they are Chandraprabha (Karpura), Vacha, Musta, Bhunimba, Amrita (Guduchi), Suradaru, Haridra, Ativisha, Darvi, Pippalimula, Chitraka, Dhyanaka, Triphala, Chavya, Vidanga, Gajapippali, Trikatu, Makshika, Sarja Kshara, Yava Kshara, etc. It acts on Tridoshaja more commonly Vatakapha Shamaka, it acts on all Dhatus, on Bahya(external) and Madhyama (middle) Rogamarga (route of disease) and acts on all Strotas (systems). In Klaibya (Impotency) the drugs like Trivrit, Pippalimoola, Guggulu, Yavakshara relieve anxiety, contains Loha Bhasma and Shilajatu it helps in increasing the Bala (Physical power), reduce fatigue and general debility.

Stresscom (15): It contains dry extract of Ashwagangha, is the manufacturing by Dabur India Ltd. Ashwagandha, Withania somnifera is very renowned herb of the Ayurvedic system of medicine as a Rasayana (tonic). Rasavana is described as an herbal, mineral and Herbo mineral preparation, it promotes a youthful state of physical and mental health and expands happiness. Among the Ayurvedic Rasayana herbs (Tonics), Ashwagandha have the most prominent place. Rasayana herbs (Tonics) are mainly adaptogen/antistress action. It promotes the function of the brain and nervous system and improves the memory. It improves the reproductive system, followed by promoting a healthy sexual and reproductive balance and being a powerful adaptogen, it enhances the body's resiliency to stress. Ashwagandha improves the body's defense mechanism to disease by improving the cell-mediated immunity. It also having antioxidant properties, it helps to protect against cellular damage which caused by free radicals.

Kapikacchu Churna (16): Kapikacchu (Mucuna pruriens Linn.) is the most popular drug in Avurvedic system of medicine. It is famous for its powerful aphrodisiac as it is well known to increase the sperm count (17) and to increase testosterone levels in the body as well. Kapikacchu is an agent that helps the body in building up the mass as well as endurance and also helps the body to increase the muscular strength. It is very commonly known as athletes' friends as many sports' person uses these supplements to enhance their body performance. This herb helps in reducing the fats in the body and side by side helps in increasing the muscle mass in the body. This herb is also promoting the mood for sexual indulgence thereby increases the libido power and is also beneficial for people who are undergoing depression. Pharmacological actions are Antivenom activity, Hypoglycemic Activity, Aphrodisiac Activity, Antioxidant Activity, Antimicrobial Activity, Antiparkinson's Activity etc. *Kapikacchu Churna* effectively raised the sperm count. The results on sperm count found highly significant. It also showed good improvement in other seminal parameter like Volume of semen, Ph of semen, motility of sperms etc. It showed mild significant result in nonprogressive sperm (NP) and not significant in Slow linear progress of sperm (SLP). It also significantly increased the sexual desire, penile rigidity, erection and duration of ejaculation with orgasm (18).

Mahanarayana Taila (19): Matra Basti through rectum reaches instantly into systemic circulation thus has faster absorption and gives quick results. According to the modern science, there is no digestive action of fat or oil in stomach. The fat digestion and absorption take place in large intestine and no food substances other than water and salt are absorbed from the large intestine not because it is not possible but the Chyme contains no absorbable substances by the time it reaches the large intestine. Mahanaravana Taila is a renowned Vata balancing herbal oil formula in Ayurvedic medicine. The drugs of Mahanarayana Taila have Prajasthapana (ability to conceive) Rasayana (Tonic) Balya (power) properties. The drugs of Mahanarayana Taila possess antioxidant, adaptogenic, immunomodulatory effects. It is a rich combination of Ayurvedic herbs, produce no irritation on skin and arrest further progress of chronic arthritic changes of joints, pain, stiffness, restricted movement, distortion and restores normal joint function. In the case, Matra Basti (enema) with Mahanarayana Taila improved the condition of the patient, perhaps it enhances the blood flow over low back area and helps the patient nourished.

Sukumara Ghritam (20): Sukumara Ghrita was used for Matra Basti (consumption of fat through intestine) purpose. It is one of the examples for Yamaka (combination of two) type of Sneha (unctuousness) which contain Ghrita (ghee) and Eranda Taila (castor oil) as ingredients. It consists of Dashamoola (Ten roots) as Kashaya Dravya best Vata Samaka Dravya (Vata-normalizing drug). Eranda Taila having Madhura (sweet), Katu (pungent), Kashaya (astringent) taste, Ushna Virya (hot potency), Srotovisodhaka (clear obstruction), Vata-Kapha Hara, Yoni-Sukra Visodhaka (purify gametes) and facilitates Vatanulomana (normal movement of Vata Dosha).

Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda (21): Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda it is one kind of Snigdha Sankar Sweda (wet steaming) Nutrients of Shastika Shali (Type of a Rice) get absorbed it gives strength to the muscles and heat applied over the area it decreases stiffness as well as sweat pores open and flow out various metabolic wastes from body. Increased blood flow promotes relaxation process and increasing range of movement. The word 'Pinda' means bolus, it refers to the sudation achieved with the using of bolus which is made by drug. Shashtika Pinda Sweda is carried out with the bolus of boiled Shashtika Shali (Type of a Rice) with Balamula



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Kwatha (decoction) and Ksheer (Milk). The properties of drugs used in Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda, such as Brimhana, Snigdha, and Vata Shamaka, are antagonistic to vitiated Vata. The location of Vata is thought to be the skin (i.e., Sparshanendriya), when these therapies are immediately applied to the skin, they rectify Vata's disturbed functions, which in turn corrects the functions of Vata. In this procedure moist heat used, it is more effective than dry heat because it deeply penetrates the skin, so increases the effect on muscles, joints, and soft tissue. Swedana (Steaming) makes the skin more permeable by opening the skin appendage through sweating, dilating blood vessel, all these things help in absorption of medicine. Most of the things are not permeable through the skin but amphipathic nature of the milk helps in absorption of other medicine. This procedure regulates Vata functions and provides nutrition to muscular tissue and enhance strength. So, Shastika Shali Pinda Sweda is one of the most preferred methods of Swedana which is beneficial for this condition

Mustadi Yapana Basti (22): According to Acharya Charaka's Basti Chikitsa is the Ardha Chikitsa and it is important for the treatment of Vata Dosha. Vata Dosha is main reason for Shukra Kshaya. Moreover, the Yapana Basti are having Rasayana effect and can be administered for longer duration without any adverse effects to support life and promote longevity. (23) Mustadi Yapan Basti performs as a Shodhana (purification of whole body) as well as Rasavana (immunity booster Tonic) simultaneously. Rasavana becomes more effective when preceded by a suitable Panchakarma therapy. The ingredients of Mustadi Yapana Basti have predominant Vatahara, Rasayana & Vajikaran properties. Drugs used in Mustadi Yapanaa Basti, it especially attributed with property of "Shukra-Mansa-Balajanan". Due to drugs like milk, cow ghee, Sida cordifolia, Pluchea lanceolata, Tribulus terrestilis, Glycyrrhiza glabra which have properties of Balva, Snigdha, Jivaniya, Guru, Madhura Rasa, Madhura Vipak and Sheet Virva. Tikta Rasa may have positive impact on cell implantation and also reduce the degeneration of Asthi (Bones) and Majja (Bone marrow) Dhatus. (24)

# Conclusion

Combination of *Shodhana* (Purification) and *Shaman* (suppression) treatment provided significant relief in the symptoms of Oligoasthenozoospermia. *Basti chikitsa* along with medication may have acted on the systemic symptoms of *Shukra Kshaya* (Low sperm count) as well as give significant improvement on the seminal parameters like sperm count, sperm motility and gave significant improvement on the serum biomarkers specially on serum testosterone.

### **Patient Perspective**

Patient has marked improvement in confidence during sexual intercourse and improvement in erection and performance during sexual intercourse. Patient felt better and felt marked improvement in weakness and increase level of sexual desire now. Overall patient had satisfactory and better sexual life after intervention.

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