

यो हि सम्यक न जानाति ॥

Sukhad S. Choudhari¹

¹Assistant professor, Vidarbha Ayurved Mahavidyalaya, Amravati

When moral values are in conflict, the result may be an ethical dilemma or crisis. sometimes, no good solution to a dilemma in medical ethics and occasionally the values of the medical community (i.e the hospital, staff etc.) conflict with the values of individual patient, family or larger non medical community. Conflicts can also arise between health care providers or among family members.

To avoid these conflicts, a physician must be honest, dedicated and loyal towards his profession. He should follow the professional ethics and should serve the community accordingly. A physician should acquire and accomplish his knowledge before he serves the community.

The topic is also described in ancient texts of Ayurveda. This shows that the malpractice exists since ancient era. In this article different similes showing ideal behaviors of a physician, importance of studying scriptures and practical knowledge, quack practice are compiled. Also the noble admirable physicians are accentuated and along that, a guideline has been given for the community to be aware from irresponsi-

ble, untrustworthy physicians who are skimpy in the knowledge.

The study of Ayurveda according to susrutacharya is like an ocean. In this context he has given few sutras.

1) महत्स्तस्य तन्त्रस्य दुर्गाधस्याम्बुधेरिव । सु उ.
१/८

2) समुद्र इव गम्भीरं नैव शक्यं विकित्सितम् ।

वक्तुं निरवशेषेण श्लोकानामयुतैरपि ॥१७॥ सु उ.
१९/१७

These sutras from sushruta uttaratantra describe the study of shirorog and netrarog chikitsa ; these are enough to explore vastness and deepness of Ayurveda like an ocean

To describe how to study Ayurveda deeply susrutacharya has mentioned few ways in sutrasthana those are

1) यस्तु केवलशास्त्रज्ञः कर्मस्वपरिनिष्ठितः ।

स मुह्यत्यातुरं प्राप्य प्राप्य भीरुरिवाहवम् ॥४८॥ सु सू
३/४८

2) यस्तूभयज्ञो मतिमान् स समर्थोऽर्थसाधने ।

आहवे कर्म निर्वोढुं द्विवक्रः स्यन्दनो यथा ॥५३॥ सु
सू ३/५३

3) शास्त्रं गुरुमुखोद्गीर्णमादायोपास्य वासकृत् ।

यः कर्म कुरुते वैद्यः स वैद्योऽन्ये तु तस्कयः ॥८॥ सु
सू. ४/८

In the above verses it is said that, one who studies the scriptures and remains untrained in the practice gets confused while treating a patient like timid man in the battle.

Physician who is expert in both theory and practice is capable to cure and maintain the health of the patient like a two wheeled chariot successfully carries its job in the battlefield.

Physicians who performs practical work after acquiring the knowledge of literature directly from the teacher and studies and practice it constantly, is a real physician while others are smugglers.

Here the three ways of getting knowledge i.e, studding scriptures, practicing constantly and acquiring knowledge directly from the teachers are told and those who study in such a manner can definitely become an ideal physician.

In the next verse susrutacharya has told that those who don't study in the above manner should be considered as quacks he gave examples of many similes for the explanations.

1) ओषध्योऽमृतकल्पास्तु शस्त्राशनिविषोपमाः ।

भवन्त्यङ्गीरुपहतास्तस्मादेतान् विवर्जयेत् ॥९१॥ सु सू
३/९१

2) विषाग्निशस्त्राशनिमृत्युकल्पः क्षारो
भवत्यल्पमतिप्रयुक्तः ।

स धीमता सम्यगनुप्रयुक्तो योगान्निहत्यादविरेण
घोरान् ॥३१॥ सु सू ११/३१

3) आमं विपत्यमानं च सम्यक् पक्वं च यो भिषक् ।

जानीयात् स भवेद्द्वैद्यः शेषास्तस्कस्वृतयः ॥६॥ सु सू
१७/६

4) यश्छिन्नत्याममज्ञानाद्यश्च [१] पक्वमुपेक्षते ।

श्वपचाविव मन्तव्यौ तावनिश्चितकारिणौ ॥१०॥ सु सू
१७/१०

5) तं क्षारशस्त्राग्निभिरौषधैश्च
भूयोऽभियुञ्जानमयुक्तियुक्तम् ।

जिजीविषुर्दूरत एव वैद्यं
विवर्जयेदुग्रविषाहितुल्यम् ॥३२॥ सु सू २७/३२

Drugs are like nectar but if they are administered in wrong way, by an unknowledgeable person they can turn harmful like a weapon thunderbolth and poison. Similarly, the caustic alkali used by a wise physician can destroy a disease immediately but, if used improperly it can also turn fatal.

The surgeon must know well about the immature , maturing and mature stages of inflammation, if a surgeon opens on unripen swelling and neglect the ripen then he should be considered as a quack (smugglers or wretch).

The patient should avoid a surgeon who after improper instrumentation, applies caustics, sharp instruments,

cautery and drugs just like a highly poisonous snake which can take ones life.

All such physicians are responsible for unhealthy and unethical practices and their spread in the society. Before concluding, let us see how susrutacharya has praised a knowledgeable physician.

1) वैद्यस्तु गुणवानेकस्तास्येदातुरां सदा ॥१८॥
प्लवं प्रतितरैर्हीनं कर्णधार इवाम्भसि |१९| सु सू
३४/१८

A Skilled physician in alone is always able to carry a patient from the whirlpool of disease, just like a captain who saves the boat from the whirlpool even in the absence of his attendants.

Thus physicians who a quire proper knowledge by studding scriptures, practicing constantly, from the respective teachers and understand the true essence of science are admired and those which carries burden without experiencing are perfectly described by susrutacharya by a simile.

यथा खरश्चन्दनभारवाही भारस्य वेता न तु
चन्दनस्य |

एवं हि शास्त्राणि बहून्यधीत्य चार्थेषु मूढाः
खरवद्बहन्ति ॥४॥ सु सू ४/४

Thus it is sure that going two folds knowledge, theory as well as practical is the only way to serve society and to become respectful person in the society.

Reference

- 1) Sushrut Samhita Hindi Vykhya By A.Vidyalankar ,Pubhisher Choukhambha Sanskrit Sansthan Varanasi 6th Edition 1987
- 2) Sushrut Samhita - Android Application.
- 3) Sushrut Samhita with Dalhans Nibandhasangraha commentary by Vaidya Yadavaji Trikamaji Acharya, Choukhamba bharati Prakashana, Varanasi 2007
- 4) Sushrut Samhita with Gayadas nyayachandrika commentary by Vaidya Yadavaji Trikamaji Acharya, Choukhamba bharati Prakashana, Varanasi 2007