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Chandas (Prosody) in Ayurveda: with Special Reference to Charaka Samhita

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This research is about *Chandas* in Ayurveda. *Chandas* refers to one of the six *Vedangas* or limbs of Vedic studies. The study of Ayurveda as a *Upaveda* and *Chandas* as a *Vedanga* was collateral. The *Chandas* are developed by the Vedic schools, which were notable for including both linear and non-linear systems. It is the study of poetic metres in Ayurveda. This field of study was centered to the *Charaka Samhitha*. *Charaka Samhitha* is one of the main classics in Ayurveda. The commentators of *Charaka Samhita* have not mentioned the types of *Chandas* in context. The aim of this study is to identify the *Chandas* mentioned in *Charaka Samhita* and its syllable structure. Data which was compiled in this research has been elaborately arranged with the relevant illustration and in logical order. And data has been categorised in a precise and understandable way. Each *Chandas* has its own rhythm. The Ayurveda text were written mostly in simple and concise style known as ‘*Suthra*’ and in combined form of both prose and verse. Prose is not tightening by *akshara*, *maathra*, *gathi* and *yathi*. On the other hand verse is bound by some rules. Based on the above facts it can be concluded that with the help of *Chandas*, the Ayurveda ‘*Suthra*’ was preserved in its original form. This research gives a grater prospect to the researchers who are interested in undertaking a deep study of the *Chandas*.

Key words: akshara, Chandas, Charaka Samhitha, maatraa, Suthra