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Yoga in Modern Medicine

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Abstract

Prevention is better than cure and yoga is widely recognized as an effective tool inculcating a healthy life style thus acting as vaccine against life style related disorders. As Yoga Chikitsa or Medical Yoga Therapy, ideally, is an individualized, personalized and holistic approach that takes into account not only the patient's mind, body but as part of patient's individualized treatment plan. It is different from a yoga class, starts with detailed history and physical examination and assessment from the health practionter. The studies demonstrate that yoga intervention produced predictable changes in neurogenerative disorders and neurobehavioral Science.

Key Words: Yoga Chikitsa, GABA, GSH, Telomeres, Practices

Introduction:

Yoga is amazing contribution of exploiting various bodily postures and regulation of oxygen consumption postures and regulation of oxygen consumption during the processes forms the basis of the age long success of this clan as a popular traditional medical technique.

Yoga is an important area for service as well as research in both clinical and preclinical departments over longer. It is popularized in relation to mental health and neuroscience.

Recognition of yoga as therapeutic method in modern medicine has started with the pioneering scientific research on yoga by Swami Kuvalyananda's work in the 1920s who published first experimental research physiological effect of Asanas, Pranayama and meditation in Western Subsequently, biomedical terms. Swami Vivekananda Yoga Research Institute near Bangalore (SVYASA) made Yoga therapy an accepted and wide spread one.

In 1999 the National Institutes of Health created the National centre of complementary and Alternative medicine (NCCAM). One of the major branches of complementary and alternative medicine is yoga with in mind-body intervention.

Incorporation of yoga in modern medicinal practice has identified by National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (NIMHANS) setup advanced center with MOU and collaboration with Morarji Desai National Institute of Yoga in 2007. This led to opening of regular yoga service for the patients.

International acceptance of this trend resulted in formation of Yoga therapy centers, integration of yoga in hospital programs, professional trainings of staff for yoga therapy, Associations of Yoga. Therapists, (India and abroad) publication of professional and scientific literature has made knowledge in this field widely available.

Recent-Research suggests that yoga has beneficial effects in mitigating the impact of Neurodegenerative Disorders example include dementias degenerative muscle disorders, acquired brain damage related deficits, developmental disorders.

The theme was to examine the current state of medicalize Yoga and it application from mental health perspective.

a) Medical Yoga Prescription :

It is considered the use of yoga practices for the prevention and potential treatment of medical conditions. It also incorporates appropriate, breathy techniques, mindfulness, meditation and study in order to achieve the maximum benefits.

As Medical Yoga therapy or Yoga Chikitsa, different from a yoga class, starts with a detailed history and physical examination and assessment from the health practitioner.

The ideal medical yoga prescription includes the yogic practices of breathing techniques, bodily postures, meditation techniques and self reflection/study, a healthy nourishing diet, reducing substances such as caffeine, tobacco, drugs and alcohol healthy sleep hygiene and appropriate support, which may include family, spouse, children, friends and or support groups.

b) Neurotransmitters and Yoga :

Yoga practices can increase multiple neurotransmitters and hormones such as GABA is one of the body's chief inhibitory neurotransmitters and acts an important player in the body's response to stress, fear, depression, anxiety and sleep regulation. Lower than normal levels of GABA in the brain have been associated with schizophrenia, depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorders, and epilepsy and sleep disorders.

Multiple studies have shown that the practice of yoga and meditation may work in increasing GABA levels in the brain.

c) Telomeres and Yoga :

As meditation, mindfulness practices and yoga may work to keep our minds and bodies potentially stabilizing and even lengthening telomeres (end part chromosome).

Telemore are small, repetitive and found at the end of chromosomes which protect the chromosome from deterioration and cell death.

As they shorten, proceeds with cell death, premature aging-related diseases including cardiovascular disease, stroke, obesity, Alzheimer's.

In 2008, Dean Ornish found a significant association between comprehensive lifestyle (including Yoga, Meditation, breathing, Stress Management and a healthy whole-food, plant based diet) increased telomerase activity in human peripheral blood mononuclear cells.

d) DNA and Yoga:

Regular practice of yoga correlating the study upon improvement mechanism of the antioxidant acting of glutathione status of body.

Glutathione (GSH) by nature is water soluble tripeptide found in all cells of the body, inside body, due to several endogenous and exogenous factors, oxidative damage to DNA resulting causes various necrotic and metabolic disorders including cancer.

Practicing pranayama every day in a routine manner not only increases the capacity of lungs but also increases the oxygen supply to the body which

- mitochondria (most important for the synthesis of Glutathione is ATP)
- as Yoga Chikitsa in the of a wide variety of a w

Clinical Implication:

The techniques are associated with:

- Decrease in Sympathetic activity with a corresponding increase in parasympathetic activity.
- Tone down mal-adoptive nervous system arousal and can be helpful practice for patients with posttraumatic stress disorder (PTSD)
- Effects on cognitive activity and Cerebral neurophysiology with release of Serotonin for 'feel good'
- Yoga can increase brain GABA levels and optimizes the symptoms of panic, anxiety, obsession, depression which helps in an individual's ability to calm down, relax and sleep.

Conclusion:

The Yoga is thus an alternative medicine in both preventive and curative therapy with high yielding and relatively low risk improvement to overall health.

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