

Q. What do you mean by त्रिसूत्र? Write a note on the five गोश्लोक of Āyurveda.

Ans: Etiology, Symptomatology and Therapeutics which are indeed the best means to well-being par excellence to healthy and diseased, are to be understood as त्रिसूत्र in Āyurveda. cf. "दनुलिङ्गौषधज्ञानं स्वस्वभानु-परायणम् त्रिसूत्रं" etc.

Etiology normally includes the immediate and distant causes of diseases; Symptomatology, the entire signs and symptoms of diseases and health; therapeutics, the medicinal drugs along with wholesome diet.

Nothing specific is stated in the Sutrasthāna regarding the classification of चैष्टित except the statement 'प्रथक्त्वादि कर्म चैष्टितमुच्यते' — Action in the form of curative efforts is known as चैष्टित ।

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Thus 'चेष्टित' which may be termed otherwise as कर्म represents indeed one single category or the lot of six categories as enumerated in the Nyāya system of philosophy. So, it would not be unjust to enumerate the five types of चेष्टित as per the line of the Nyāya system which subdivides चेष्टित as उत्क्षेपण (Throwing upwards) आकुञ्चन (Contraction), प्रसारण (Expansion) अउत्क्षेपण (throwing down wards) and गमन (Going)

By its definition, Karma here implies only the action relating to something to be achieved (like the action of drugs etc) and not something like 'vamanakarma' (emetic therapy) or adrstakarma (invisible post-action) Karma again causes combination and separation as soon as it is produced without requiring

any subsequent help except  
the proximity to the substratum of  
combination and separation.