

3e. Masanumasika Garbha Vriddhi

(e) Māsānumāsika Garbha Vriddhi — Month-wise Fetal Growth (Classical description with applied correlations)

Learning Objectives

- Reproduce the **month-wise (māsānumāsika)** description of fetal development from the classics with exact key terms—**kalala**, **peśī/ghana**, **aṅga-pratyāṅga**, **dauḥṛda**, **ojas**.
- Quote and interpret **authentic ślokas** and link each month to **applied obstetric significance**.
- Correlate classical stages with **modern milestones** without over-claiming one-to-one equivalence.
- [3D model Fetal Development Trimester 1](#)
- [3D model Fetal Development Trimester 2](#)
- [3D model Fetal Development Trimester 3](#)

1) Classical anchors (memorise and use in exams)

“तत्र प्रथमे मासि कललं जायते ; द्वितीये शीतोष्मानिलैरभिप्रपच्यमानानां महाभूतानां सङ्घातो धनः सञ्जायते... तृतीये... पञ्चपिण्डका... चतुर्थे सर्वाङ्गप्रत्यङ्गविभागः प्रव्यक्तो भवति... दौहृदिनी... लब्धदौहृदा हि वीर्यवन्तं चिरायुषं च पुत्रं जनयति ॥१८॥” — **Suśruta Saṁhitā, Śārīrasthāna 3/18.**

“पञ्चमे मनः प्रतिबुद्धतरं भवति, षष्ठे बुद्धिः, सप्तमे... प्रव्यक्ततरः ; अष्टमेऽस्थिरी भवत्योजः... नवमदशमैकादशद्वादशानामन्यतमस्मिञ् जायते... ॥३०॥” — **Suśruta Saṁhitā, Śārīrasthāna 3/30.**

2) Month-wise description (Ayurveda → concise applied correlation)

Key: Classical keywords in **bold**; parenthetical modern correlations are **conceptual** and exam-friendly.

1st month — Kalala (amorphous, semisolid)

- **Classical:** “**Kalalam jāyate**”—a formless, jelly-like embryonic mass begins.
- **Applied correlation:** Implantation and **germ-disc** stage (weeks 3–4).
- **Care:** Avoid **viṣa/āma** exposure; light **vātānulomana** ahāra; confirm intrauterine pregnancy.

2nd month — Ghana/Peśī consolidation (mahābhūta saṅghāta)

- **Classical:** Mahābhūtas coalesce into a **compact mass**—text mentions male (**piṅḍa**), female (**peśī**), or **arbuda** (neuter).
- **Applied:** **Organ primordia** appear; cardiac activity by ~6–7 weeks.
- **Care:** Folate sufficiency; nausea support; avoid unindicated drugs.

3rd month — Aṅga-pratyāṅga budding becomes discernible

- **Classical:** “**Hastapāda-sīrasaṃ pañca piṅḍakā**... aṅga-pratyāṅga division becomes **sūkṣma**.”
- **Applied:** **Organogenesis** largely set; limbs, facial outlines form.
- **Care:** Screen anaemia/thyroid as per protocol; posture and sleep counselling.



4th month — Sarvāṅga-pratyāṅga clearly pravayakta; Cetanā manifests

- **Classical:** Structural division becomes clear; **garbha-hṛdaya** manifests, hence **cetanā-dhātu** appears. The mother is termed **dauhṛdinī** (two-hearted)—her **dauhṛda** (innate longings) should be respected; neglect may yield deformities.
- **Applied:** Placental stability increases; maternal-fetal emotional bonding.
- **Care:** Balanced **bṛmhaṇa** diet; gentle activity; address cravings reasonably (healthful substitutes).

5th month — Manaḥ (mind) more pratibuddha

- **Classical:** “**Pañcame manaḥ pratibuddhataraṃ...**”—mental faculty awakens further.
- **Applied:** **Quickening window** (18–20 wks); skeletal ossification.
- **Care:** **Anomaly scan**; iron-calcium; sleep hygiene, calming stimuli.

6th month — Buddhi (intellect) develops

- **Classical:** “**Ṣaṣṭhe buddhiḥ.**”
- **Applied:** **Sensory pathways** mature; eyelids open later.
- **Care:** Monitor growth; address reflux/constipation; dental hygiene.

7th month — Sarvāṅga-pratyāṅga vibhāgaḥ pravayaktataraḥ

- **Classical:** Whole-body differentiation becomes **very distinct**.
- **Applied:** Threshold of **viability** approaches with NICU support.
- **Care:** Preterm-birth counselling; uterine-tone moderation (non-drug measures), rest.

8th month — Ojas becomes asthira (labile)

- **Classical:** “**Aṣṭame 'sthiri bhavaty ojaḥ**; born now, survival poor owing to **nirojavatva.**” Strength-giving (**bali**) foods recommended to the mother.
- **Applied:** Rapid weight gain; lung maturation; **late-preterm risks**.
- **Care:** Nutritional optimisation; oedema/anaemia checks; avoid undue exertion.

9th (→ 10th) month — Paryāpta-garbha ready for prasava

- **Classical:** Birth occurs in the **9th-12th** window “**navam-daśam-ekādaśa-dvādaśānām anyatamasmin jāyate**; otherwise vikari.” (The practical expectation is **term** in the 9th lunar month.)
- **Applied:** **Cervico-uterine readiness**; mature reflexes.
- **Care:** Labour readiness, **sūtikā-paricaryā** planning; fetal-movement awareness; PPH prophylaxis.

[Fetal development 3D models](#)

3) Integrative understanding—why the sequence matters

- **Mahābhūta-saṅghāta** → **Āṅga-pratyāṅga** → **Cetanā** → **Manaḥ** → **Buddhi** → **Ojas** describes a **from-form-to-function** arc. The embryo first **coheres**, then **differentiates**, gains **vital animation (cetanā)**, refines **psycho-cognitive faculties** (manaḥ/buddhi), and stabilises **ojas** (vital essence).
- **Dauhṛda** at **māsa 4** is a mnemonic for **maternal mental nutrition**; classics warn that **dauhṛda-vimānaṇā** (disrespecting harmless, sattvic cravings) may **vitiolate fetal form**—a powerful counselling point for **maternal mental health**.
- The **8th-month ojas lability** teaches **vigilance late in gestation** and prioritisation of **rest-nutrition**, even as modern neonatology now rescues many late-preterm infants; in exams, state **classical view** and then add “**modern NICU improves outcomes.**”

4) Month-wise quick table

Māsa	Classical keywords (quote-able)	Practical correlation	Must-write care points
1	Kalala	Implantation/embryonic disc	Avoid toxins; confirm IU gestation
2	Ghana/Peśī; Mahābhūta-saṅghāta	Primordia; cardiac flicker	Folate; nausea support
3	Aṅga-pratyāṅga sūkṣma	Organogenesis consolidates	Screen anaemia/thyroid
4	Sarvāṅga-pratyāṅga pravayakta; Cetanā; Daurhṛda	Placental stability	Respect healthy cravings; bṛṃhaṇa diet
5	Manaḥ pratibuddha	Movements; ossification	Anomaly scan; calcium
6	Buddhi	Sensory maturation	Growth surveillance
7	Pravyaktatara	Viability with NICU	Preterm risk counselling
8	Ojas asthira	Rapid growth; late-preterm risks	Rest; anaemia/oedema care
9-10	Paryāpta-garbha; prasava	Term readiness	Labour plan; PPH prevention

(Keywords source: Suśruta Śārīrasthāna 3/18 & 3/30.)

5) Applied notes

- **Nutrition across months:** move from **laghu-uṣṇa** easily digestible in early months → **bṛṃhaṇa** (protein, iron, calcium) mid-pregnancy → **ojas-protective** rest and micronutrients late.
- **Psychological milieu:** sustained **sattva** inputs (music, supportive relationships) map to **manaḥ/buddhi** maturation months.
- **Surveillance:** month-linked checks—**1-3** viability scan + folate; **4-6** anomaly scan + iron/calcium; **7-9** fetal growth, preterm prevention, labour education.
- **Classical cautions:** **dauhṛda-vimānanā** risks; **8th-month delivery** traditionally deemed unsafe due to **ojas-asthiratva**—write this and then add modern clarification.

6) Viva tips (one-liners you can lift in OSCE)

- **Define māsānumāsika vṛddhi:** “Month-wise sequential development of garbha with landmarks—**kalala**→**peśī/ghana**→**aṅga-pratyāṅga**→**cetanā**→**manaḥ**→**buddhi**→**ojas** (Suśruta).”
- **What is dauhṛda?:** Two-hearted state in the 4th month; **respect harmless longings** to avoid vitiation of fetal form.
- **Why is 8th month sensitive?:** **Ojas** said to be **asthira**; hence emphasis on **rest and nourishment**.

7) High-yield memory cues

- **K-G-A-C-M-B-P-O-T**
 - **Kalala** (1) → **Ghana/Peśī** (2) → **Aṅga-pratyāṅga** (3-4)/**Cetanā** (4) → **Manaḥ** (5) → **Buddhi** (6) → **Pravyaktatara** whole body (7) → **Ojas asthira** (8) → **Term** (9-10).
- Quote **3/18** to cover months **1-4 + dauhṛda**, and **3/30** for **5-12 + ojas**.

8) Model answer (how to structure a 10-marker)

1. Definition + scope (2 lines).
2. Quote **Suśruta 3/18** for months 1-4 with **kalala / peśī-ghana / aṅga-pratyāṅga / cetanā & dauhṛda**.



3. Quote **Suśruta 3/30** for **manaḥ, buddhi, pravyaktatara, ojas**, and timing of birth.
4. Add a 5–6 line **applied correlation** table and two counselling points (nutrition, mental health).
5. Conclude with **ojas-asthiratva** caution + modern note on NICU.

Assessment

A) Long Answer Questions (LAQ)

1. Describe **māsānumāsika garbha vṛddhi** quoting Suśruta Saṃhitā (Śārīrasthāna 3/18 & 3/30). Explain **dauḥṛda** and **ojas** with applied obstetric significance.
2. Write a **month-wise chart** of fetal development with **Ayurvedic keywords** and **modern milestones**. Add month-linked maternal care priorities.

B) Short Answer Questions (SAQ)

1. Define **kalala** and **peśī/ghana** with their months and significance.
2. What is meant by **cetanā-dhātu** becoming manifest in the 4th month?
3. Explain **dauḥṛda-vimānanā** and its possible effects.
4. Why is the **8th month** considered sensitive in classics? What practical care follows?
5. List the **month and feature: manaḥ, buddhi, ojas**.

C) MCQs (single best answer)

1. The classical term describing the **amorphous embryonic mass** in the **1st month** is:
A) Arbuda B) **Kalala** C) Piṇḍa D) Peśī
Ans: B.
2. **Dauḥṛda** is specifically mentioned in relation to which month?
A) 3rd B) **4th** C) 6th D) 8th
Ans: B.
3. According to Suśruta, **ojas becomes asthira** predominantly in:
A) 7th B) **8th** C) 9th D) 10th
Ans: B.
4. "**Manaḥ pratibuddhataram**" is assigned to the:
A) 4th month B) **5th month** C) 6th month D) 7th month
Ans: B.
5. "**Sarvāṅga-pratyāṅga vibhāgaḥ pravyaktataraḥ**" belongs to which month?
A) **7th** B) 5th C) 3rd D) 8th
Ans: A.

References

Classical (primary)

- **Suśruta Saṃhitā, Śārīrasthāna 3/18 & 3/30** — month-wise fetal development; **dauḥṛda** and **ojas-asthiratva** explicitly stated. (Consult standard editions; see verified text online.)
- **Caraka Saṃhitā, Śārīrasthāna 4 (Mahati Garbhāvākṛānti)** — sequential development, determinants and growth factors (use for supplementary framing).
- **Aṣṭāṅga Hṛdaya, Śārīrasthāna 1 (Garbhāvākṛānti)** — condensed account; supportive verses on sequence and parental factors.

Standard Modern Texts

- **Williams Obstetrics** — fetal development timelines and trimester care.



- **Dutta DC: Textbook of Obstetrics** — Indian practice perspectives on antenatal surveillance.
- **Gabbe's Obstetrics / Cunningham** — fetal growth physiology and perinatal care.

30-second recap

- Quote **Suśruta 3/18** for **1-4 months** (*kalala* → *ghana/peśī* → *aṅga-pratyaṅga (sūkṣma/pravyakta)*, *cetanā*, *dauḥṛda*).
- Quote **Suśruta 3/30** for **5-12 months** (*manaḥ*, *buddhi*, *pravyaktatara*, **ojas** in 8th, term).
- Always add **two applied points** per trimester (nutrition, mental-emotional milieu, surveillance).

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