

# Veratrum-Viride

**ABSTRACT:** From sphere of action, to peculiar sensation to particulars. Our materia-medica section covers everything of about the remedy presented and bet you don't have to look into any books.

**LATE P ISHWARDAS TARKAS AND DR AJIT KULKARNI**

38, Bhavani Peth, Satara.

E-mail: dr\_ajitkulkarni@rediffmail.com

## GREEN HELLEBORE

### REGION

CNS: Nervous system, esp the pneumogastric nerve centers

Vasomotors: Medulla, Cranium, Occiput and neck.

Cranial, thoracic and pelvic cavities (*Tereb*). Heart.

Capillaries. Arteries. Veins.

Spine (*Stry*)

Kidneys (*Ter*)

### WORSE

#### RISING UP

Motion

Lying on back

Cold

Sun exposure; summer heat

Suppressed discharges (menses, lochia)

Alcohol (Narcotics)

Poisoning: food, opium

High living

Ailments from egotism, fright, shock

After confinement

### BETTER

Sleep except chorea and trembling.

Lying with head low. Lying with limbs drawn up.

Rubbing

Motion

Eating (*Visc*)

Hot, strong coffee

Hot bath (convulsions)

CONGESTIVE. INFLAMED. PARALYTIC. SPASMODIC.

ALLERGIC. CEREBRAL. ERRATIC. PAINFUL. RHEUMATIC.

- A depressing irritant (like *Gels*, *Stry*). Acting on the nerves:

A) 1. On the vasomotors of the arterial circulation causing depression and paralysis of the circula-

tory apparatus.

2. On the cerebrospinal nervous system, esp. the pneumogastric (motor fibers) causing its depression.

(NB: Depressive action in both is purely internal).

- Both leading soon on recovery of the shock (through rise of arterial pressure in one and two due to congestions in base of brain and upper portion of the spinal cord, hence (inflammations also) in the pneumogastric distributed areas (origin and branches to the gastro-intestines, diaphragm, lungs, liver) (nausea, vomiting, giddiness, drowsiness, stupor).

B) 1. On the spinal motor centers causing depression, exhaustion (Also in motor nerves of special sense motor oculi, optic motor tracts, auditory nerve), later leading - after recovery of the shock to stimulation, twitching, spasms.

2. On reflex motor nerve centers causing congestions there, resulting in prostration, paralysis or spasms.

C) On the sensory fibers of the pneumogastric causing smooth irritation, stimulation, hence hyperesthesia and intense pains (*Xanth*).

- Muscular irritation. Muscular prostration. Plethora. Nerve anemia.

Depression ..... CONGESTION ..... PAINS  
SPASMS

1. Acts on the cerebro-spinal nervous system, esp. the pneumogastric producing paralysis of the cerebro-spinal nervous system and the reflex motor-nerve centers, and consequently of the whole circulating apparatus, causing engorgement and inflammation of other organs supplied by the pneumogastric nerve (esp. stomach and lungs): a tastatic

hyperemia: post paralytic congestion (*Visc - preparalytic*).

2. Produces congestion of base of brain and upper portion of spinal cord, thus interfering with the function of the pneumogastric nerve.

3. On the reflex motor-nerve centers (Congestion) causing prostration-paralysis-spasms.

- Represents like *Bell* and *Ferr-ph*, the acute invasive stage of inflammation and is useful until the inflammation is frankly established, but not later, unlike *Hep*, *Phos* or *Sulph*. According to some writers *Verat-v* will not reach beyond the asthenic stage like *Bell* etc, hence not useful in adynamic conditions like typhoid, septic fever etc. (see fever). Farrington says, "Rather pictures asthenic fever of a low type."
- (Full blooded). Florid (like *Bell*) and plethoric (like *Acon*). Constitutions with bloated, livid face (like *Apis*); those addicted to high living or to stimulants (like *Ter* and *Nux-v*) to which it is similar also in resultant subacute allergic states).
- Suddenness and violence; convulsions; rapid violent congestive conditions: intracranial, thoracic, spine and / or pelvic (*Ter*); with great arterial tension, weakness, staggering, nausea and vomiting. No hemorrhage (*Stry*). (Sans suddenness and violence, *Stront-c*).
- SUDDEN: prostration, faintness, headache, nausea, vomiting, congestion, High Blood Pressure, Low Blood Pressure, tachycardia, apoplexy, shock.
- Inflammations any and everywhere (with arterial excitement): meningitis, ophthalmia, otitis, oesophagitis, tonsillitis, gastritis, enteritis, peritonitis, (typhlitis), diaphragmatis, colitis, pelvic cellulitis, ovaritis, metritis, nephritis, bronchitis, pneumonia, pleurisy, mastitis, peri-carditis, arthritis (*Calc-ph*, *Rhus-t*, *Ter*).
- DROPSY: cardiac, with fever.
- BURNINGS: in places; tongue, pharynx, gullet, chest, heart (*Calc-ph*, *Ter*), of skin which is cold, with prickling; with shivering.
- Hyperaesthesia of senses. Increased sensitiveness to sound, sounds otherwise agreeable becomes unbearable. Clothes would not fit him; they irritate him as if scratching him somewhere.
- Erratic movements (Boger). Trembling here and

there, even during sleep, as if on the verge of convulsions. Chorea: from sexual excitement; even during sleep; after menorrhagia; during pregnancy; after chastisement; with burning.

- Twitchings and convulsions; here and there; during sleep; with great arterial excitement and high fever. Violent electric-like shocks in limbs. Great turmoil and commotion (*Cic*, *Stry*).
- Eclampsia from emotional causes or albuminuria, profound cerebral congestion; of children.
- Violent convulsions, Strychnine, uremic (*Calc-a*), opisthotonus; with suppressed menses; traumatic tetanus; in meningitis with foam at mouth; dim vision; nodding head. Before: chilliness, nausea, vomiting. Convulsions not due to cerebral anemia; after blood-letting; with mania; puerperal (see Female); after sexual excitement. Hystero-epilepsy. Epilepsy sans aura. During croup. Convulsions begin in face.
- Sudden fainting; with High Blood Pressure Pallor with syncope. Walking or sudden motion, even rising brings on fainting and blindness. Nervous faintness and exhaustion. Becomes faint on sitting up, rising up.
- SHOCK: Peripheral circulatory failure and low blood pressure leads to: (Pictures) a vasovagal attack / syncope: pallor and cyanosis, cold, clammy sweat, slow respiration, dilatation of pupils, nausea and vomiting, loss of consciousness, slight convulsion of face, trunk, arms. Cause: emotions, sudden fright, sight of blood, violent pains, severe fatigue. Subacute shocks (*Nux-v*). Nervous shock, not due to depletion (unlike *Carb-v* or *Verat*).
- PARALYSIS: Hinsdale says, "Clinically, it is known that such diseases as Tiegel's contracture, Thompson's disease (myotonia congenita), athetosis (muscular disorder with slow, twisting motions of hands, feet etc.) and Pseudo-hypertrophic muscular paralysis present a symptomatology quite like that produced by *Verat-v* upon muscular tissue." Cerebral hyperaemia causing paralysis (and tingling); paralysis of lower limbs with coldness, blueness, dampness, cramps. Vasomotor paralysis (*Gels*).
- Tendency to cyanosis.

- COLLAPSE: vomiting, very slow pulse, cold sweat.
- COMA: spasms, blue face.
- SIGNS OF REACTION: diarrhea.
- INJURIES: Knee tender, swollen, after a wrench - sprained joint. Spinal injury. Surgery (see Fever).

### PECULIAR SENSATIONS

- As if boiling water over parts. Tongue feels as if scalded. Scalded legs. As if damp clothes on limbs both upper and lower or as if clothes would not fit him, seemed as they were scratching him somewhere. As if a ball rising in throat. As if ankles distorted. Markedly uneasy. Marked uneasy sensation in the whole body. Uneasy urination (Boger). General uneasiness at stomach.

### MIND

- Ailments from egotism. Over-stimulation of self; haughty (like *Plat*); impervious to suggestions. Will never underrate himself, has quite a high opinion of his intelligence, but is not aggressive like *Plat*.
- Quarrelsome and delirious. Loquacity with exaltation of ideas. Furious, screams, howls, strikes, incessant muttering. Violent delirium with wild staring eyes and restless hands; carpology. Congestion to head without delirium. Insanity from cerebral congestion with coldness of the whole body. General mania. Wild behaviour.
- Conversion hysteria (*Spiran*).
- Depressed sensorium (*Gels*). Depression of spirits. Desire to remain in bed. Mental indifference, careless about future. Sobbing. Lamenting. Death desires; thoughts of, fear, without. Silent suspicion of attendants and medicine, even the physician. Hostile to a physician, thinks he is poisoning her.
- Stupor (see Head and Fever); a comatose state.
- Child cries if moved (*Bry, Zinc*). Congestion of brain during teething.

### SELECT PARTICULARS

#### HEAD

- VERTIGO: Faintness and blindness from sudden motion. With nausea (and vomiting on rising up), with dim vision and dilated vessels.
- Intense cerebral irritation, congestion, almost

apoplectic. Feeling as if the head would just open; dim vision. Incipient cerebral thrombosis; thick speech; concussions, from intense congestion of the cerebral capillaries throbbing temporal and carotid arteries, hot head, cold feet, ringing in ears, palpitation, numb limbs. Apoplexy of brain from vascular irritation. Giddiness; with nausea.

- A principal headache remedy. Intense congestive headache, throbbing (of arteries), with stupefaction, double and other disorders of vision (*Gels*), nausea, vomiting, numb limbs, arterial excitement. Headaches associated with brain, lung or kidney trouble (uremia) or with menses (suppressed) with intense sensitiveness to sounds. Pains up occiput with dim vision and dilated pupils. Afternoon headache with feverishness.
- Cerebral congestion from plethora, alcoholism, suppression of discharges or during dentition.
- SUNSTROKE: disorders of vision (eg double, partial), nausea, vomiting, cloudy brain, convulsions or paralysis of motion (due to cerebral congestion), sensitive to sounds, buzzing in ears, pulse throbbing, diarrhea, pulmonary congestion, syncope, dilated pupils, paralysis.
- Meningismus (*Acon*). Meningitis; see Sunstroke; abdomen tympanitic and very sensitive (tender), opisthotonus, during pneumonia. "Fever, moaning, rolling head from side to side, putting hands to the back of ears, violent pain in back after drooping some days." Cold clammy sweat, hyperpyrexia, hot occiput, nausea and vomiting, cramps, shocks. Continued trembling, jerking and nodding of head, in chorea after menorrhagia in convulsions.

#### EYES

- Diseases of the fundus oculi (choroid, retina or disk) from vasomotor influenza. Sometimes in connection with uterine disease. Bloodshot eyes. Heaviness in eyelids. Traumatic erysipelas of lids. Sudden motion causes blindness and faintness.
- Dim vision from congestion at base of brain; on sitting up. Blindness from congestion of optic nerve puerperal peritonitis, anemia, alternating with objects moving before eyes in confusion. Sudden horizontal hemiopia (upper lost, lower spotty), followed by supraorbital throbbing, with

nausea.

- Vision: red spot, purple on closing eyes, green or red halo around candle. Unsteady. Pupils dilated (*Stry, Gels*), with dim vision.

**EARS:** Cold and pale, congestion sensitive to noise. Acute otitis media. Buzzing. Roaring. Singing. Humming with sensitiveness to noise. Ringing from congestion of blood to head, with nausea and vomiting. Transient deafness from moving quickly, with faintness.

**NOSE:** Subacute allergic conditions (*Bellokossy*). Nose looks pinched, blue, cold. Sneezing rapid and persistent, with warm biting feeling in mouth.

**FACE**

- Hippocratic. Livid, bloated (turgid); covered with beads of sweat (*Lach*). Becomes pale on sitting up. Livid face with congested head (as in puerperal fever or convulsions). Blue face with convulsions. Nose looks pinched (fevers). Paleness around lips and sides of nose.
- Chewing motion of jaw. Convulsive twitching of facial muscles (*Agar*), the mouth drawn down at one corner. Ludicrous and horrible distortions of the face (body too writhing; entire muscular system in continuous and tumultuous motion).

**THROAT**

- Tonsillitis. Constant inclination to swallow. As if a ball rising in throat. Oesophagitis (*Farrington*); with nausea and burning in gullet.

**MOUTH**

- Foul breath. Teething.
- TONGUE: white as if bleached; not coated white. Red or white or dry streak down centre of tongue on yellow or white coat. Scalded feeling.
- TASTE: Everything tastes sweet; even water (*Rhus-t*). Like odor of semen, chloroform or ether.

**STOMACH**

- Averse to sweets. Very thirsty; drinks little. Hiccough; excessive and painful; frequent and long-continued; with spasms of oesophagus. Retching, (see Fever). Retching in inflammatory and brain diseases.
- Stomach seems to press against spine; sinks in (*Lob*). Neuralgia and spasms of stomach General

uneasiness at stomach Faintness in stomach with pneumonia.

- Gastralgia, excruciating pain with nausea and vomiting. Constrictive pain; < warm drinks. Gastritis, bloody vomit and stools, intense, vascular system strongly excited
- NAUSEA: intermittent; with vertigo; before fever. Nausea with urging to stool; with thirst; with syncope, due to vasovagal involvement; > eating, empty eructations. Sudden nausea and vomiting with congestion anywhere esp. brain and chest, uterus. Occasionally vomiting sans nausea.
- VOMITING: frothy mucus tinged with blood, ropy, glairy, or white. Poisoning begins with vomiting. Smallest quantity of food or drink immediately ejected, hot or cold (*Ars*). Vomiting with heartburn of pregnancy; with uterine troubles. Vomiting with great gastric pain; with collapse (slow pulse, cold sweat). Violent.

**ABDOMEN**

- Cutting at (right of) navel extending to groin; cutting-aching, with rumbling and urging to stool; forcing colicky pains in abdomen before menses. Pain and soreness across, full bounding pulse, quarrelsome delirium. Pain in bowels extending to scrotum.
- Enteritis. Pelvic congestion, tenderness, fever. Pelvic peritonitis (*Ter*) Pelvic cellulitis. Tympanitis, tenderness. Choked spleen; fullness and heaviness in splenic region, history of ague in early life, oppressed breathing on attempting to walk.
- Aching in gall- bladder (*Bapt*). Liver congested: remittent fever. Colitis: great pain, weakness, faintness, flatulence, blue lips, high fever, vascular excitement.
- Appendicitis.

**RECTUM**

- Cholera infantum after extreme heat, with arterial excitement, fever, even opisthotonus. Convulsions in anemic children from exhausting diarrhea. Diarrhea with fever. English cholera. Vomiting more prominent than purging.
- Dysentery: inflammatory; tenesmus < during and > after stool.
- Hemorrhoids, red or dark blue, painful.

- (Black) bloody stools (in typhoid). Mushy.

## URINARY

- Uneasy urination (Boger). Cystitis, with fever. Urine very clear. Profuse diaphoresis and sense of utter prostration.
- Nephritis; after exanthema, with convulsions (*Tereb*); with flushed face (*Bell*), drowsiness (*Apis*, *Tereb*) restlessness (*Ars*), thirst, vomiting upon drinking (*Ars*).
- Renal colic. Renal congestion (*Tereb*); arterial pressure, increase of solids, scanty urine, history of headaches. Arterial hyperemia of the kidneys. Surgical kidney (*Meth-b*).
- Uremic convulsions.

**Male:** Orchitis.

## Female

- Suppressed menses after getting wet (*Rhus-t*), from active congestion of uterus with cerebral congestion or (convulsions) remote inflammations; plethoric constitution; with throbbing arteries. Sudden suppression of metrorrhagia.
- Menstrual colic preceded by or with cranial and uterine congestion. With strangury; before discharge sets in (*Zinc*). Colic 3 days prior, head and face bloodshot, pulsating, loss of vision. Congestive or spasmodic. Agonizing cramp like pains alternating with bruised aching, do not generally go down to thighs.
- Congestion of uterus with sympathetic affections of rectum as constipation, piles. Climacteric flushes. Pelvic cellulitis (*Med*).
- Threatened abortion. Rigid os (*Bell*, *Gels*); during labour with flushed face, full pulse, dry mouth.
- Suppressed lochia (after excitement).
- Milk suppressed. Mastitis with great arterial and nervous excitement.
- Convulsion during labor, stertor, nausea, retching. Puerperal convulsions and (cerebral congestion) mania. Childbed fever (delirium, coma, nausea).
- "In puerperium helps clear lochia, stimulates milk and protects lungs." Puerperal mania: (before labor) due to pressure of gravid uterus on nerve centers; (after labor) due to imprisoned lochia and placental fragments. Puerperal convulsions

(before labor) due to renal congestion; (after labor) due to brain congestion with coma and cyanosis.

## RESPIRATORY

- Dyspnea with cold sweat on face. Bronchial asthma. Stertor (*Op*, *Visc*). Violent cough from the very start. Cough < entering a warm room from cold (*Phos*). Spasmodic cough from spinal congestion or cerebral irritation, with spasms. Cramp, membranous.
- PNEUMONIA: Intense pulmonary congestion, great arterial excitement, high fever. Broncho-pneumonia, patient not anxious (unlike *Acon*). Old pneumonic congestions with superadded acute pleurisy (*Lyc*). Pneumonia with full, fast pulse, faint at stomach, violent (cerebral) congestion, arterial excitement, oppression and heaviness on chest, nausea, vomiting, expectoration of pus and florid blood, high fever.
- Congestive and hepatization stages; flushed face like *Bell* cold surface, constriction. Chest oppressed as from a heavy food; with eruptive fever. Constrictive zigzag temperature. *Phos* follows well later, dizziness, faintness on attempting to sit up, orthopnea, cold sweat and the ubiquitous nausea (symptoms of heart failure). (Burning) pain under one nipple. Croup with high fever, *Phos* controls cough since but not fever, later convulsions. Diaphragmitis. Respiratory congestions of hypertensives. Chronic chest affection. Pleurisy, early stage, stitching pain, cannot breathe, must hold sides (*Bry*). Pleurodynia more on left side, pain spasmodic, > walking, with nausea and gush of sweat.

## HEART

- Inflammatory affections of the heart and its membranes, especially those caused by infections; great arterial excitement. Forcible action of heart (*Lycps*). Aneurism, in ex-goitre.... Hypertrophy with dilatation. Valvular diseases: mitral incompetency and tumultuous distressing cardiac action (*Visc*, *Stry-a*).
- Sudden palpitation, oppression, pulsating feeling in all arteries, deep inspiration impossible, pale face (High Blood Pressure). Palpitation after

spasms. Fluttering sensation of the heart. Prickling or burning about the heart. Paroxysms of auricular fibrillation: pulse slow, soft, weak, irregular, intermittent.

- Pulse suddenly increases and gradually decreases below normal; slow; soft; weak; irregular; intermittent. Fast (*Ferr-ph*). Hard, as iron. Bounding; softly. Beating of pulse throughout body; especially in right thigh. Low tension. Hypertension. Heart gives a thump (*Visc*).

**BACK:** Aching neck and shoulders. Spinal congestion of irritation (See Respiration and Fever).

**EXTREMITIES:** Chilblains. Cold clammy feet. Cramps in feet, dorsae, soles etc. Achings. Rheumatism of the left side of the body. Scald leg. Shriveled hands and feet as by water. Violent electric like shocks in limbs. Right ankle feels dislocated.

**SLEEP**

- Sleeplessness.
- Drowsiness (*Op, Eucal*). Not toxaemic (Toxemia is carried in *Tereb*).
- Dreams of drowning; of being on water.

**SKIN**

- Mottled. First stage of phlegmonous erysipelas; incipient brain symptoms (*Cupr*). Traumatic erysipelas. Tingling-prickling more troublesome than the inflammation.
- Congestive, first stage of exanthemata; pain, hypersensitiveness, hyperthermia, oppression of chest and nausea, tingling, prickling, impending pulmonary congestion, cerebral congestion, or congestion of spinal centers; great arterial excitement; convulsions; gastric complications.
- Erythema; of ulcers. Bunions. Chilblains. Scald leg. Dermographia. Suppurative focus with great variation of temperature.

**THERMIC**

- First stage of inflammatory fevers in robust, plethoric persons (*Ferr-p* in anemic).
- Fevers beginning with chilliness, nausea, vomiting and cold limbs. Intense critical excitement during febrile state with cerebral congestion (due to vascular irritation) or irritation of spinal centers.
- Zigzag or rapidly oscillatory temperature. Sup-

purative (septic/ toxemic) fevers with great variations of temperature.

- Streptococcal fevers. Irritative or surgical fevers (related *Gels*). Yellow or other exanthematous fevers. Puerperal fever. Dentitional fever with cerebral irritation (*Cupr*). Autumnal bilious fevers. Influenzal fever, drawing or cramping in calves and general aching. Scarletina. Infantile remittent
- Fever high in evening, low, subnormal in morning. High fever, frontal headache, nausea, vomiting – fever noon to evening – 10 (after ovariectomy, danger from septic absorption (*Pyrog*). High fever with vomiting and strong agitation of heart and arteries indicating impending convulsions. (Here better than *Bell*).
- Hot head, cold extremities.
- SWEAT: High fever with sweat, but no amelioration of fever there from. Profuse diaphoresis and a sense of utter prostration. Slight sweat on face. Cold clammy sweat. Considerable perspiration from depressed function.
- Feverishness; depressed in mind and body, weakness, pains in shoulders and over body as from influenza, with irritating rash on forehead, face and chest.
- MEASLES: febrile congestive stage; impending lung congestion, convulsions, before the eruption.
- SMALLPOX: Cerebral congestion before eruption, nausea, vomiting, head hot, extremities cold and cyanotic, backache, fever, sweat.

**RELATIONS**

- SIMILAR: *Acon, Bell, Ang, Bapt* (biliary intoxication), *Carb-s, Crat, Cur, Ferr-p, Lach, Spiran, Ter* (tympanitic and also hydrogenoid).
- *Antip* is a mild *Verat-v*.
- A blend of *Glon* and *Rhus-t*.
- *Acon* acts on the sympathetic nervous system; *Verat-v* has no direct cerebral effect.
- The congestions of *Gels* are passive, those of *Verat-v* active.
- Has (like *Op*) no anxiety or loosing about as has *Acon*, but has the sthenic violence of *Bell*, and also is the paleness of *Ferr-p* wanting.