



Homoeopathic Queries & Solutions

Q1 Sir, I have a case of a 2 yr old boy who came for repeated episodes of acute otitis media. His parents are very much concerned about the effect this may have on his future performance. How should I counsel the parents? **Dr KAMAL LAKHATARIYA, ANAND**

A1 Otitis Media is one of the most common infections of early childhood. The majority of cases occur during the first 2 years of life. A frequent complication is persistence of fluid in the middle ear which leads to decreased mobility of the tympanic membrane and deafness. Rarely, it may lead to brain abscess or meningitis as well. As a homoeopath, otitis media is just one expression of a sick state with a tendency to catch cold. The recurrence is due to the active psorosphylic, tubercular miasmatic state which that particular constitution harbours. Such a case if treated with deep acting antimiasmatic remedy, is bound to show promising results thereby decreasing the apprehension of parents for future complications. A recent large prospective study investigated the relationship between the recurrent attacks of otitis media and subsequent academic performance. Records of the number of episodes of otitis media, standardized tests of intelligence and academic performance were done in children between 3-6 years age. No evidence of impaired verbal or academic performance attributable to middle ear infections was found. The results of many such studies indicate that the adverse effects of otitis media are minimal.

Q2 We often come across the term Bilious. What does it actually mean? **Dr ROHINI PANDYA, BARODA**

A2 Well, biliousness means general derangement of the Hepato-gastric system which produces symptoms

either due to stomach or liver disorders.

Q3 A 24 years old married lady, is under my care for few months. She is a known case of Rheumatic heart disease - mild mitral stenosis with severe regurgitation. She has undergone valve replacement 2 years ago. Now she wishes to become pregnant. She is asymptomatic at present except for occasional constipation and sinus rhythm. Her only medications are Tab Lanoxin 0.25mg/day/5 days and Warfarin 5 mg daily. How should I approach this case? **Dr VYANKATESH KULKARNI, PUNE**

A3 Truly speaking, patients with any sort of mechanical devices in-situ like prosthetic valves etc should be advised against pregnancy. However if a patient with prosthetic valve insists otherwise, the risks should be clearly explained. When a prosthetic valve is needed in a female of childbearing age, a bioprosthesis is usually chosen. For those who are on chronic warfarin (anti-coagulation) therapy, risks %age in pregnancy goes up. Risks include- bleeding or thrombo-embolism. Congenital anomalies due to warfarin are - hypoplasia of extremities and nose and CNS abnormalities. Hence as soon as pregnancy is diagnosed, warfarin should be discontinued. In modern medicine they replace warfarin with heparin with its own attendant complications. After stoppage of the drug, you should retake the case and prescribe symptomatic treatment keeping a tab on certain blood investigations (coagulation profile) every month. If the International Normalised Ratio (INR) goes much below 2 Units, then drugs like *Crotalus-horridus*, *Adren*, *Ham*, *Kreos*, *Lach*, *Nat-sil*, *Phos*, *Tereb* etc can be thought of. A team of Cardiologist, Gynecologist and a homoeopath is needed with proper ANC care for the effective management of such a case.



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Q4 Sir, in Allen's Keynotes when studying "*Malandrinum*" it is written that it is a preparation from the Grease of Horses. So where does this grease come from? **Dr SANJAY CHANDRAKAR, RAIPUR**



A4 Dorland's Abridged Medical Dictionary defines Grease as "An inflammatory swelling on the horse's leg with formation of cracks on the skin and excretion of oily matter". Webster's dictionary defines it as "An inflammation of the horse's heels, suspending a greasy secretion from the part, producing dryness, cracks, ulceration and excrescence". It is prevalent in damp cold conditions. Other names used for Grease are Scratches, Seborrheic Dermatitis, Mud Fever and Scratched Heels. Causative factors include Staphylococcus aureus infection, Mange- a skin disease caused by the parasite- Acarina mite, fungal infections, photosensitization and immune disorders. Usually, hind limbs are affected and if untreated, can lead to severe lameness. Swelling, pain, hair loss and ulceration at the heels, eventually cause thickening of skin and abnormal masses.

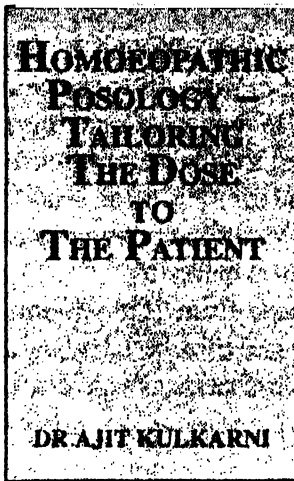
Q5 Respected Sir, I am doing my internship. I happened to read the NJH, 65th issue, Sept-Oct 2002, "Queries and Solutions" section and had some Queries. Please help me to clarify them - Regarding Q1 - you have written that the source of VITAL FORCE (VF) is unknown probably COSMOS. My question is "Why do we have different energy levels of VF and why is it affected by the surrounding things, even though the surrounding things as well as our VF live in same universe from which VF originated. Sir in your answer to Q1, 2nd para, you have mentioned, that primary function of the VF is the harmonious governance of the constitution. Thus, any change in the VF will produce change in the constitution. You have mentioned in the next line that since it is dynamic, it cannot multiply but its potential can increase or decrease as per the constitution. My question is "In first sentence you have said that the VF governs the constitution and in next sentence you say that the constitution can change the energy level of VF. How can this happen? Please clarify. Related to Q 2. Sir, you have mentioned that we should use *Nux-vom* or Isopathic Nosode, *Ad-cortex*. In the first instance, to remove the Bad effects of steroids. My question is "Can we use *Nux-vom* in every case that comes to us after allopathic treatment." If yes, then

won't *Nux-vom* disturb the actual Patient Picture? If I am wrong then please explain this concept.

Dr PRIYANKA BIBAY, BILASPUR

A5 I am happy to receive your queries. It shows the depth of your reading. As far as your first question is concerned, the answer is simple. The major functions of VF are growth, functioning of the organ / system and integration of functions. When in an ordered state (untainted by miasm), all these functions will be within normal limits and the constitution is termed as healthy – a positive adaptation into the environment. VF can govern only living healthy organs. The assessment of the potentiality of the VF is in direct proportion to the health of the organ which in turn depends upon the quantity of Biological energies (ATP & ADP) the individual organ harbors. In other words Cellular multiplication is directly dependent upon the supply of biological energies which are obtained from food, air, water and light. If these are deficient in supply, then obviously the health of the cell *visa vis* organ goes down and the VF is unable to exercise its optimum effects. So the governance of VF is in proportion to the constitution and its demands. Nowhere have I mentioned about changing of energy levels. Your second question is in reference to the management of Case of SLE – Isopathic Nosodes as *Adcortex* are administered in cases who are on steroids for a long time and have started showing effects on the constitution as *cushingoid habitus*, *mooning of face*, *acne*, *greasy skin*, etc. These side-effects of steroids can be effectively countered before actually commencing treatment with dynamic remedies. They have to be removed since they mask the original symptom syndrome (patient picture in your words). No *Nux-vom* is not a universal antidote like *Camphor*. But when bad effects of allopathic drugs are obviously seen then of course *Nux-vom* is administered as one of the prime remedies. The dose and potency should be such that it shall not change the actual patient picture ie it does not start the proving of *Nux-vom*.





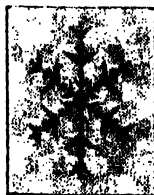
TITLE: HOMOEOPATHIC
**POSOLGY – TAILORING THE
 DOSE TO THE PATIENT**
AUTHOR : Dr Ajit Kulkarni
 MD (Hom)
PUBLICATION:
 Soham Prakashan, 38,
 Bhavani peth, Satara
FIRST EDITION: 1999
SECOND ENLARGED EDITION:
 2005
PAGES : 72
PRICE: Rs 50/-

In the preface, the author states that he has made a further earnest effort to give his readers clarity into this difficult, often confused and vexing situation regarding potency selection. Each practitioner seems to have his favorite potency based upon his own evolution as a homoeopath. While this is true for most of us, there is no reason to be dogmatic and fixed in a narrow range of potency. Are there any guidelines according to scientific homoeopathic principles as to when certain potency could best be used? In other words, can this situation of potency selection be standardized, and not remain eternally controversial?

Dr Ajit's book is a laudable attempt to build up the entire subject of posology on some pivotal components. I shall briefly deal with the contents of the book.

The author begins with 12 points of what essentially is

1. Dynamis: A form of energy, invisible force, creativity and that its only attachment with matter that makes it visible to us. Essentially it is an aspect of the infinitesimal that holds the infinite.
2. Definitions of posology and potency and standardization.
3. Historical background of potency selection.
4. Briefly talked about the concept of minimum dose,



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 Recorder

Arndt Schultz Law, Potentization, the law of potency, as enunciated by the French physician Mauperitius. He talks about the state of homeostasis and has in one paragraph rightly pointed out the fact that the minimum dose should not be confused with the infinitesimal dose.

The author presents essential ideas of authorities in the form of Box brackets, wherein he gives adequate quotes of those masters like William Boyd, Stuart Close, Hahnemann and others. Author has given 27 prescribing methods of how a homoeopathic physician can deal with his patient – adding that every homoeopathic physician should know them thoroughly as each prescribing method has its own scope and limitations. He emphasizes that a physician must cater to the needs of each individual in determining the selection of a remedy. Unfortunately, I understand this is a very tall order and not at all easy for an average homoeopath.

Components of potency selection divided into 9 categories:

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. Disease potential | 6. Similarity; degree and level |
| 2. Sensitivity | 7. Suppression |
| 3. Susceptibility | 8. Type of patient and |
| 4. Etiological factors | 9. Nature of vitality. |
| 5. Miasmatic assessment | |

He elaborates these 9 points with a bewildering array of schematic presentation described in the form of bracketed boxes that makes the reader feel that he should go over this background very carefully. The vexed question of sensitivity and susceptibility which is not understood by many students is dealt with from page 22 onwards and makes interesting reading. Wherever possible the author has given examples to clarify this difficult subject. He next deals with the etiological factors, the four miasmatic constitutions and then goes on the talk about level and degree of similarity, the various types of suppression, the type of the patient through understanding childhood, adolescence, adulthood and old age and the nature of vitality which is essentially a store house of energy. He illustrates this through *Materia Medica*. *Flouric-acid* and *Calc-flour* are good reservoirs of energy, *Medorrhinum* remains plump and well nourished despite long suffering, *Psorinum* has an inherited



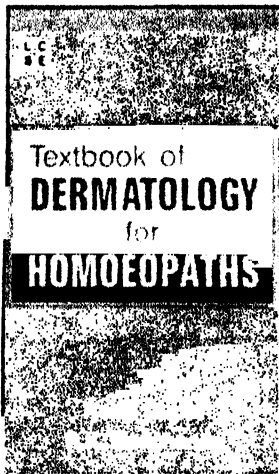
debilitated state and hence is unreacting and *Carcinocin* comes from a poor hereditary stock with the constitutional peculiarity of being depraved.

A susceptibility chart, explains in a nutshell, total information on all points of susceptibility. The aspect of repetition of doses is dealt with along with the views of the stalwarts - past and present- from those who favoured frequent repetition and those who favoured infrequent repetitions.

Then Dr Ajit deals with what, how and why of repetition- assessing what is happening to the system as a whole, how it is happening after the remedy, meaning whether the patient's system is following Hering's Law

or deteriorating, thirdly why the system is slipping back and not responding ie in other words what are the obstacles either to the similimum or from the miasmatic force or from the pathology. He then goes on to deal with points that tell us when not to repeat and when to repeat. These points must be read carefully by the reader, though I confess that it will be very difficult to remember all these points when the patient is before us.

Views of stalwarts of the past, from Hahnemann, Boiennghausen, Kent, Hering and Elizabeth Hubbard have been provided. Lastly 6 brief cases give practical implications. □



TITLE: TEXT BOOK OF DERMATOLOGY FOR HOMOEOPATHS
AUTHOR : Ranjit Gupta R K Manchanda
PUBLICATION: Kuldeep Jain for B Jain Publishers (P) Ltd, 1921, Street No 10, Chuna Mandi, Paharganj, New Delhi -55
FIRST EDITION: 2005
PAGES : 245
PRICE: Rs 85/-

In homoeopathic prescribing it is possible to prescribe homoeopathic medicine on the basis of general symptoms alone, but knowledge of the disease, essentials of diagnosis, aetiology, pathology, natural history and prognosis of the disease can help to avoid failure, unnecessary suffering to the patients and lead to better assessment and management of the patient. Complete information about the symptoms and diagnosis helps the physician to eradicate the disease from the family, preventing success and in avoiding giving such

drugs, where spontaneous remissions are common. It also helps in determining the actions of homoeopathic drugs by differentiating the homoeopathic aggravations from the disease aggravations, which is necessary for the second prescription.

The format is so comprehensive that a reader can understand the details of common skin diseases along with possible homoeopathic remedies available within a few seconds. The features of this book are as follows-

- Very informative and precise chapter on general principles of Homoeopathic treatment. He has described very briefly different morphological appearances of skin lesions like inflammatory, lichenoid, scaly, hypopigmented and their indicated remedies
- Miasmatic concept of skin diseases - Different miasms and their specific symptoms and the drugs are mentioned in respect of each disease also covering their anti-miasmatic potential.
- Structure and functions of the skin -Helps in understanding and differentiating different skin lesions.
- History and Examination – Examine the lesions, note the distribution, ask relevant questions and take the detailed history.
- Hereditary Disorders - Ichthyoids, neurofibromas, tuberculous sclerosis etc and covered.
- Chapters 6 to 24- Covers different skin problems like Naevi, Nutritional Deficiencies, Metabolic



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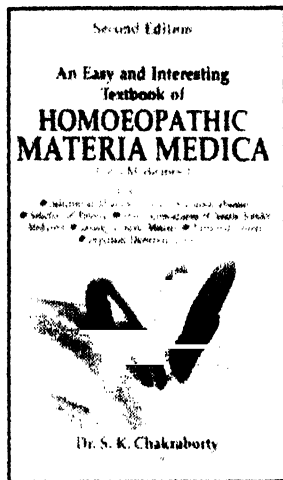
Disorders, Disease, due to physical agents, Bacterial infections, Tuberculosis, Leprosy, Fungal infections, diseases due to Arthropods, disease of hair, sebaceous glands, warts, disorders of pigmentation, Allergic disorders, Auto immune disorders and tumors of skin. Each disease described in a very reader friendly manner and their respective homoeopathic remedies.

- Miscellaneous Disorders - Diseases whose aetiology

are not clear are clubbed under this heading. Diseases like psoriasis, lichen planus, Exfoliative dermatitis, Pemphigus, Nummular Eczema, Pityriasis – Rosea, Alba, scars and Keloids are well covered.

- Lastly in Annexure – Miasmatic status of skin disease under various groups of disorders.

This book is indeed a good reference addition to your book library.



TITLE: AN EASY AND INTERESTING TEXTBOOK OF HOMOEOPATHIC MATERIA MEDICA
AUTHOR: Dr S K Chakraborty
PUBLICATION: Kuldeep Jain for B Jain Publishers (P) Ltd, 1921, Street No 10, Chuna Mandi, Paharganj, New Delhi -55
SECOND EDITION: 2005
PAGES: 1125
PRICE: Rs. 249/-

This book contains 353 remedies. Each remedy contains the common name, family and prover of each remedy. Under the heading of introduction, the author has integrated origin, abstract, where it acts, pathogeny, constitution and miasm. Then under guiding symptoms, important mental and physical symptoms and ailments from or causation are given. Under particulars various symptoms are written very systematically. This is followed by general modalities – Worse and better from. Under heading relationships, acute or chronic, follows which remedy, complimentary remedies, antidotes and dose. Thus under each remedy, its therapeutics is also been included. Lastly, important university questions have been added which will be thus very helpful to the student undergoing examinations.

Towards the end of the book, under Appendix – Part I, the author has given comparison of 58 nearly similar remedies. In part II of Appendix – the chronic miasms - under this chapter indication of chronic miasms starting from scalp to sexual sphere are written. Then he writes about some key symptoms of miasms, general modalities of miasms, suppressions induced by operative methods with illustrative cases. Then he describes how to proceed for a case of chronic miasms, indications of chronic miasms, some chronic symptoms of different miasms. He has integrated in Appendix part III, therapeutic hints very systematically in alphabetical order and lastly other important medicines.

This book is indeed a very easy, informative quick reference handbook for students and busy practitioners including 353 remedies in a reader friendly font and pleasant reading.

It is indeed a great pleasure to review a book of this caliber. The book is an assemble of important findings of Dr Nath, Boericke, Kent, Lilienthal, Barker, Hering, Jhar, Farrington, M L Sarkar and other renowned doctors including Father of Homeopathy Dr Hahnemann and the author himself, for the benefit of students and learners of Homeo-doctrine in an easier and interesting method. In last 25 years, I have gone through many homeopathic books on Materia Medica written by national and international authors and felt some lacunae in completeness in one book. This book includes even the key-points of remedies, presented in a way that is not only very precise but easy to understand and apply in practice as well.



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