

Queries and Solutions



PROF DR KASIM CHIMTHANAWALA MBBS LTMH DDV DMS (HOM) CAL, FNAHI
 President, The National Academy of Homoeopathy, India. Shaad Hospital Complex & Research Centre,
 Near Irwari Railway Station, Nagpur.
 Ph: 0712-2766286, 2532008, 2522563 • Email: adilkc@rediffmail.com

Q1. Sir, what are vocal cord nodules and how do we manage them? **Dr SHAIKALI KONHER, INDORE**

Ans: The possibility of nodules on the vocal cords is suspected when a patient experiences symptoms like repeated hoarseness, husky tone of voice and the need to use greater-than-normal breath pressure to sustain the voice.

Normally the vocal cords have smooth, white mucosal surfaces without any irregularities on the vibrating borders. Excess force used when singing or speaking may result in too much friction. A hematoma on the vibrating edge develops. Later, in patients in whom the psoro-sycotic miasm is active, the fibrous tissue replaces the hematoma, it becomes larger, and eventually appears as a soft or hard white nodule. Typically, two nodules are present; they appear opposite each other on each vocal fold, indicating the place of excessive friction. Once diagnosed, the treatment usually begins with complete vocal rest followed by a careful regimen of speech therapy and/or appropriate singing exercises. Proper vocal technique and a sensible lifestyle, aerobic exercise, and a healthy diet, are sufficient to prevent vocal nodules. Some specific homoeopathic remedies like *Arg-met*, *Caust*, *Spongia*, *Hepar-sulph* may be tried on the basis of symptom similarity. But to prevent recurrence of the nodule, a deep acting constitutional remedy has to be administered with proper repetition.

Q2. Sir, I have a patient aged 27 years. He is a known case of Polycystic Kidney disease and now has chronic renal failure since 3 years. He requires regular dialysis although I am giving him symptomatic homoeopathic remedies to control the serum creatinine. He has been advised Renal Transplant. Are there any legal formalities in India for this? **Dr VIJAYKRISHNA, BANGALORE**

Ans 2. Yes indeed there are quite many legal formalities for an organ transplant. In fact, the passing of Transplantation of Human Organ Act heralded a new era in Indian medicine. Its essence was threefold: To accept brain death as also a definition of death, to stop commercial dealing in organs and finally to define the first relative (father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter and wife) who could donate organs without permission from the government. Kidney transplant law does not allow exchange of money between the donor and the recipient. According to the Act, the unrelated donor has to file an affidavit in the magistrate's court stating that the organ is being donated out of affection. After which the donor has to undergo number of tests before the actual transplant takes place. The Human Organ Transplant Act states: "If any donor authorizes the removal of any of his human organs before his death for transplantation into the body of such recipient, not being a near relative as is specified by the donor, by reason of affection or attachment towards the recipient or for any other special reasons, such human organ shall not be removed and transplanted without the prior approval of the Authorization Committee." The Authorization Committee set up for the purpose ensures that all the documents required under the act have been supplied. If it is found that money has been exchanged in the process then both the recipient and donor is considered as prime offender under the law. Hospitals conducting transplants are supposed to be registered with committees which are also supposed to monitor their functioning. As per Indian law, selling of kidney is banned and therefore no foreigner can get a local donor. Human organ transplant laws are very strict in India and the penalty incurred for organ trade is

also very high. State medical councils have suo moto powers of investigation.

Q3. I am a resident of Mirrigan, in Townsville region, Queensland, Australia. I have learnt a bit of Homeopathy but do not practice. Through a friend I happened to read your Homoeopathic Journal. At our place we have number of cases of Jellyfish stings. Does homoeopathy have any answer to it?

CATHERINE PARKER (VIA EMAIL)

Ans 3. A sting from a Jelly fish produces a set of symptoms referred widely as Irukandji (Jellyfish sting) Syndrome. It includes a stitching type of lower backache, muscle cramps, vomiting, restlessness and anxiety, produced a few hours after being stung by Jellyfish. In rare cases, the victim can suffer from pulmonary edema or cardiac arrhythmias that could be fatal if not treated. As per my knowledge, till recently, Carukia Barnesi, a tiny jellyfish was the only one proven to cause it. However, it is now believed that a sting from at least 6 different species of jellyfish can produce the same symptoms. If the victim complains of such a sting, then the area should be flushed with vinegar and the patient should be taken to the hospital as soon as possible if they develop Irukandji Syndrome. Homoeopathic remedies like *Apis* or *Cantharis* can be administered in fractional doses as per symptom similarity in the initial hours. If the patient comes late then remedies like *Aconite-ferox* or *Antim-tart* may be required if the patient has developed pulmonary edema.

Q4. In Phatak's Repertory under STOOL, the following 2 rubrics are given - 1 STOOL, from, Agg and 2. STOOL, after Agg. Sir kindly explain the difference between the 2 rubrics.

DR AMIT PANDEY, ALLAHABAD

Ans 4. When the aggravation is during the process of defecation, then the first rubric should be used. If the aggravation is after passage of stool, then the second rubric is selected.

Q5. In Allen's Keynote, it is written in *Calendula*; "Traumatic Affection's: to secure union by first

intention and prevent suppuration." Sir, what is first intention?

KAILASH PANCHESHWAR, JABALPUR

Ans 5. Wound healing is a dynamic process of restoring cellular structures and tissue layers. The process can be divided into 3 distinct phases: the inflammatory phase, the proliferative phase, and the remodeling phase. The culmination of these biological processes results in repair of the injured /abraded skin. There are mainly 2 types of healing a) Primary healing and b) healing by second intention. Primary wound healing is also called healing by first intention. It occurs within hours of a surgical incision (clean cut) or injury. In healing by first intention the union or restoration of continuity of skin occurs directly without intervention of granulations. In other words, skin is healed by formation of skin only. Whereas in second intention healing there is replacement of normal skin structures with fibroblastic mediated scar tissue. This generally happens when the Tubercular Miasm is active. The latter promotes suppuration. *Calendula* is known to prevent suppuration and promote healing by first intention. It accelerates the series of events that includes chemotaxis, phagocytosis, neo-collagenesis, collagen degradation, collagen remodeling, angiogenesis and epithelization at cellular level.

Q6. What changes have occurred in the present times in the miasmatic states of the population as compared to Master Hahnemann's times?

PAWAN KUMAR PANDEY, JABALPUR

Ans 6. This question can take a lot of pages to answer. But in short, during Dr Hahnemann's time, diseases were simple and natural. They were Psoric disorders and easily curable. But in today's era, patients present with complex, lifelong, multi-miasmatic disorders like metabolic diseases, endocrinal disorders, cardiac diseases, etc. which have undergone multiple suppressions and the miasm is more sensitized than before, it is more evolved. So, as I always say, what Psora was to Hahnemann, Tubercular, Psoro-sycotic, Psoro-syphilitic or Psoro-syco-syphilitic miasm is today, to us.

TITLE : Homoeopathic Principles and Practice of Medicine
AUTHORS : Dr V K CHAUHAN MD
 Dr MEETA GUPTA MD
PUBLISHER : B Jain Publishers (P) Ltd New Delhi, India.
PAGES : 1187
PRICE : Rs 449/-

As the adage in Urdu goes, "Lifafa dekhkar hi, khat ka mazmoon bhaanp lete hain"

Similarly just by a glance at the title of the book one can predict what is in store in the epic, for practitioners and students alike. The catch line of the book, 'A Textbook for Medical Students and Homoeopathic Practitioners' is truly apt considering the material the book contains in it.

The book is divided into IV parts:

PART I: PRINCIPLES OF HOMOEOPATHIC PRACTICE: As the name suggests, it highlights the philosophical part of the Homoeopathic practice. The authors have given a passing description about the evolution of medicine right from the primitive period where ailments were considered punishment by God, medicines practiced in China, Egypt, Greece, Rome etc to the present day Homoeopathy. Organon and Philosophical aspect like the Miasms, Case-Taking, Potency, Second Prescription etc has been dealt requisitely. The graphic presentation of Kent's 12 Observations and its elucidation is worth mentioning.

Part II and III: MEDICINE INCLUDING HOMOEOPATHIC THERAPEUTICS (PAPER 1 AND 2): These parts illustrates various diseases like Infectious diseases; Tropical diseases; Deficiency diseases; Diseases of Blood, Lymph and spleen; Diseases of GIT, RS and Endocrine disorders and Diseases

of Locomotor system, CVS, GUT, Pediatric diseases, CNS, Psychiatry, Skin and Acute Emergencies and Poisoning. Each of the diseases mentioned are further explained in the form of definition, clinical pictures, etiology, complications, investigations, prognosis, therapeutic aim, general management, prophylactic measures and medical treatment which is Homoeopathic in brief.

Part IV: MATERIA MEDICA: This part depicts the description of over 180 commonly used drugs. The portrayal of each drug is truly unique. Each drug is presented under the subheadings as Historical note, Remedy profile, Miasm, Somatic predilection, Psychic preponderance, Thermal reaction, Organ affinity, Diathesis, Precipitating cause, Characteristics, General modality and Clinical. At the end of each drug their Specific Symptomatic usage is represented.

If you are searching a book which is impregnated with all the relevant details like Pathology, Disease description, its philosophical aspect and its treatment which a medical student or a practitioner needs, than your search ends with this incredible book.

A small note on the drawback of the book: Though there are no drawback of any book as they are man's best friend, yet inadvertently it happens in the form of its representation and not by its contents. Similarly this book though very well presented is deeply injured by its poor proof reading.

Reviewed by
 Dr S P KANOJIA
 NJH Team, Mumbai

Homeopathic Principles

TITLE : Miasms The Devious Intrigue
AUTHOR : Dr KISHORE MEHTA, MD (HOM)
PUBLISHER : Mind Technologies, Mumbai, India
PAGES : 235
PRICE : Rs 250/-

There are two most debatable and difficult topics in Homoeopathy viz, Potency selection and Miasms. With his vast clinical experience and academic brilliance, Dr Kishore Mehta has made the Miasms clearly understandable to even a neophyte through the cases.

In his maiden book, 'Miasms- The Devious Intrigue', Dr Mehta has dealt with the theoretical aspect of Miasms in a different way as he mentioned about the historical evolution of miasms from Hahnemann's stand point. He emphasizes the importance of etiology, temperament and totality of signs and symptoms to make a complete picture of a disease.

He didn't leave out any single important point which can be of help in understanding the miasms in a patient. He also stresses on delving deep into personal and/or family history to uncover the miasms.

Dr KENT, Dr ROBERTI, Dr SPEIGHT, Dr BOGER and even Indian stalwart Dr M L DHAWALE'S views on Miasms are depicted in this book. BhagawadG e e t a ' s verses which explain the downfall of human being if he surrenders to his desires leading to anger, confusion, etc are aptly quoted. In the chapter on philosophical Evolution of Miasm, Dr MEHTA dealt with the details of evolution of life, vital force and also the inimical force-Miasm. In this chapter also he quotes relevant explanation from scriptures. He reiterated that man is sick since generations and

hence there is need for understanding miasms. The most interesting chapter in the book is the 3rd one as it not only contains the total expressions of each miasm but also describes the relevant drugs with their characteristic miasmatic picture. This section also shows important rubrics depicting various remedies for the respective miasms. Every Homoeopath must read the 4th chapter so as to understand how m i a s m s play an important role in the treatment and also to know the relationship of remedies in subsequent prescriptions. In the 15 cases described here he has explained acute, chronic, different miasms and also so called incurable ones with their series of prescriptions. In one case, only Si. has almost cured the case except one dose of *Nat-mur*. Another 6 cases were discussed in the 5th chapter on Clinical evolution of Miasms. One of the cases was a mixed miasmatic cancer case treated by *Aurum* to relieve the suffering of the patient.

The dormant and active states of the miasm were clearly illustrated with the help of clinical cases and relevant quotations from the Organon in order to show the clinical presentation of miasm.

The last two chapters on Identification and Management of Miasm are very practical and useful for every conscientious Homoeo practitioner.

This book on Miasms, I hope, will remove the apprehension about Miasms from the minds of Homoeopaths.

Reviewed By
 Dr PRAVEEN KUMAR MD (HOM)
 NJH Team, Hyderabad

miasms

The Devious Intrigue