

DISEASES OF THE NEW BORN CHILD

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1. Swelling of the head (caput succedaneum) disappears spontaneously in 24 to 48 hours. *Arnica cerate*, and *Arnica* internally are recommended.

2. Cephalhematoma : *Arnica*, *Symphytum* and *Hamamelis* used externally as salve, and internally in potency are often indicated. *Calcarea fluoric*a has been recommended for resorption. In suppuration : incision and drainage with sterile gauze ; internally, *Hepar sulphuris* or *Silicea*.

3. Umbilical hemorrhage : (a) from umbilical cord stump : frightening of ligature ; (b) *parenchymatous* bleeding from umbilical wound after separation of cord. This is feared on account of the difficulty in stopping it. It usually based on *syphilis hemophilia* and *sepsis*. *Crotalus* for *hemophilia* and *sepsis*. *Phosphorus* especially for *hemophilia*. *Acidum nitricum* and *Natrum nitrium* especially on luetic basis.

4. Inflamed umbilicus : *Mercurius corrosivus* and *Belladonna*. If pus is forming ; *Hepar sulphuris* and latter caused by diphtheria or congenital lues, *Kall nitricum* are indicated.

5. Vaginal bleeding of new born : Usually stops in three days. If a therapy is called for *Acidum nitricum* is indicated (*Calc. carb.*)

6. Malena neonatorum : Aside from a diet and possibly gelatin-therapy : *Crotalus horridus* should be tried, which has been so valuable in yellow fever : also *Phosphorus* must be consulted.

7. Conjunctivitis blenorrhoeica acuta neonatorum : If no homoeopathic oculist can be had, the physician would do best to refer the patient to an old school practitioner.

8. Mastitis of the new born : Cool compresses. Internally *Bryonia* or *Phytodonna* must be consulted.

9. Icterus neonatorum : (a) Physiologic icterus : Usually disappears spontaneously in two weeks. *Chelidonium* or *Myrica cerifera*, etc., may be of help if therapy is necessary. (b) Icterus gravis : often lethal ; no reliable therapy is known.

10. Transitory "thirst-fever" of the new born : Symptoms like fever, dry wrinkled skin, pale complexion, restlessness, and at times gastro-intestinal symptoms demand arsenicum album. But we must not forget that lack of water-intake is causative, hence patient should be given abundant sugar-water.

11. Constipation of sucklings : *Alumina*.

[*Courtesy* : Journal of the American Institute of Homoeopathy]

ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS BY EDITOR

Asphyxia Neonatorum

1. Child breathless, gasping ; where the infant has swallowed some liquor *amni* : *Autim Tart 200* in Tincture—touching drops to tongue—in addition to other mechanical aids.

2. *Dyspnoea*, [gasping, child cold, collapsed ; *Carbo veg 30, 200* as above.

3. *Cyanosis*, without rattling in lungs : *Laurocerasus 30, 200* (?) has been very highly recommended.

Aspiration Pneumonia

In addition to *Phosphorus 30, 200*—may need *penicillin* and *Kanamycin* injections. If facilities are available, hospital is best place to save the child.

—S.P. Koppikar