

Evolution of Marine Creatures as Homoeo Remedies

ABSTRACT: Sensory evolution provides a stunning, full-colour illustrated guide to the marine creatures or inhabitants which are used as remedies in Homoeopathy. The medicines in this context, those that are infrequently used in our clinics, will be described here along with its indications.



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INTRODUCTION



"The appearances of sea can be deceptive and so neatly categorized that it seems to make no sense on dry land and has a tendency to get dissolved". Exploring the nature of sea life forces reveals that what looks like a stone, a lamp, a floating

forest or even a walking flower, can in fact be an animal or assembly of animals with complex behaviour and survival strategies; eg fish can fly like birds under water and whales have hair and breasts. The marine hermaphrodites have the ability to self-fertilize and some sea animals can change gender, moving between male and female at will. Senses exist in the world's oceans that we have taken millennia to understand, even a little of it. In Greek mythology we find moon, seal and cuttlefish priestesses and cave-dwelling ocean nymphs. Nests of snake-like beings are found slipping through the waves, half-serpent women who eat men alive, women with hair of vipers; and sea goddesses birthing hydra-headed water serpents. The sea holds the poison and the cure, mirroring our lives' dramas, ills and ailments. The deepest experiences of life and emotion are held in the mythic figures, the sea animal archetypes and in the energy of the sea

animals as homoeopathic medicines. They reflect our dreams and nightmares, our light and darkness, our male and female aspects, our logic and imagination, our sense of evolution, and our life-journey from birth to death. It is because these medicines reflect us so deeply that they have the equal power to profoundly heal us.

Homoeopathy has barely scratched the surface in discovering, proving and utilizing medicines made from the animal kingdom. This is even truer of sea life. The diversity in shape, color and form of sea life is truly remarkable. Only one fairly small creature, a stone fish, is said to emit some of the most potent poison of any sea animal. Apparently humans who are bitten find themselves rapidly writhing in excruciating pain. So it may be wished that these substances could be proven as Homoeopathic medicines.

HOMOEOPATHIC REMEDIES PREPARED FROM MARINE CREATURES

Homeopathy has made great contribution in discovering, proving and utilizing medicines made from the animal kingdom. This is even truer of sea life but there are relatively few sea animals proven as Homoeopathic medicines. The following is the meager list of available medicines among which the only ones to be considered polychrests are *Calcarea-carbonica* and *Sepia*.

Marine Creatures in Animal Kingdom

Phylum	Family / Natural Order	Name of the Medicines
Porifera	Calcispongiae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Badiaga</i>: Fresh water sponge (Skeleton) • <i>Spongia-tosta</i>: Common / Roasted sponge (Skeleton)
Coelenterata	Scyphozoa / Acalephe	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Medusa</i>: Jelly-fish (Whole living animal)
	Hydrozoa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Physalia</i>: Portuguese man-of-war (Whole living animal)
	Anthozoa / Gorgoniaceae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Corallium-rubrum</i>: Red coral (Skeleton)
Annelida	Hirudineae	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sanguisuga</i>: Hirudo, the leech (Whole living animal)
Mollusca	Gastropoda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Helix-tosta</i>: Toasted snail (Whole living animal) • <i>Murex-purpurea</i>: Purple-fish (Juices)
	Bivalvia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Calcarea-calcinata</i>: calcinated oyster shell (Shell) • <i>Pecten</i>: Scallop (Shell)
	Cephalopoda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Sepia</i>: Cattle fish (Juice) • <i>Eel-serum</i> (Serum)
Echinoderm	Asteroidea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Asterias-rubens</i>: Star-fish (Whole living animal)
Arthropoda	Crustacea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Astacus-fluviatilis</i> : Crawfish or River crab (Whole living animal) • <i>Homarus</i>: Lobster (Digestive fluid) • <i>Limulus-cyclops</i>: King crab (Blood)
Pisces	Gadide	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Oleum-jecoris aselli</i>: Cod-liver oil (Oil) • <i>Gadus-morrhua</i> (Cod fish)

COMMON CHARACTERISTICS OF SEA CREATURES

The characteristics of those who need medicines prepared from animals are competitiveness, attractiveness, survival, domination, subordination and jealousy etc. The sea as a protected area, the only place where an animal can live attached to one rock without moving and can still eat and survive. Sea water is much like an amniotic fluid for these creatures. This protected environment creates a situation where little communication is needed and social systems are not necessary. In salt water, sperm and egg can join without sexual intercourse and there is no need for nurturing by a father and mother within the

sea water.

THE COMMON THEMES OF SEA-MEDICINES

1. **Individuality:** Do not need any contact with others. A baby who does not want to leave the uterus. A very sensitive relationship with one's mother combined with an inability to touch or to talk.
2. **Weakness / Independence:** A tendency to appear strong and do not need others. Need of support, to them, means he is a weak person. There is a sense of weakness leading to difficulty

Medicines prepared from Marine Creatures / Inhabitants

<i>Asterias-rubens</i> (Red Star Fish)	<i>Hydrophis-cyanocinctus</i> (Sea Serpent)
<i>Astacus-fluviatilis</i> (Craw Fish)	<i>Lac-delphinium</i> (Dolphin's milk)
<i>Ambra-grisea</i> (Morbid secretion of the Whale)	<i>Limulus-cyclops</i> (King-crab)
<i>Badiaga</i> (Fresh-water Sponge)	<i>Medusa</i> (Jelly Fish)
<i>Calcarea-carbonica</i> (Oyster Shell)	<i>Murex-purpureus</i> (Purple Fish)
<i>Conchiolinum</i> (Mother of Pearl)	<i>Oleum-jacoris-aselli</i> (Cod-liver Oil)
<i>Corralium-rubrum</i> (Red Coral)	<i>Physalia-pelagica</i> (Portuguese Man-of-war)
<i>Erythrinus</i> (Mullet Fish)	<i>Sepia</i> (Cuttle Fish)
<i>Gadus-morrhua</i> (Cod Fish)	<i>Spongia-tosta</i> (Roasted Sponge)
<i>Helix-tosta</i> (Toasted Snail)	<i>Trachinus</i> (Sting Fish)
<i>Homarus</i> (Digestive fluid of the Lobster)	<i>Venus-mercenaria</i> (American Scallop)

in relationships.

3. **Anthropophobia:** The sea inhabitants have a tendency to escape in other directions when attacked by human being. So the patient has a great fear of human beings and wants to be alone.
4. **Communication:** These individuals are lonely and poor communicators yet nevertheless have a strong desire to be understood and for others to approach them.
5. **Past:** Idea that "before" was better, though it never actually was.
6. **Safe Environment / Protection:** The sea water is a safe place for its inhabitants and they feel protected when rather in sea than when they are kept in the aquarium. So also the patient, wants to be in a safe-place with great feeling of insecurity.
7. **Sensitiveness:** Stinging pain in different parts. A feeling of a thread in the throat, which is worse near seaside, Desire for salt and dreams of rats are common.
8. **Motion:** Difficulty moving.

RARELY USED HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES MADE FROM MARINE CREATURES

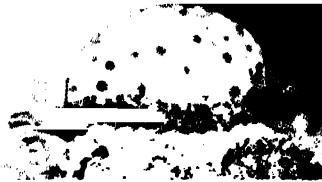
1. ***Astacus-fluviatilis* (Craw fish):** Commonly known as river-crab or crawfish. The well known effects of shellfish, as well as of other fish in producing nettle-rash are exemplified in *Astacus* beyond all other varieties. It is the best antidote to the effects of *Rhus-tox*. The liver is markedly affected and a great characteristic is "nettle-rash with liver complaint". It has marked effects on liver, lymphatic glands, skin; erysipelas, urticaria with liver complaints and enlarged lymphatic glands; jaundice with pain and tenderness in liver, pipe-clay color stool; fever with red face, inward chilliness, sensitive to air, worse < uncovering. This medicine was prescribed by GEORGE VITHOULKAS in one case of liver disease in which a man was suffering from eczema of the hands. It was the bright redness of the hands that led him to prescribe this medicine.
2. ***Badiaga* (Fresh water sponge):** *Badiaga* is the Russian name for the river sponge.

Headache with aching in backs of eyeballs, 2 pm to 7 pm, worse motion; severe headache in vertex better at night, returning severely after breakfast; soreness of muscle and tissues as if beaten, even sore to touch of clothes, worse from motion; pain in forehead and temple, extending to eyeballs, worse in afternoon; on coughing mucous flies out of mouth and nostrils.

3. **Conchiolinum (Mother of pearl):** *Conchiolinum* has a wide range of action in disorders of bones, especially when the growing ends are affected (*Calc-c* or *Calc-p* are its nearest analogue). Dr CLARKE cured with *Conch* 3 C a delicate boy who, at three different times, had pain in left knee; intense pain in bone, comes suddenly, continuous initially and later becomes intermittent; bone pains with fever, thirst, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, dark colored urine; swelling of bones has a clear, sharp margin, painful to slightest touch.
4. **Corallium-rubrum (Red coral):** Red coral, the product of a coralligene zoophyte, contains calcium carbonate and iron oxide, gelatin and other elements. In medical alchemy, red coral was considered to have "strengthening properties", and act as astringent, sudorific, diuretic and absorbent. *Corallium-rubrum* mainly affects the mucous membrane of respiratory tract. Proving of coral develops much coryza, nosebleed and even ulceration within the nostrils. It is best indicated for whooping cough and spasmodic cough. Very rapid cough and attacks follow each other so closely, often preceded by sensation of smothering, followed by exhaustion; violent paroxysms even with expectoration of blood; air passages feel cold on deep inspiration; machine-gun like cough; profuse secretion of mucous dropping through posterior sinuses. Best known for

violent, spasmodic coughs and coral-colored skin eruptions.

5. **Erythrinus (Red Mullet fish):** Dr BURNETT is the authority for this medicine. His use of this remedy is based on an account of some sailors who ate the fish and developed a peculiar red rash. He cured a case of pityriasis rubra with this medicine that appeared in a large patch on the chest which was considered to be a manifestation of syphilis. *Aurum-met* is the complementary of this remedy mainly in syphilitic affection.
6. **Gadus-morrhua (Cod fish):** PETROZ is said to be the authority of this medicine. *Gadus* has a powerful action on the respiratory apparatus; flapping of the alae nasi (*Lyc*); heat of hands; hopelessness and desire for death.
7. **Helix-tosta (Toasted Snail):** Snails traditionally cure tuberculosis and W H LEONARD reports two cases cured with *Helix-t* 100,000" C. Mainly used for *d y s p n o e a*, haemoptysis, tuberculosis. Continuous hoarseness with dry tickling cough.
8. **Homarus (Digestive fluid of the Lobster):** The poisonous effects of Lobster are well-known; one may die after eating lobster and thereafter drinking milk. "Worse from milk" is a strong guiding indication for its Homoeopathic use. Apparently useful for gastrointestinal problems and skin disorders, particularly urticaria. The patients have the feeling that they cannot move. Dyspepsia, sore throat and headache seem to be a combination that may be controlled by this remedy. The more prominent symptoms during proving were



sore throat (severe, dry, looked much inflamed with large blood-vessels and appeared granulated), headache, deranged digestion, sexual excitement, disturbed sleep; backache, pains were sharp and sudden, compelling him to sit down; chilliness with trembling all over; itching in various parts day and night, > better scratching, but appearing in another part, worse < at night; no appetite, distress in stomach, restless sleep, tiredness.

9. **Hydrophis-cyanocinctus (Sea serpent):** Homoeopathic proving of *Hydrophis* was done in the United Kingdom by 'double-blind' method from Jan to June 1958 with 6°C and 30°C. In its poisoning effect, *Hydrophis* attacks the peripheral nerves causing symptoms similar to poliomyelitis. This substance is said to be especially useful for central nervous system and muscular disorders. Patients have depression, weeping state, irritability fatigue, forgetfulness and an inability to concentrate. State of euphoria, followed by a period of sadness with tear, amelioration by consolation. Paretic and paralytic syndromes of the lower limbs with numbness and heavy feeling. Itching skin in different parts of the body; disturbed sleep with nightmares; epigastric pains after eating, thirsty for cold drinks.
10. **Lac-delphinum (Dolphin's milk):** The primary themes in one of the proving of this drug were calmness during danger, a propensity to play and pleasure, circular movements, issues of separation, detachment and clairvoyance. Dolphins live in communities with a high level of group cooperation. The theme of mothering/nurturance was mentioned a number of times in proving. Lack of inhibition and natural expression came up and indeed dolphins are "the most sexually

exploratory and freewheeling creatures in the animal kingdom." There is intense irritability with a desire to kill, a feeling of being exploited, intense depression, guilt, a sense of the purpose of life, a spiritual emphasis, need to be cared for, intense sensitivity to noise, fear of cancer, severe pain and clenching of the jaw and fists and sinusitis.

11. **Limulus-cyclops (King crab):** *Limulus-cyclops* is prepared by trituration of the dried blood of King crab. It was introduced by Dr HERING and was partially proved by him and Dr LIPPE. Dr HERING was surprised to see the blood of king crab which was blue in colour; on further investigation he found that this blue blood contains copper. So he thought that it would prove to be another medicine for cholera. There was rush of blood to the face with heat and painfulness all over body; bodily and mental exhaustion, drowsiness after sea bathing. The drug may be used in cholera, diarrhoea and skin diseases. Itching spots and vesicles on face and hands.
12. **Medusa (Jelly fish):** Poisoning effects of this drug are accounted as stomach disorders, leucorrhoea, oedema, anxiety and difficult speech. Useful for skin conditions and also urogenital and glandular problems. Shares characteristics of *Sepia* such as aversion to sex and an affinity for dancing. Pricking heat and numbness of skin of face, arms, breasts and vesicular eruption, followed by desquamation; whole face is puffed, oedematous. Clinically it may also be used for breast-feeding disorders, nettle-rash, suppression of urine etc. Establishes



- secretion of breast milk by its action on milk glands; nettle-rash with burning, pricking and desquamation.
13. ***Oleum-jecoris-aselli* (Cod-liver oil):** Earlier it was used locally in ring-worm and nightly rubbing, for dwarfish, emaciated babies. Dr NEIDHARD proved this medicine. It is a liver remedy, an ally of cholesterinum. Cod liver oil is a nutrient, affects the chest, liver, pancreas and tendons. Patient has faulty nutrition, atrophic infants, children who can not tolerate milk; emaciation, hot hands and head; beginning stage of tuberculosis, scrofulous diathesis. Violent palpitations and great soreness of chest accompany many complaints. Burning in palms, hot palms towards evening; dry, hacking, tickling cough especially at night. Defective nutrition, anaemia, weakness, emaciation, deficient animal heat, intolerance of milk, scrofulous diathesis guide to prescribe this remedy.
 14. ***Physalia-pelagica* (Portuguese Man-of-war):** G BURNETT was stung by the animal on fingers. The sensation was as if stung by a nettle, succeeded by violent aching, affecting the finger joints and spreading up arm involving elbow-joint; the pain spread to shoulder joint and pectoral group of muscles causing difficult breathing. After half an hour the symptoms began to abate, leaving a numbness of the limb and a blister at the spot of biting. Clinically it is used for urticaria (hives) and can be compared with *Apis*, *Medusa* and *Urt-u*.
 15. ***Trachinus-draco* (Sting fish):** *Trachinus* is best indicated in cases of acute blood-poisoning with intense pain. It causes intolerable pains, swelling of the part in cases of blood poisoning, gangrene, fever, delirium, hydrophobia etc; swelling of whole body of wounded arm then of head and chest. Stinging, burning, throbbing pain increasing to unbearable intensity lasting an hour and then decreasing; violent burning pain extending from wound to chest.
 16. ***Venus-mercenaria* (American Scallop):** *Venus-mer*, the American scallop is a bi-valvular mollusk and was proved by RAESIDE in 1961-62, suggested by D M FOUBISTER. The proving was made in three terms (one dose morning and evening for 14 days) using 30 C in first term, 12 C in second term and 6 C in third term of which third term produced most of the symptoms. *Venus-mer* in one single dose of 30 C or repeated once is a remedy both for attacks of migraine and for complaints based on migraine headaches especially when migraine is of digestive origin. Frontal and occipital headache, predominantly on right side worse < in morning and afternoon; headache accompanied by vertigo, nausea, vomiting. Dull mood, state of indifference and lack of concentration; in-coordination of body and mind when writing; cold feeling in mouth and throat; disturbed sleep, wakes up at 2 am, dreams of spiders, violence; nausea after eating with headache and vomiting; pressing in stomach with nausea, ameliorated after eating.

CONCLUSION

The medicines described here have specific actions on various systems and for various complaints in our patients. The medicines are not extensively proved (with few exceptions eg *Sepia*, *Calc-c*, *Spong* etc), so their sphere of actions are also limited. The indications mentioned above are useful guidance for prescription. Further verifications and clinical proving of these remedies are still needed to satisfy their effectiveness and to prove its universality in use.