

## Synopsis of other Journals

**TK KASIVISWANATHAN**

10/149 Shobha, Road no 9, Wadala, Mumbai -31. Tel: 24162165



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The original papers published in this issue contain following papers:

**"INDIVIDUALIZED TREATMENT OF TRIGEMINAL NEURALGIA: AN OBSERVATIONAL STUDY"**. It was conducted to evaluate the individualized classical Homoeopathy in the treatment of idiopathic trigeminal neuralgia. 15 patients with confirmed diagnosis were treated with individualized Homoeopathic remedies, in 30C potency once a month. Mean age: 58.7 years. This group of patients had failed to respond to previous allopathic treatment or had suffered adverse effects. *Pulsatilla* was most frequently indicated for women and *Aconite* for men. Over a 4 month-period, pain intensity and frequency showed statistically significant reduction.. Though a very small sample, yet shows efficacy of Homoeopathic treatment in cases where the conventional therapy failed.

An article by E A Thompson and J Geraghty illustrates the "VITAL SENSATION" of mineral based Homoeopathic medicines based on a synthesis of Rajan Sankaran's and Scholten's approaches. The concept of different levels shows the way to reach the deepest reflection of vital disturbance in patients. Moving through the levels of fact, symptom, delusion and finally vital sensation provides valuable prescribing information. It is pointed out that patients who are sensitive to Homoeopathic medicines derived from plant, animal and mineral kingdoms describe themselves and their symptoms quite differently. Once the kingdom is identified by careful listening and questioning one can zero in on the appropriate remedy. The authors

have discussed two cases using this approach to arrive at the similimum.

**CASE 1:** Mr F, aged 39 complained of stiffness and aching in the left hip from a recurrent chondrosarcoma, excised previously in 1999 and in 2000. He was reluctant to undergo further surgery and opted for Homoeopathic treatment. He said that he came from a "stable family" but felt lonely and rejected. He said that his family did not come to see him playing tennis which he described as a "flowing" sport. He had a fear of losing his family and dreamt of catching trains and missing them and wandering around school buildings trying to find out something he had lost.

The doctors prescribed initially *Natrum-silicate*, *Natrum-mur*, *Mag-carb* etc for nearly two years but the condition of the patient deteriorated as the tumour had grown in size warranting surgery. At this stage the authors decided to use Sankaran's and Scholten's method to find the suitable remedy. The patient while stating that his pelvis was stiff and aching said "something is in the way and it is not free flowing. I need to be held and cuddled. Sense of loneliness, heaviness- disoriented and lost. Squeezing tight and cramped." Asked to contrast with its opposite feeling, the patient said "heavy, cloudy and body shrinks and closed up." "I am tensed up, lost and empty; cold and flat and devoid of energy." The doctors felt that the patient was in level 4 (Delusion of world view: The deeper energetic or vital disturbance colours everything including how the person perceives the world.) He was prescribed *Ozone* LM 7 and the patient reported strong reaction to the medicine with pains around tumour site and ear infection. The patient



said initially he felt free but then "seized up" Asked to explain he said " When you are connected and in tune with the universe it is a deeper power, beautiful and floating, nothing restraining me, no barriers, oneness. Energy is *flowing freely* and peaceful." The prescription was changed to *Helium 1M* as it is a noble gas. The patient said that he developed itching behind left ear with every dose and pain in the tumour site though he felt better and experienced a floating feeling. These two remedies were thus only partially similar and the doctors then prescribed *Hydrogen LM 7* daily. The remedy has itching in the ear. The patient began to improve and said that he was getting connected to the universe and to a higher force. He continued to improve his energy level increased; he felt that his work was being appreciated; he continued to take the medicine daily and the scan taken after 6 months was clean. Jeremy Sherr's proving of *Hydrogen* contains feelings like "everything feels lighter and more clear; removed from reality yet very alert and clear and calm; this pure energy was around for sometime protecting me . I feel this unification, the joining of male energy with female sexually, but with no desire, pleasure or pain involved."

**CASE 2:** relates to a 65 year old lady suffering from irritable bowel syndrome. She complained of stiffness of limbs and also lack of elasticity of muscles and ligaments. The sensation here is of structure being stiff, brittle and unable to give just before the stage of atrophy. She had also a difficult husband who was stubborn, independent and unable to give in or compromise just like the patient who was also strong willed and dogmatic. Scholten identifies the theme of work, duty and order with Row 4 of periodic table. Typically the patient who needs a medicine from Row 4 has a complete identity but his independence and security are incomplete; there is a threat from outside to his house, money and job. He has to protect his structure from external forces. *Gallium- met 30* was prescribed. According to Dr Scholten the essence of this remedy is "stubborn in their work, unable to change" and according to Dr Rajan Sankaran the

essence is "imminent loss of protection and security, so I have to be rigid all the time to defend against change and criticism". The patient responded very well to this remedy and was completely cured over a period of two years with potency increased in subsequent consultations upto 200 C.

**CASE 3:** In a Homoeopath's practice there will be instances where a case gets stuck and there is no progress where medicine after medicine, carefully chosen, produces little or no result. In some cases psychoanalysis of the patients might help in identifying the appropriate remedy. **H VAN HOOTEGEN, BELGIUM** cites a case of a 23 years old woman suffering from chronic fatigue syndrome. She said that her only problem was the chronic fatigue but everything else was normal. No improvement with several medicines given over a two-year period. Every attempt to probe further resulted in the patient stating that everything else was normal; even more than that, she said that there was nothing wrong with her marriage, job or family. Even the doctor felt exhausted after each consultation!

The doctor wanted to use psychoanalysis to find out the real personality of the patient. Though initially reluctant, the patient agreed to discuss relationships and dreams. Her dreams were terrifying: of being attacked by dogs; terrible fear of death; being raped or sexually assaulted; being lost in an unknown world; various forms of threat from guns, spiders, poison and curses; babies that get killed and babies that disappear; the feeling of total emptiness; of being out of the body. But the patient spoke about these dreams in a detached manner in sharp contrast to the feelings experienced by her in her dreams. With every dream she experienced in the night, she felt better as regards energy leading the doctor to conclude that her dream functioning was blocked. Further probe revealed that a little sister of her mother died of diarrhoea when she was only 3 months old and her grandmother felt her loss so much that she did not go out of her house or mix with others for a long time. Six years later another girl was born and was named after the dead baby. After this

girl married and gave birth to the patient, the patient when only 3 months old had a near death experience due to a fall from the cot. When 7 months old the patient had violent diarrhea for which she had to be admitted in ICU for 3 weeks. The mother of the patient after a few years gave birth to a son; when he was only 3 months old his mother had to be hospitalized because of paralysis while grandmother went on a holiday, thus leaving the small child without mother's care.

The doctor says that one can understand the dreams of this patient only in the context of trans-generational influence. The mother who lost her child at 3 months after birth did not go through real mourning but hoped for rebirth of her child; the surviving daughter, the mother of the patient kept the loss of her sister hidden in her unconsciousness which was transmitted to her daughter; the prematurely dead girl was probably haunting the patient and the phantom became active at the crucial period of 3 months in their lives. At the same time the patient was detached while discussing her terrible dreams probably because the dreams were relevant to her ancestors and only partially to her. *Opium* corresponded to her radical split between her conscious and unconscious states. She was therefore prescribed that remedy over two years in potencies from 200 to 10M. Slowly she regained her lost vitality, her physical symptoms disappeared.

#### **HOMOEOPATHIC LINKS VOL 19, 2/2006**

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**Dr ANTON AMBERGER** of Germany rightly emphasises in an article titled "Collateral damage - side effects of Homoeopathic therapy" that contrary to common belief that homoeopathic treatment is free of undesirable side effects, homoeopathic remedies can produce harmful effects unless properly chosen and administered. Worst effects are felt when the remedy is repeated too early, and in high potency or when wrongly chosen or when it is partially similar. Effects depend on the remedy, its potency, state of the patient - normal, hypo or hyper active and status of

his health. Briefly the author has cited instances where the homoeopathic remedies had resulted in serious damage. This subject therefore, deserves serious attention of practitioners. Seasoned homoeopaths should educate upcoming homoeopaths of the dangers of improper prescribing.

An article by **RICHARD PITT**, USA makes out a case that the current President of the USA needs *Alcohols* as his remedy based on specific behaviour characteristics, character analysis, personal history etc and the symptoms of the above remedy. Mr Bush was a heavy drinker qualifying for being called an alcoholic. The main picture of the remedy is that there is a tendency to rigidity and polarized thinking with obsessive repetition. There is an exaggerated self-importance and grandiose behaviour. He is witty and jesting and his humour and affability can disarm his political opponents. An *Alcoholus* patient is hardhearted, malicious and cruel. (More people were executed in Texas when he was the Governor than at any other point of time in the state history). One more theme of the remedy is lack of moral feeling; a tendency to slur, speech is confused incoherent etc. There is a lot of potential violence and desire to kill for the least offence; tendency to lie.

**CASE 4: Dr MASSIMO MANGIALAVORI** has discussed in great detail a case of a 37 year- old woman with depression, treated with *Kali-carb*. The remedy was selected on the basis of the following important rubrics based on case taking.

Desires: sweets., Mind: dogmatic; Mind: fear; general, animals, of, birds of; Mind: censorious, critical; Mind: hurry, haste, general; Mind: anxiety, pains from; Mind: cares; full of; Mind; aversion, family members to; Mind: dreams: child, children about; Chest: anxiety, heart region of; Chest: oppression. Stomach: stone, sensation of; Stomach: slow digestion.

The patient was prescribed *Kali-carb* Q1 and the case was followed up for four years during which she was on the same remedy repeated when needed, with potency going upto Q3. She lost weight to the tune of 35 kilos; was off anti-depres-



sant drugs, no palpitations and felt better in all ways.

#### CERTAIN OBSERVATIONS ON KALI SALTS:

1. Every possible disease is seen as a kind of mental disease. To have a disease is a kind of injury or shame; patient felt ashamed to consult a homoeopathic doctor because being treated by an unconventional medicine did not fit in with her scheme of things and also seeing a doctor younger to her in age did not appeal to her.
2. What is important is meeting their basic needs: food, money and what is basic to survive. Though the patient's husband was absent from home for long periods she still accepted him because of the money he brought in for running the house.
3. *Kali's* weakness is mainly in the digestive tract; there is a deep feeling of inner weakness in all *Kalis*.
4. Belonging to a group that offers protection and idealistic support is fundamental for a *Kali*; In this case depression started after the sudden demise of the patient's father who had been a good support to her. To force a *Kali* into any kind of emotional relationship is a disaster because they are not able to cope with it. Giving birth, remaining pregnant and being fertile or having a good relationship with their children is a disaster for a *Kali*.
5. Another common expression is what they describe as oppression: a stone, a weight, something crushing or pushing one down.
6. Back is affected to a great extent-often in the lumbar region.

**CASE 5:** Another interesting case is that of a 19 year old boy who consulted **Dr PRITI SHAH** for acne vulgaris on forehead and cheeks with heavy scars. The patient had a fixed feeling that "he is always right"; that others should not interfere with him because he knows what he is doing is right. Every advice or parental restriction was observed as interference to which he strongly objected or reacted. He said, "The more you pressurize me the more I will go against, but they do not listen to me." While he definitely needed support from his family but for whatever he is doing because he considers it's right and he will not change out of fear of losing their support. The overall themes which emerged

from detailed case taking were: Intolerance of contradiction; feeling that he is always right; Intolerance of interference in his life; Desire to fight injustice and fight for the country; helping others who are weaker than him; feeling that others are selfish; maliciousness; lonely; dreams of fights. As the patient's symptoms substantially conformed to the provings of *Niccolum-metallicum* by Dr Rajan Sankaran it was prescribed in 200K potency one dose. For one year he was on that one dose and there was distinct improvement in his mental makeup such as not fighting with others or not reacting when provoked etc. Pimples were better and scar marks were mostly gone; remedy was repeated in 1MK and the case was followed for over two years with considerable improvement in pimples and disappearance of scars.

In another article **JULIA SCHILLER** writing on "Taxonomy" says that in some classification of plants Dr Rajan Sankaran had relied on outdated plant taxonomy and has raised some points which she says should be addressed in the subsequent editions of the book on "Insight into plants" to avoid disappointing prescriptions; she particularly draws attention to the need to revise five chapters; Conifers, Violates, Hamamelidae, Magnolianae and Lilliflorae. (I note that this aspect has been rectified in volume III.)

#### HOMOEOPATHY TODAY, OCTOBER 2006

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This issue is devoted to treatment of bites from spiders with tips as to how to avoid them and what to do if they bite. The first aid in such cases are as under:

1. Wash the area with soap and water.
2. Apply icepack wrapped in cloth or a cold wet washcloth.
3. Elevate the site of bite to help prevent swelling.
4. Take appropriate homoeopathic remedy...

**CASE 6:** A 13 year old boy on a holiday in Costa Rican rainforest complained of swelling of his scrotum due to a spider bite. *Aconite* and *Apis* were

ruled out as similes and because of the punctured wound *Ledum* was given in 30 potency every 30 minutes and he was alright after 4 doses.

The usual remedies for spider bites are *Lactrodectus-mactans*, *Arsenicum*, *Apis*, *Hypericum*, *Lactrodectus-hasselti*, *Ledum*

There is a write-up on white-tailed spider, more common in Australia and the remedy prepared from it called *Lampona-cylindrata* with brief cases on how this remedy cured the aftereffects of spider bites in that country.

**Dr IAN LUPEKAR** writes on Sensory Processing Disorder. It is a neurological condition that interferes with brain's processing of information received through five senses of touch, smell, taste, hearing and sight. The perception of the sensation in these patients is out of proportion to the actual experience. Children may be oversensitive or under responsive; over sensitive responses will be avoidance of foods that disturb or avoid touching or being touched or intolerant of certain fabrics. The under responsive patients will actually seek out sensory experiences such as asking the partner or

friend to squeeze or love to hear the loud hum of vacuum cleaner. Many autistic children have some degree of SPD.

**CASE 7:** The author discusses the case of Lily, a five year old girl suffering from this syndrome. Her mother said that the child hated the feeling of hair brushing or teeth brushing; cannot stand soft touch on her skin, would not hold hands with other children; she would ask others to keep quiet as she was very sensitive to noise. If she saw someone invading her space she will hit or bite. Her eyes were frequently dilated. Had chronic sinus congestion. Her movements were sudden, jerky and uncoordinated. Based on these symptoms she was given *Belladonna* 1M one dose; six weeks later mother reported that there was a perceptible change in the behaviour of the child; not biting, less stubborn, able to hold hands with other children. When the symptoms returned later the remedy was repeated in the same potency and she continued to improve and was under further observation.

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