COVID-19 vaccines and homoeopathy – An integrative review

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Abstract

Background: The COVID-19 pandemic has brought millions of people at risk. Clinical trials of several known antiviral drugs and vaccines have been done. Homoeopathy is known to be effective in the prevention and treatment of infectious diseases as well as in overcoming some adverse effects of vaccination. Objectives: The objectives of this review were to identify the adverse effects of COVID-19 vaccination from the published literature and doing homoeopathic repertorisation to find out indicated remedies for alleviating the ill effects of COVID-19 vaccines. Methods: Published literature was searched for ‘Covid-19’, ‘Vaccination’ and ‘Adverse events’ in PubMed between January 2020 and July 2021. The related symptoms pertaining to known adverse effects were picked and repertorised with appropriate rubrics from the ‘Vaccination’ chapter of Murphy’s clinical repertory and synthesis repertory. Results: Repertorial totality of identified symptoms was analysed. Thuja scored high when symptoms related to the adverse effects of COVID-19 vaccines were repertorised according to Murphy’s and synthesis repertories. Indications of the common remedies for the ill-effects identified for COVID-19 vaccination are discussed. Conclusion: Vaccines against nCoV-19 are still not fully researched, especially for their long-term effects. Hence, whether they would prove to be friends or foes to humankind, in the long run, is the arena of future research. Meanwhile, homoeopathy can lend its services to overcome the ill effects of the vaccination. Studies with rigorous designs to find out the efficacy of homoeopathic medicines in relieving the adverse effects of vaccination are suggested.
Abstract

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Keywords: COVID-19 vaccines, Homoeopathy, Thuja occidentalis, Vaccination, Side effects of COVID-19 vaccines

INTRODUCTION

The safety and efficacy of COVID-19 vaccines is still a subject of research, though several people have taken the shots till date. The ongoing pandemic of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) caused by the severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) has made a serious public health threat worldwide with millions of people at risk in a growing number of countries. Although there are no clinically approved antiviral drugs and vaccines for COVID-19 currently, attempts are ongoing for clinical trials of several known antiviral drugs, their combination as well as the development of vaccines.[1]

Several vaccines against SARS-CoV-2 that causes COVID-19 have been developed. The first vaccines available in the US are messenger RNA (mRNA) vaccines by Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna and in Europe is CureVac. Other vaccines by Janssen-Johnson & Johnson, Astra-Zeneca, Sputnik-V and CanSino are made using human and primate adenovirus vectors. The third type of vaccine which is available outside of the US is an inactivated whole-virus SARS-CoV-2 vaccine by Bharat Biotech, Sinopharm and Sinovac.[2] Based on advances in techniques for vaccine design, inactivated, live-vectored, nucleic acid and recombinant COVID-19 vaccines are being developed and tested for their efficacy. SARS-CoV-2 spike (S) is being widely used as a target for vaccine development considering its crucial role in virus attachment and entry. Phase 3 clinical trials are underway for several of these vaccines. Although clinical efficacy is shown for one or more vaccines, safety is a major aspect to be considered before deploying such vaccines to the public.[3] Adverse drug reactions and medication-related events are potentially life-threatening consequences of the use of medicines, including vaccines. It could be argued that the benefits of traditional vaccination outweigh the risks

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as vaccines prevent between 2 and 3 million deaths from infectious diseases every year. However, it is important to recognise and manage adverse events (AEs) in a timely fashion to minimise possible harm.\textsuperscript{[4]} Due to a lack of adequate, approved and available alternatives, emergency use authorisation allowed the use of partially approved COVID-19 vaccines in response to a declared public health emergency.\textsuperscript{[5]}

There is an ongoing debate regarding the safety of COVID-19 vaccines and many people are opting not to get vaccinated due to mounting clinical evidence of harm from vaccines.\textsuperscript{[6]}

Vaccine hesitancy in general has been frequently studied among healthcare workers and especially medical students.\textsuperscript{[7]} and is also encountered in the current COVID context.\textsuperscript{[8]} Although the speed and impact of the pandemic on older people with frailty justify an approach where they are offered vaccination first, patients and their caregivers and supervising healthcare professionals will need to make a decision on accepting vaccination based on limited evidence.\textsuperscript{[9]}

The information on the performance of any of the candidate COVID-19 vaccines in children is currently scarce to make any firm judgments about whether they should be recommended in children.\textsuperscript{[9]}

Parents who choose complementary and alternative medicine (CAM) for their children are more sceptical about vaccinations.\textsuperscript{[10]}

In psychological terms, anti-vaccination attitudes were seen to be the highest among those who are high in conspiratorial thinking, high in reactance, have high levels of disgust toward blood and needles and have strong individualistic/hierarchical worldviews.\textsuperscript{[11]}

By the end of 2020, the use of homoeopathy medicine showed promising effects in the prevention of COVID-19 infection in clinical settings but randomised controlled trials are necessary to confirm the findings.\textsuperscript{[12]}

Homoeopathy has stood the test of time over centuries as a notable approach to controlling morbidity as well as mortality in epidemics.\textsuperscript{[13]}

Administration of the homoeopathic ‘Genus epidemicus’ as a prophylactic for the general public or adjuvant homoeopathic treatment in symptomatic cases can be an inexpensive, safe and feasible approach to manage and alleviate the compounding fear and panic that COVID-19 is creating across the world. National policies and health strategies to tackle the pandemic need to be revisited in the light of evolving evidence base.\textsuperscript{[14]}

The COVID-19 pandemic which probably is the most devastating one in the past 100 years, after the Spanish flu requires a speedy evaluation of the multiple approaches for competence to elicit protective immunity and safety to reduce unwanted immune potentiation which plays an important role in the pathogenesis of this virus.\textsuperscript{[15]}

In this scenario, there is a need for reliable, cost-effective, safe and effective alternatives for vaccines and remedies which come in handy to overcome the ill effects of COVID-19 vaccines. The objectives of this review were to identify the adverse effects of COVID-19 vaccination from the published literature and to use homoeopathic repertorisation to find out indicated remedies for the ill effects of vaccination, in general, and specifically for COVID-19 vaccines. In this paper, a small attempt to associate the published adverse effects of the COVID-19 vaccines with the possible indications for various homoeopathic medicines mentioned in the literature for relieving those symptoms has been made.

**Methods**

An online literature search was done to identify the most common adverse effects associated with vaccination against COVID-19 in the major search engine that is, PubMed. The search was restricted to publications in peer-reviewed journals in English with keywords such as ‘COVID-19 and vaccine’, ‘COVID-19 and vaccines’ and ‘Adverse effects and COVID vaccines’. The rubrics corresponding to identify AEs associated with COVID-19 vaccination were repertorised using the ‘Vaccination’ chapter of Murphy’s clinical repertory and synthesis using RADAR OPUS software. Repertorisation outcome was analysed to evolve a group of medicines that can be used in combating the ill effects of COVID-19 vaccines. Thirteen such indicated remedies are discussed with their indications in ‘Ailments after Vaccination’ as shown in Table 1.

**Results**

Several studies on ‘COVID-19 and vaccines’ are identified in PubMed (17,440 articles from 1 January 2020 to 31 July 2021), out of which 1250 articles are published on ‘COVID-19 vaccine and adverse effects (Boolean operator – AND). Twenty articles showing common adverse effects including three systematic reviews were selected for this article.\textsuperscript{[16-19]}

Even though other articles showed similar findings, the review was limited to those providing details of the adverse effects. The flow diagram of the search results and articles selected is shown in Figure 1. The AEs and serious AEs (SAEs) associated with different COVID-19 vaccines, namely Pfizer-BioNTech, Covishield, Jansen, Moderna COVID-19, BIBP, Sputnik and Covaxin are identified in some of the studies, as shown in Table 2, along with a description of some related rubrics from Synthesis and Murphy repertories in the last column. SAEs were rare, but moderate, transient ones occurred more frequently with mRNA-1273 vaccination.\textsuperscript{[16]}

The yellow card system in the UK and the VAERS reporting system in the USA, both suggest that the majority of SAEs are not transient or moderate.\textsuperscript{[17,18]}

A systematic review of AEs reported from COVID-19 Vaccine Trials indicates most of the reactions to be mild to moderate, whereas a few were of severe intensity. The commonly reported local AEs were pain at the site of injection, swelling and redness. The systemic reactions included fever, fatigue, myalgia and headache. Some trials also reported laboratory derangements such as decreased haemoglobin, increased bilirubin and altered serum glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase and serum glutamate pyruvate transaminase. The review concludes that COVID-19 vaccines can be safe with no SAEs, however, long-term post-marketing surveillance data,
particularly in high-risk vulnerable populations (elderly and those with comorbidities, pregnant women and children), are warranted to ensure the safety of COVID-19 vaccines. There is ambiguity regarding the viral component or the preservatives used in the manufacture of vaccines to be the cause for the development of adverse reactions.\cite{26}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Medicine</th>
<th>Indications</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td><em>Thuja occidentalis</em></td>
<td>• Ailments from bad effects of vaccination (Ant.t., Sil.)&lt;br&gt;• Vaccinosis, namely inveterate skin troubles, neuralgia, etc.&lt;br&gt;• Imbecility after vaccination, restless, drivelling\cite{40}&lt;br&gt;• Atrophy of r. arm after revaccination.&lt;br&gt;• Diarrhoea: Early morning; expelled forcibly with much flatus (Aloe); gurgling, as water from a bunghole; &lt; after breakfast, coffee, fat food, vaccinations.\cite{42}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td><em>Apis mellifica</em></td>
<td>• Intense itching and swelling, sharp sticking or burning pain, there commences, very promptly, swelling of the part, with extreme soreness.&lt;br&gt;• The part feels as if it had been bruised or pounded. The swelling is at first of a rosy pinkish hue. It spreads very rapidly; the pains become intense.&lt;br&gt;• Meningitis or in meningeal irritation\cite{41,43,44}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td><em>Silicea terra</em></td>
<td>• Felons, abscesses, boils, old fistulous ulcers. After impure vaccination&lt;br&gt;• bad effects of vaccination, especially abscesses and convulsions (<em>Thuja</em>)\cite{41,42}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td><em>Antimonium tartaricum</em></td>
<td>• For bad effects of vaccination when <em>Thuja</em> fails and <em>Silicea</em> are not indicated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td><em>Belladonna</em></td>
<td>• The congestion is more violent, with the throbbing of the carotids, injected red eyes and drowsiness broken by starts and frightened outeries.&lt;br&gt;• The adynamia is much less than in <em>Apis</em>.&lt;br&gt;• The skin is hot and the face red, or, in some cases, pale; but not pale and oedematous as in <em>Apis</em>.\cite{43}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td><em>Sulphur</em></td>
<td>• Eruptions, like those which often follow vaccination\cite{40}&lt;br&gt;• Every little injury suppurates&lt;br&gt;• Itching , burning, worse scratching and washing\cite{41}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td><em>Echinacea angustifolia</em></td>
<td>• Clinical: Vaccination, effects of\cite{44}&lt;br&gt;• Septic conditions generally, erysipelas and foul ulcers, gangrene&lt;br&gt;• Corrector of blood dyscrasia&lt;br&gt;• Lymphatic inflammation.\cite{40}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td><em>Kali muriaticum</em></td>
<td>• Clinical: Vaccination, effects of&lt;br&gt;• Albuminoid eczema or other skin diseases, arising after vaccination with bad vaccine lymph.\cite{40}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td><em>Malandrinum</em></td>
<td>• Bad effects of vaccination (dry, harsh skin)\cite{41}&lt;br&gt;• very effectual protection against infection with smallpox and against vaccination&lt;br&gt;• In Straube’s proving, the symptoms were— in the evening&lt;br&gt;• Smallpox, measles; also as preventive.—Impetigo covering back of the head, extending over back to buttock, and even into the vagina; covering labia.—Impetigo on extensors of forearms.—Boils.—Malignant pustule\cite{40}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td><em>Mezereum</em></td>
<td>• Eczema and itching eruptions after vaccination. Iching aggravation in bed and from touch. Copious serous exudation. The head is covered with thick leather-like crust under which thick and white pus collects. Hair is glued and matted together.\cite{42}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td><em>Variolinum</em></td>
<td>• Keratitis, with smallpox and after vaccination&lt;br&gt;• Chronic ophthalmia with loss of sight\cite{40}&lt;br&gt;• As a preventive of, or protection against, smallpox, it is far superior to crude vaccination and absolutely safe from the sequelae, especially septic and tubercular infection.\cite{42}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td><em>Vaccinium</em></td>
<td>• Neuralgias, inveterate skin eruptions, chilliness and indigestion with great flatulent distension are leading features of the vaccinal dyscrasia and therefore indications for the nosode.&lt;br&gt;• Burnett says that the &lt; time of <em>Vacc.</em> is the early morning. One symptom is: ‘Waked in middle of the night by pain in forehead and eyes as if split, and stinging in temples’.&lt;br&gt;• Peculiar sensations are: As if the forehead were split. As if heated or over-exerted in the lower extremities. As if bones of the leg were broken and undergoing a process of comminution.\cite{40}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td><em>Ledum pal</em></td>
<td>• Local effects from vaccinations.&lt;br&gt;• Indications are the patient is extremely cold, or cold to the touch, but he wants to be uncovered and is ameliorated from cold applications.\cite{41}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Articles on “Covid 19 and Vaccines” in PubMed (Jan 2020-July 2021) n=17440

“Covid-19 vaccination and adverse effects” in PubMed (Jan 2020-July 2021) n=1250

20 Articles showing common adverse effects of Covid vaccines including 3 systematic reviews

Rubrics related to adverse effects are identified and repertorized

Indicated homoeopathic remedies are summarized

Figure 1: Flow chart of the study

Homoeopathic Clinical Repertory by Robin Murphy, which has a separate chapter for ‘Vaccination’ and Synthesis repertory, which is the latest and most updated one, has been used for repertorisation. Although currently the chronic ill effects of COVID-19 vaccines have not yet been reported, it would be the arena of future research, in case of such long-term bad effects, the remedies which might be found useful are found in the homoeopathic armamentarium. The symptoms specific to the adverse effects of COVID-19 vaccines are repertorised using related rubrics from Murphy’s repertory and synthesis and are presented in Figures 2 and 3, respectively. Thuja occidentalis scored the highest marks according to both the repertories. The indications of homoeopathic remedies known to be useful in combating the ill-effects of vaccination, in general, are shown in Table 1.

Discussion

The use of homoeopathy is believed to be a reason for denial to get vaccinated. However, an international online survey sought to investigate the attitude of homoeopathic doctors towards vaccination and about 75.6% of the respondents considered vaccination safe, effective and necessary. The study concluded that there is no contradiction between homoeopathy and primary prevention by means of vaccination.

Another survey was conducted on medically qualified 219 homoeopathic and 281 non-homoeopathic physicians in Germany (response rate 30.4%) using a questionnaire about the application and recommendation of 17 different vaccinations in their practices. The answers showed that the responding homoeopathic physicians did not generally refuse vaccines but rather viewed them with a specific hierarchy. The ‘classical’ vaccines against tetanus, diphtheria and poliomyelitis were applied to nearly the same degree as by non-homoeopathic colleagues. Vaccines against childhood diseases, risk group vaccinations and vaccinations judged as ineffective were applied and accepted with more restraint by homoeopathic physicians.

In a survey conducted to determine potential acceptance rates and factors influencing acceptance of a COVID-19 vaccine, respondents reported higher levels of trust in information from government sources and were more likely to accept a vaccine and take their employer’s advice to do so. COVID-19 vaccines designed to elicit neutralising antibodies may sensitise vaccine recipients to more severe disease compared to non-recipients. Vaccines for SARS, MERS and RSV have never been approved, as the data generated in the development and testing of these vaccines suggest a serious mechanistic concern, which is, that COVID vaccines designed empirically using the traditional approach, may worsen COVID-19 disease through antibody-dependent enhancement (ADE), be they composed of protein, viral vector, DNA or RNA and irrespective of delivery method.

There is growing literature concerning the acute and probable chronic adverse effects associated with COVID vaccines. The side effects of SARS-CoV-2 vaccines are often troubling but may merely reflect transient production of type I interferons, a normal physiological response to contact with invading microorganisms. Rather, it is genetic therapy that comes with a considerable list of potential long-term health concerns, not the least of which is the troubling evidence, suggesting that some of the mRNA shots may cause prion diseases such as Alzheimer’s and amyotrophic lateral sclerosis. Thanks to the clinical experiences of pioneers and available literature, homoeopaths are equipped with remedies to combat acute and chronic ill effects of vaccination.

Homoeopathic medicines indicated in COVID-19 include Aconitum napellus, Arsenicum Album, Pulsatilla, Eupatorium perfoliatum, Gelsemium and Ipecacuanha in early stages and Bryonia, Phosphorus, Antimonium Tartaricum, Baptisia and Camphor officinalis in late stages of the disease.

Thuja scored high when symptoms related to the adverse effects of COVID-19 vaccines in particular are repertorised according to Murphy’s as well as synthesis repertory. Silicea is complementary to Thuja, especially in nervous affections and for the bad effects of vaccination. Whatever we may say in favour of the necessity of vaccination, this operation may be followed by some unwanted symptoms. Hence, at times, you have to counteract the bad effects that may follow the operation. Hence, an appropriate remedy has to be chosen from the list of remedies for each individual case based on the dominant affinity and presentation of symptoms. Although currently vaccines against COVID-19 are not being administered to children in India, it would be prudent to know that Carcinosinum is the remedy of choice in case of children for ailments from vaccination.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the vaccine</th>
<th>Type of vaccine</th>
<th>AEs/SAEs</th>
<th>Related rubrics (Refer Figures 2 and 3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19</td>
<td>mRNA-based vaccine (BNT162b2)</td>
<td>Pain, redness or swelling at the site of the vaccine shot, fever, fatigue, headache, muscle pain, nausea, vomiting, itching, chills and joint pain.(^{[19]}) Anaphylaxis.(^{[20]}) Urticarial and morbilliform eruptions, pemphigus/ chilblains, cosmetic filler reactions, zoster, herpes simplex flares and pityriasis rosea-like reactions.(^{[21]}) Generalised body aches, paraesthesia and difficulty walking, Guillain-Barre syndrome.(^{[22]}) Acute peripheral facial paralysis (Bell’s palsy), facial swelling and swelling of the lips, face or tongue.(^{[23,24]}) Cerebral venous sinus thrombosis and intracranial haemorrhage.(^{[25]}) Shoulder injury, right axillary lymphadenopathy, paroxysmal ventricular arrhythmia and right leg paresthesia, arteriosclerosis, cardiac arrest laboratory derangements such as decreased haemoglobin, increased bilirubin, altered SGOT and SGPT.(^{[26]}) Influenza-like illness that included fever, chills, cough, headache, myalgia and sore throat (COVID-19 symptoms).(^{[27]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, acute reactions Vaccination, fever, vaccination after Vaccination, arms, vaccinations, effects Vaccination, swelling along whole arm, red and inflamed Vaccination, allergic reactions Vaccination, conjunctivitis, vaccination after Vaccination, phlyctenules, vaccination after Vaccination, paralysis, vaccination after Murphy’s repertory- Head, pain, vaccination after Generals, vaccination, ailments after, reactions, severe Skin, eruption, vaccination after Skin, vaccination after Generals, neurological complaints, vaccination after Generals, paralysis, paraplegia, vaccination after Vaccination, phlyctenules, vaccination after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>AstraZeneca (CoviShield)</td>
<td>Adenovirus vaccine ChAdO(\times)1 n CoV-19 (AZD1222)</td>
<td>Ascending muscle weakness and back pain, Guillain-Barre syndrome.(^{[28]}) Dangerous blood clots and low platelet counts.(^{[29]}) Conjunctival congestion, retro-orbital pain, diplopia, superior ophthalmic vein thrombosis, ischaemic stroke, immune thrombocytopenia, ischaemic stroke, thromboembolism – such as cerebral venous sinus thrombosis, pulmonary embolus, deep vein thrombosis,(^{[30,31]}) intractable abdominal pain, bilateral adrenal haemorrhages, thrombocytopenia with acute ischaemic stroke.(^{[32]}) Slurred speech, uncoordinated movements and reduced consciousness, left-sided hemiparesis immune thrombotic thrombocytopenia.(^{[33]}) Transient headaches, light headedness and dizziness. Sometimes tingling in eyes and increase in blood pressure. Irritability in mood, myalgia, nausea, tenderness at the injection site and feverish feeling.(^{[34]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, paralysis, vaccination after Vaccination, conjunctivitis, vaccination after Vaccination, fever, vaccination after Vaccination, trembling legs, vaccination Murphy’s Repertory- Generals, neurological complaints, vaccination after Generals, pain vaccination after Generals, paralysis, paraplegia, vaccination after Generals, vaccination, ailments after Mind, anxiety, vaccination after Head, brain complaints of, vaccination after Head, pain, vaccination after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Johnson and Johnson’s Jansen COVID-19V</td>
<td>Viral vector (non-replicating) Ad26.COV2.S</td>
<td>Flu-like illness, headache, fatigue and injection site reactions.(^{[35]}) Dangerous blood clots and low platelet counts.(^{[36]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, arms, vaccinations, effects Vaccination, Swelling along whole arm, red and inflamed Vaccination, fever, vaccination after Murphy’s repertory- Head, pain, vaccination after</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

(Contd...)
### Table 2: (Continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the vaccine</th>
<th>Type of vaccine</th>
<th>AEs/SAEs</th>
<th>Related rubrics (Refer Figures 2 and 3)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Moderna COVID-19</td>
<td>mRNA-1273</td>
<td>Injection site rash urticarial eruptions, and morbilliform eruptions(^{[21]}) pruritic, erythematous plaque with mild scaling on the left upper arm, warm to the touch (COVID arm phenomenon)(^{[26]}) myocardial infarction(^{[27]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, arms, vaccinations, effects Vaccination, Swelling along whole arm, red and inflamed Vaccination, paralysis, vaccination after Murphy’s repertory- Skin, eruption, vaccination after Skin, vaccination after Generals, vaccination, ailments after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sinopharm BIBP COVID-19</td>
<td>Inactivated SARS-CoV-2 vaccine (Vero cell)</td>
<td>Dizziness, fatigue, headache, nausea, vomiting, fever and allergic dermatitis.(^{[37]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, allergic reactions Vaccination, allergic reactions, hives and swelling with Vaccination, fever, vaccination after Murphy’s repertory- Head, pain, vaccination after Skin, eruption, vaccination after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Sputnik V Vaccine Gam – COVID -Vac</td>
<td>Non-replicating viral vector</td>
<td>Severe allergic reaction, seizures and fever above 40(^\circ)(^{[37]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, allergic reactions Vaccination, fever, vaccination after Vaccination, convulsions, vaccination after Murphy’s repertory- Generals, convulsions, vaccination after Generals, neurological complaints, vaccination after Generals, vaccination, ailments after, allergies for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bharat Biotech COVID-19 vaccine (Covaxin)</td>
<td>Inactivated vaccine (BBV 152)</td>
<td>Fatigue, fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, derangements in bilirubin, SGOT, SGPT, cholesterol and C-reactive protein levels.(^{[28]})</td>
<td>Synthesis- Vaccination, fever, vaccination after Head, pain, vaccination after Murphy’s repertory- Head, pain, vaccination after Generals, vaccination, ailments after</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SGOT: Serum glutamic-oxaloacetic transaminase, SGPT: Serum glutamate pyruvate transaminase, AEs: Adverse events, SAEs: Serious adverse events

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*Figure 2:* Repertorisation from Murphy's repertory showing remedies for ill effects of COVID-19 vaccination (also refer to Table 2)
Although homoeopathic nosodes are not vaccines, they have been utilised in the prevention of specific diseases.\textsuperscript{[50]} A study on the usefulness of COVID-19 nosode is under pipeline. Whether homoeopathic medicines will be proven to be a cost effective, safer alternative to a vaccine depends on its efficacy being proven through related research, the potential of the system in alleviating the suffering associated with vaccination has to be utilised thoroughly in this grave situation.

Any acute reaction to vaccination by the body is healthy and the appearance of a reaction is taken as evidence that vaccination has been ‘taken’, and adequate immunity is established. Fever and diarrhoea are seen commonly, in addition to skin symptoms, as part of the immediate and normal, post-vaccination picture. Hence, the duration of AEs/SAEs and the severity of symptoms causing distress to the patient will determine the need for the administration of the remedy. In such cases, homoeopathic medicines indicated as per the totality of symptoms will be helpful.

The Ministry of Ayush under the Government of India has also provided guidelines for the use of preventive and treatment strategies to enhance immunity. The national recovery rate has increased to 94.66\% and the reported fatality rate is down to 1.45\% due to “test, track and treat”. The Ministries of Health & Family Welfare and of Ayush are two pillars of health care to prevent and manage the spread of COVID-19 in India. Data from ongoing clinical trials of vaccines for COVID-19 and AYUSH medicines for prophylaxis and symptomatic relief in COVID-19-infected patients are awaited.\textsuperscript{[54]} The global collective effort to control the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19) should also consider alternative therapeutic methods like homoeopathy, and public health systems should endorse the validity of proven homoeopathic treatments in this war against the global pandemic.

**CONCLUSION**

Vaccines against nCoV-19 are strangers currently, whether they would prove to be friends or foes to humankind, in the long run, is the arena of future research. On the other hand, homoeopathy could be proposed as a safer, cost-effective and reliable preventive and treatment method for nCov-19 infections, only if proven so by evidence-based studies. Wherever taking shots is deemed necessary or made mandatory, Homoeopathy lends its friendly hands to overcome the ill-effects of vaccination. Research studies with rigorous study designs to find out the efficacy of homoeopathic medicines in relieving the ill effects of vaccination are the need of the hour.

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**Conflicts of interest**

None declared.

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Vaccins Covid-19 et homéopathie - Une revue intégrative


Covid-19-Impfstoffe und Homöopathie - ein integrativer Überblick

Vacunas y Homeopatía Covid-19 - Una revisión integral

Antecedentes: La pandemia de COVID-19 ha puesto en riesgo a millones de personas. Se han realizado ensayos clínicos de varios medicamentos antivirales y vacunas conocidos. Se sabe que la homeopatía es eficaz en la prevención y el tratamiento de enfermedades infecciosas, así como en la superación de algunos efectos adversos de la vacunación. Objetivos: Los objetivos de esta revisión fueron identificar los efectos adversos de la vacunación Covid-19 a partir de la literatura publicada, y realizar reperforación homeopática para encontrar remedios indicados para aliviar los efectos adversos de las vacunas Covid-19. Métodos: Se realizó una búsqueda en la literatura publicada de “Covid 19”, “Vacunación” y “Eventos adversos” en PubMed entre enero de 2020 y julio de 2021. Los síntomas relacionados con los efectos adversos conocidos se seleccionaron y repasaron con las rúbricas apropiadas del capítulo “Vacunación” del repertorio clínico de Murphy y del repertorio de síntesis. Resultados: Se analizó la totalidad repertorial de los síntomas identificados. Thuja obtuvo un alto puntaje cuando los síntomas relacionados con los efectos adversos de las vacunas Covid-19 fueron retratados según los repertorios de Murphy y Síntesis. Se analizan las indicaciones de los remedios comunes para los efectos nocivos identificados para la vacunación con COVID-19. Conclusión: Las vacunas contra nCoV-19 aún no están totalmente investigadas, especialmente por sus efectos a largo plazo. Así que, si ellos demostrarían ser amigos o enemigos de la humanidad, a la larga, es el campo de la investigación futura. Mientras tanto, la Homeopatía puede prestar sus servicios para superar los efectos nocivos de la vacunación. Se sugieren estudios con diseños rigurosos para averiguar la eficacia de los medicamentos homeopáticos en el alivio de los efectos adversos de la vacunación.