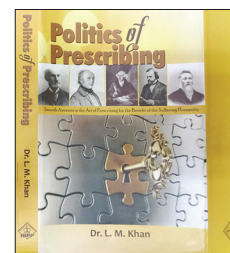


Book review: 'Politics of Prescribing'

Author : Dr. L. M. Khan
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Homoeopathy is the science of experience discovered more than 200 years ago in which medicines are prescribed on the basis of knowledge derived from drug proving and other sources. Symptoms of medicine are matched with symptoms of the case during process of treatment. Dr. L. M. Khan, retired Prof. of National Institute of Homoeopathy, Kolkata, has given and explained the different ways of prescribing in this book on the basis of his experience derived from his lifelong classical homoeopathic practice and teaching. He has worked with some great homoeopaths of international repute, namely Dr. Jnan Majumdar, Dr. B. N. Chakraborty and Dr. J.N. Kanjilal whose valuable practical experience has been quoted in the book.

This book is the combination of Organon of Medicine, Homoeopathic Materia Medica and Repertory and deals with their practical utilisation. It has 15 chapters spread over 392 pages. In chapter no. 12, a list of rare remedies with their specific indications has been given which are very much helpful in cases where the indicated polychrest medicines fail.

There are different ways of prescribing based on the given case of disease. After case taking, physicians sometimes fall in the state of dilemma. There are situations where the classical way of prescribing that is on the basis of totality of symptoms is not possible. We need to explore the different corners of the case including accessory circumstances, past history, family history, lifestyle defects, any psychical influences, constitution, miasm, history of vaccinosis, personality, intrauterine life, disposition, temperament, keynotes as well as our own past experience in similar conditions for the sake of prescribing. The above-mentioned factors have been well dealt with in this book. There is an elaboration of various facets of prescribing which is the most important thing of this book which makes it worthy of reading.

This book is very much helpful for busy prescribers as it not only expands our choice of remedies but also provides a handy reference in tout ensemble cases. It gives a confidence to the

physician in dealing with different types of cases both acute and chronic.

As a student of Homoeopathy, we must have the knowledge of various subjects as mentioned in the Organon of Medicine. In pursuance to that, a rich bibliography has been given at the end which apart from Homoeopathy books contains a list of gems of different fields including psychology, physics, sociology, anthropology, microbiology, immunology and history of medicine. Like other works, this book also has some scope of improvement, especially in the aspect of printing and coherency of topics. As a rule of thumb, politics is the play of possibility. In this book, there is the exploration of possibilities in the field of homoeopathic prescribing.

Ranjit Sonny

Regional Research Institute (Homoeopathy), Guwahati, Assam, India
E-mail: dranjitsonnymd@gmail.com

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