

REMINISCENCES

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HOMOEOPATHIC REPERTORIAL INDEX FOR ASTHMA

In the first few paragraphs of the paper 'Homoeopathic Repertorial Index for Asthma' the authors have described 'Asthma' by giving its definition, epidemiology, clinical classification, clinical signs and symptoms, management and treatment. In the general management, they emphasize on good health measures, e.g., nourishing non-allergic diet, liberal fluid intake, adequate rest and reasonable physical activity; avoidance of over exertion, dampness, tobacco smoking, smoke, extreme temperature, and individuals with the common cold; environmental factors such as pollens, offending allergens like carpets, dust, feather pillows, cats etc. control of sinus infection, nasal polyps and hiatal hernia. They feel that use of air conditioners, purifiers, and air cleaners is beneficial. These factors help in controlling the intensity of disease, but do not contribute to the curative treatment of asthma. Homoeopathic therapy is aimed at correction of morbid mechanism of the individual patient and it requires a methodical case taking, finding out a simillimum from a large number of homoeopathic drugs, to analyze and interpret the symptomatological data and then subject it to the process of repertorization. The symptomatological data consist of pathognomonic or common and non-pathognomonic or uncommon symptoms. The former are contributed to disease, the latter to the individual patient and therefore are important from homoeopathic point of view. The objective of this study is to simplify this process and make it less time consuming. The source of compilation consists of Kent's Repertory (K) and Boericke's Repertory (B), all the common signs and symptoms of asthma have been

converted into 18 rubrics from the two repertories and 183 medicines tabulated along with the grading observed in these repertories. It is recommended that peculiar and characteristic symptoms of the particular patient should be added to find out the exact indicated medicine. This compilation can be helpful in more accurate prescribing, particularly where digital repertory is not available.

RESEARCH STUDY OF HOMOEOPATHIC DRUGS IN CONJUNCTIVITIS EPIDEMIC (1981)

The authors presents a study report conducted by Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi during conjunctivitis epidemic from July to December-1981. A total of 3376 cases of 'acute conjunctivitis' were attended to, at its institutes/units located in Delhi and various parts of the country. However, only 469 cases were selected through two-stage simple random sampling. 25% cases from each unit in the first stage and 469 from these were subjected to detailed analysis. 54.37% of these were followed-up and 45.63% dropped out after the first visit. 82.30% had sudden onset, with involvement of both eyes was found in 81.85% and source of infection was mainly at home in 61.41%. Various signs and symptoms in order of frequency were redness of conjunctiva (88.70%), swelling of eyelids, photophobia, lachrymation, matting of eyelashes, and ulceration (42.56%); pain of various types was observed in 49.25%, sandy sensation, burning, foreign body sensation, itching and aching were more common than smarting, pricking, stinging, soreness, bursting and electric current like sensation. The discharges were mainly watery or purulent. About 80% of cases received treatment

within 3 days of onset of complaints. Improvement of varying degrees including total recovery was observed in 96%, 74.89% improved within 1-3 days. *Belladonna* topped the list of homoeopathic medicines, followed by *Euphrasia*, *Argentum nitricum* and *Apis mellifica*.

The authors concluded that the high rate of improvement, though in varying degrees substantiate the fact that homoeopathic medicines can be effective during the epidemic of conjunctivitis. The variations in symptoms and signs with almost same type of infection, as in one epidemic, justify the principles of homoeopathy, 'individualization and dynamization,' responsible for indicating different medicines and potencies.

SOME OBSERVATIONS ON SYMPTOMS OBTAINED DURING REPROVING OF *BRYONIA ALBA*

Reproving of *Bryonia alba* was carried out on ten apparently healthy provers under Drug Proving Research Project, Midnapore Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, West Bengal from February 1957 to March 1958. P. C. Mal, *et al.*, studied the symptoms of reproving and have made observations under three headings i.e.,

1. To ascertain the symptoms, which were found in both reproving and *Materia Medica Pura*. The symptoms in reproving by and large have been same, there by confirming that body responses and functions remain same in spite of a lot of variation in the environment.
2. To find out the symptoms, which appeared only in reproving not recorded in any authentic homoeopathic literature. Some new symptoms in different locations were observed, e.g., burning sensation in the head with the warm sweat on the scalp; inflammation eye with swelling, pressure and heat especially on the upper eyelid, worse in the open air; after much straining stool escapes causes confusion of head as if blood rushes to head; change of color of urine to brick dust and pain in mamme and glands of right axilla with suspicion of malignancy.
3. Suggest and mention the rubric in Kent's Repertory with page number where *Bryonia alba* may be added to the list of drugs.

PHARMACOGNOSTIC STUDY ON ROOT BARK OF *CASSIA SOPHERA* LINN

The author carried out macroscopic and microscopic studies and preliminary chemical tests on the root bark of *Cassia sophera* Linn as the literature has this kind of study only on the leaf of the plant. The plant has medicinal uses; bark, leaves and seeds are cathartic although root is expectorant. Root bark is used as homoeopathic medicine for the symptom complex related to asthma. The presence of fibers in groups in upper phelloderm layer and abundance of rosette *Calcium oxalate* crystals in lower phelloderm are diagnostic features. Qualitative chemical tests showed the presence of anthraquinone compounds.

A CASE REPORT: ACUTE GLOMERULONEPHRITIS

A case of acute glomerulonephritis in a 12-year-old boy, who was shifted to Clinical Research Unit of Homoeopathy, Pune after 3 days of Allopathic treatment has been reported. He was treated with *Apocynum cannabinum*, selected on the basis of acute totality and Allopathic drugs were withdrawn. There was progressive improvement in symptoms, blood urea and urine over next 3 days, but on 4th day afternoon, there was sudden deterioration with headache, vomiting, convulsion and the patient went into a coma. He was diagnosed as a case of hypertensive-encephalopathy/subarachnoid hemorrhage and immediately put on allopathic hypotensive and diuretic drugs. After the patient came out of coma, *Belladonna* 30C was added, there was quick and progressive recovery. The author has made three observations, (1) *Apocynum cannabinum* helped only partially, (2) *Belladonna* accelerated the effects of hypotensive drugs and produced dramatic effects within hours and (3) simultaneous use of homoeopathic and allopathic drugs appeared to have synergistic effects.

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