

EDITORIAL

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Any system or science cannot progress until and unless there is research being done to validate what has been searched or found in that system. The first step here is to ask a research question and present it through a research protocol. It was felt that the information about the study protocols should be made available to the profession, which will help to improve the standards of research. This will facilitate the researchers to get opinion on the study protocols from other researchers in the field and also help to compare the original proposal with the actual outcome and reduce the duplication of any particular research, thus saving time, resources and man hours. Keeping this in view, a new section 'Research Protocol' has been introduced and research protocol of the study being undertaken by the Council on 'Efficacy of homoeopathic treatment for diabetic distal symmetric polyneuropathy: A multicentric randomised double-blind placebo-controlled clinical trial'^[1] is being published for the feedback from the profession.

As per the World Health Organisation (WHO) definition, 'Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely an absence of disease or infirmity'. In today's world, the stress levels have grown to the extent that the main focus is on the mental health status in a society. Various mental diseases are prevalent not only in adults but also among children. The development of brain in a child is said to complete by the age of 3 years. There are many factors that play role in overall development of a child and if not taken care of can lead to conditions like Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), which is a common childhood hyperkinetic disorder. Though it is termed as a childhood hyperkinetic

disorder but can persist till adolescence. It has an impact not only on the academics of the child but also on the social and occupational functioning in the long run.^[2,3] Studies have been conducted in Homoeopathy for managing such cases with Centesimal and LM potencies.^[4-9] In this issue we are publishing a study on ADHD providing further evidence of its treatment with individualised Homoeopathy.^[10]

Lycopodium clavatum has been used to relieve muscle cramps and has analgesic effect.^[11,12] We are reporting a pre-clinical study on albino rats^[13] where it has been used in potencies with similar effect, although further studies are desirable.

Pharmacognostic and physico-chemical studies of unripe fruit of *Ficus carica* L. used as homoeopathic medicine is being published with a view to incorporate these findings in Homoeopathic Pharmacopoeia of India.^[14] This is a popular tree found in Asian countries^[15] and its properties have been studied by the Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine.^[16]

As homoeopathic professionals, it is important to document rare cases being treated successfully with homoeopathy. One such case report of calculus in the male urethra,^[17] treated with LM potency is being published.

Being the last issue of this year, I wish all the readers a 'Very Happy and Prosperous New Year'.

R. K. Manchanda

Editor in Chief,
Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy,
Institutional Area, Janakpuri, New Delhi, India.
E-mail: rkmachanda@gmail.com

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