BOOK REVIEW

Diabetes mellitus: Homoeopathic approach. (Disease monograph-4)

Name of the book: Diabetes mellitus: Homoeopathic approach. (Disease monograph-4)
Published by: Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi

This is the 4th monograph in series on homoeopathic approach to disease, published by Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), India. Present monograph deals with homoeopathic management of a disease, which has reached epidemic proportion in our country. Diabetes is also a life style disease, hence in addition to medical management, taking care of diet, exercise, regular follow up and prevention of life, limb and sight threatening complications are of utmost importance in improving quality of life of these patients. In allopathic medicine, numerous drugs, recombinant and genetically modified insulin are flooding the market to optimise type 2 Diabetes and type 1 Diabetes management in patients with specific attributes.

These treatments are not only expensive but also very complicated. Some of these medicines are also coming under a cloud of suspicion for precipitating cardiac failure (glitazones) or cancer (insulin glargine). A cost effective and before evidence based approach to diabetes mellitus using homoeopathic approach will have greater applicability in our country.

A book defining management of Diabetes mellitus using homoeopathic approach is timely. The main editor and members of the editorial board of this monograph are very well known homoeopaths in their own right and they have laid the foundation of this monograph by inviting experts from allopathic school of medicine to write pathogenesis, available allopathic drugs and principles of allopathic management of diabetes. These chapters will allow a homoeopathic physician to get acquainted with allopathic management of diabetes. This will be extremely helpful as many diabetic patients may seek homoeopathic treatment as an add on therapy along with allopathy believing that additional homoeopathic medicines will stabilise the disease. Moreover dietary advice given in this book for diabetics is applicable to any system of medicine.

Each of the chapters in this monograph ends with a series of references, which are very well chosen, and those who intend to do further study on the subject will find these references extremely useful.

Authors have carefully classified innumerable homoeopathic drugs into groups like polychrests, nosodes and sarcodes, bowel nosodes, constitutional remedies and organ remedies. Indications of Indian drugs like Cephalandra, Syzygium, Ficus, etc., have also been carefully appended. Inclusion of an extensive repertory with medicines more often in use in bold letters have improved the utility of this book.

I feel that a few tables detailing salient management algorithm for the disease and its complications would have given an add on advantage. However, a small booklet as a sister book for this monograph provided along with this book would serve the purpose. The book is also very economically priced at Rs 195 only and has 193 large pages.

Overall I think it is a very useful book for the newcomer in the field, students and experienced, astute Homoeopath alike.

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