

## REMINISCENCES

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Reviewing the work done under CCRH way back in 1989 reflects the progressive attitude adopted by it.

The major groups under which this review has been discussed are: (1) Research articles (2) Clinical side (3) The drug knowledge and (4) the two issues of CCRH Bulletin dedicated to AIDS.

### 1. RESEARCH ARTICLES

'Study of Heart Rate in Swiss Albino Mice Treated with Potentised Sodium Pentobarbitone during Anaesthesia' has been another stepping stone in the arena of various research works to establish the efficacy and 'scientificity' of homoeopathic medicines. As clinical success is the only major criteria for the establishment of Homoeopathy in modern world, authors GD Jindal and AS Paranjpe have well-collected status of research in this area, in the article 'Investigations for Development of Scientific Basis for Homoeopathy'. Authors are of opinion that clinical research should follow the laboratory trials to establish the 'scientificity'. The present generation of homoeopathic doctors must think over this idea. Apart from 'unravelling the physical nature and biological assets of mediums used in the preparation of homoeopathic potencies', clinicals based on good knowledge of materia medica and repertory is a must.

Another paper titled 'Effect of Homoeopathic Drugs in Controlling Multiplication of Hepatitis- B Virus', studies an 'in-vitro effect of homoeopathic drugs on HBV associated DNA-polymerase activity'. Though this study completely lacks the individualizing aspect of homoeopathic medicines, some medicines known for their action on liver such as *Bry.*, *Card-m.*, *Acon.*, *Chel.*, *Lyco.*, *Podo.*, etc. have been used in this study. Such studies can be effectively

taken up by complementing them by clinical evidences, where a '*Cardius* patient' is treated with *Cardius* and a '*Lycopodium* patient' is treated with *Lycopodium*, and then the patient's sera is studied for HBV-associated DNA-polymerase activity. Another use of this kind of study may be to find out some effective intercurrent medicines that are not being used due to lack of proving which have a role in inhibiting HBV-associated DNA-polymerase activity subsequently gathering their clinical symptoms.

### 2. CLINICAL SIDE

Gall bladder diseases do frequently come to homoeopathic clinics. Time and again, Homoeopathy has proved effective in treatment of gall bladder diseases. Author is himself treating several cases of gall bladder pathologies including malignancies with Homoeopathy successfully. Study presented on about 100 established cases of Gall bladder diseases titled 'Efficacy of Homoeopathic Drugs in Gall Bladder Diseases' by Girish Gupta is encouraging for the new comers who have a tendency to refer any gall bladder pathology to surgery. However assertions from the author of this paper such as '*Cholesterinum 3X* was administered in all cases of cholelithiasis' can be misleading for the less experienced in Homoeopathy. Instead, it is clinically observed that many at times sarcodes, allopathic drugs, Indian remedies, biochemical and organ specific remedies are required in pathological cases. Judicious application of repertory and materia medica can help even in the most severe pathological cases be it gall bladder pathology.

### 3. THE DRUG KNOWLEDGE

In the series of 'Homoeopathic Flora of India, 1: Violaceae', authors have given a proper account

of the species of Violaceae used in Homoeopathy with respect to the correct botanical name, detailed citations, vernacular names, descriptions, illustrations, key to the species for easy identification, parts used and geographical distribution has been given. Short notes on conventional uses of each species are also included. A materia medica and repertorial study of the 'violaceae' group could have been supplemented in the same issue for a more effective study. Another paper titled 'Pharmacognostic Studies of *Anagalis arvensis* L.' by P Padma Rao *et al.* aims to outline the pharmacognostic characteristics of the leaf and stem of the plant. Similar studies can be conducted on few plant species whose real identification is obscure for homoeopathic drug manufacturing purpose such as *Capsicum*, *Brahmi*, etc.

The paper by Prakash Vakil, '*Teucrium marum varum*', tries to explore some of the clinical symptoms of the drug apparently not listed in books of materia medica on a sample of 64 patients, who were prescribed *Teucrium*. Most of the symptoms correspond to general symptoms of worms and tubercular diathesis. 'Weeping disposition, jealousy, suppression of anger' etc., have been labelled as Grade 1 symptoms (observed in 5 or more patients). It has not been mentioned which symptoms were observed in how many patients, making the concept of this work dubious. Furthermore, as this work is similar to clinical proving, the potency used and repetitions and duration of appearance or disappearance of symptoms after the use of medicine should have been mentioned.

#### 4. ISSUES OF CCRH BULLETIN DEDICATED TO AIDS

Various aspects of AIDS including history, aetiology, clinical features, immunopathogenesis and laboratory

diagnosis have been detailed. Alongside, for field research work, surveillance of AIDS and strategy for homoeopathic research in AIDS, protocol for AIDS research work has been given in details. As far as management part is concerned, there are three articles, one of which by NA Nath which describes the counselling aspect for HIV-infected persons. The therapeutic part has been dealt by Dr DP Rastogi and Dr Jugal Kishore. Rastogi has hinted upon the potential of *Phytolacca* in treatment of various stages of AIDS even at the stage of acute seroconversion. Use of cyclosporine in the treatment of AIDS in potentised form about 20 years ago as well as the use of potentised *Candida* to control the opportunistic infections with *Candida albicans* is commendable. He has also suggested the scope of healthy bone marrow in potentized form.

Dr Jugal Kishore has adopted a more conventional approach. 'Finding genus epidemicus' for symptom complexes available at different stages of presentation has been recommended. His paper 'AIDS - Homoeopathic Point of View and Probable Homoeopathic Therapeutics' contains different stage-wise therapeutic hints as well as therapeutics for common complications, e.g. use of snake poisons such as *Crotallus h.* and *Lachesis* in Kaposi's sarcoma. For future exploration, possible use of potentized sera of HIV-infected patients has been mentioned.

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