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A case of venous leg ulcer treated with hepar sulphuricum

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Abstract

Varicose ulcers (VC) are the most common complication of varicose veins (VV). Adults are more likely to be affected by VC. The treatments for VC is by using sterile measures by keeping the ulcer dry and clean, dressing the wound frequently and surgery to avoid any other complications. Homeopathy, with the holistic approach has enormous potential for treating venous ulcers. It treats the sick person from within. A patient named Mr. M male, 69years old, came to OPD on November 15 2023, with the complaint of yellowish ulcer on the left lower part of the left leg, above the ankle region for 6months. The patient was on allopathic medication but got no improvement. Patients signs and symptoms were taken in detail as per homoeopathic principles then analyzed the symptoms, and prescriptions were made based on the totality of symptoms, i.e., a holistic approach. The medicine prescribed was hepar sulph 200C, has showed a remarkable improvement in the patient in reducing the ulcers. This article gives a detailed report on the way to recovery of the patient through homeopathic medicines by following Homeopathy principles.

Keywords: Homeopathy principles, venous ulcer, varicose veins, hepar sulphuricum

Introduction

Venous ulcer, (Venous Stasis Ulcer) is a wound like ulcer in which it takes long time to heal than usual. It is due to the veins and the blood flow that causes disturbance in its function which occurs on yours legs and also near the ankle region. These venous ulcers takes longer duration for healing generally occurs in aged people due to other complications like diabetes mellitus, chronic venous insufficiency, peripheral arterial occlusive disease etc. because of these the ulcer will never heals. The oxygen supply to the tissues is decreased, due this insufficiency in the blood flow there creates a pressure in the veins causing the formation of venous ulcer in the body extremities. Which the makes the patient worried and becomes conscious about the body and suffers mentally.

Skin diseases like venous ulcers damages the tissues from different layers of the body i.e., dermis, epidermis, and subcutaneous tissue fat which causes the patient to experience severe pain on the part effected, with unhealthy granulation tissue damage, with offensive odor and offensive discharge from the ulcer which gradually increased if not treated properly. This increases the mental instability in the patient which effects there daily life activities like work, sleep are disturbed. Through Homeopathy, the holistic medicine, has given incredible progress in these kind of conditions. Many studies says skin conditions are well treated with Homeopathy.

Homeopathic studies have proved the effectiveness in the path of venous ulcer cases. In addition to this, Homeopathy treats the patient from within rather than approaching for the external derangement of the body. This case study helps us once again that homeopathic treatment is purely based on patients individuality as a whole which includes both mental and physical signs and symptoms. Through detailed case taking and analyzing the symptoms the Homeopathy treatment in showing how effectively a homeopathic medicine can give relief to a patient.

Case presentation

Mr. J Male, 69 years old, patient came to the OPD on November 15 2023, with the complaint of painful yellowish ulcer on the lower part of the left leg above the ankle region and dorsal

Aspect of the feet since 6 months, with severe itching on the ulcer, with oozing of pus from ulcer, aggravated by walking, offensive odor. The patient has sensitive to touch.

History of presenting complaint

The patient was apparently healthy 30yrs back, he developed lichenified eczema on left palm which gradually spreaded to both the hands, took allopathic medicine got relief of the symptoms, after 12yrs again the patient had developed with the same complaint with increased severity took allopathic medication got relief quickly, 6months back pat had developed again the symptoms, used allopathic medicine but got no relief of the symptoms, formed into an ulcer on lower part of the left leg and ok dorsal aspect of the foot with oozing of pus, used allopathic medication got no relief.

Past history

H/O inguinal hernia 10yrs back, operated
 K/c/o Hypertension since 1995 (on medication tranquilizers, blood thinners)
 K/c/o - arthritis
 No Diabetes mellitus

Physical generals

The patient has moderate built, well nourished, appetite, thirst, stool are normal with clear no burning urine.

Mental generals

The patient has anxiety conscience, fear of disease, Fear of health something worse may happen to body

Analysis of symptoms

Common symptoms

Common symptoms of the case are Painful yellowish ulcer on left lower part of leg, severe itching, oozing of pus, aggravated by walking, offensive odor.

Uncommon symptoms

Uncommon symptoms of the case are Sensitive to touch, anxiety conscience, fear of disease and fear of health.

Evaluation of symptoms

Evaluation was done on hierarchy of the symptoms. Fear of disease, fear of health, painful yellowish ulcer on leg, itching on the ulcer, oozing of pus with offensive odor,

aggravated by walking.

	Psora	Sycosis	Syphilis
Fear of disease	✓		
Fear of health	✓		
Ulcer on leg			✓
Yellowish ulcer			✓
Offensive odor			✓
Oozing of pus			✓
Chilly patient	✓		
Sensitive to touch	✓		✓

Selection of remedy and potency

ML Tyler has described, hepar sulph has tendency to suppurate on local inflammation. Hepar sulph is used in conditions when pus is about to form, or is already formed. In this case the suppurative stage has already begun, as hepar sulp, it will hasten the pointing and discharge and help along the healing of the ulcer afterwards.... Hepar has a general tendency to suppuration, for even the eruptions on the skin are liable to form matter, and slight injuries suppurate.

In regard to “Skins” HC Allen (Keynotes) supplies a valuable tip. “The skin eruptions of Sulphur are dry, itching, and not sensitive to touch; while in Hepar the skin is unhealthy, suppurating, moist, and intensely sensitive to touch.”

In this case the case is similar to that of hepar sulp, hence, Hepar sulph was prescribed for the patient based on homeopathic materia medica. The potency given is 200c, with 3 doses.

Follow up

Date	Signs and symptoms	Prescription
21-11-23	Patient got relief of the symptoms but itching was persistent with dried up ulcer	SL was prescribed
24-11-23	Patient got bleb on the feet Itching persistent	Hepar sulp 200c/ 1 dose followed by SL
26-11-23	Bleb got busted and ulcer got clear	SL prescribed

Intervention

The patient was prescribed hepar sulp 200c, 3doses, there was a marked improvement in the case and advised to us sterile measures by cleaning and dressing the ulcer daily and asked to apply oil on the surrounding parts.



Discussion

The venous ulcers are the most common cases seen now a days. Most of the patients with VC has unhealthy granulation tissue damage, with offensive odor and offensive discharge from the ulcer which gradually gets increased if not treated properly. VC has a wide scope in Homoeopathy the progress of the condition has much scope with Homeopathic medicine. The prescription hepar sulph has given an improvement from the day of using the medication, the healing has started within few days as shown in the pictures. This shows the efficacy of homeopathic medicine in these conditions.

Hepar sulph and this case has similar symptoms i.e., suppurative ulcers, unhealthy skin, offensive odor from the wound, and sensitive to touch by these symptoms with additional to the complete case taking the medicine hepar sulph has given immense result and betterment of the patient. Hence, it is stated that hepar sulph has given an immense and good prognosis for the venous ulcer. Furthermore, it is an evidence based case study which demonstrates the efficacy of homeopathic medicine in venous ulcers.

Conclusion

The study found that hepar sulph 200c 3doses, has given much improvement in this case of ulcer and more importantly the general health of the patient has also got better.

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