



International Journal of Homoeopathic Sciences

E-ISSN: 2616-4493

P-ISSN: 2616-4485

IJHS 2019; 3(4): 66-68

Received: 01-08-2019

Accepted: 05-09-2019

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An overview of clinically verified lesser known drugs of acidic group

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Abstract

Symptoms of a drug need to be clinically substantiated on sick person before it is included in homoeopathic materia medica and which are known as clinically verified symptoms. Often it is found that the number of confirmed or verified symptoms were proportionally smaller when compared to the other symptoms obtained from proving or toxicological symptoms. A symptom produced upon a healthy person and cured in a sick person becomes doubly reliable. So, such clinically verified symptoms of few less commonly used medicines are registered below for clinical utility.

Keywords: Clinical verification, lesser known, acidic group

Introduction

Successful homoeopathic prescriptions rely more on symptoms rather than diagnosis. A symptom becomes an indication for prescription when its prevalence of response is higher i.e. it has been able to restore similar disease conditions back to health more frequently. Frequent use of lesser known drugs reduces error due to variance^[1]. In proper terminology, identification of those symptoms in a drug is called Clinical Verification which is also one of the flagship research programmes of the Central Council for Research in Homeopathy (CCRH) since inception^[2]. Hence, the purpose of clinical verification is data collection for symptoms from homeopathic proving and collection of clinical symptoms not derived from homeopathic pathogenetic trials^[3]. Till date clinical verification of 106 drugs till date, including those proved by the Council and those, which have had fragmentary provings. Out of so many drugs there are many drugs which are less frequently used in clinical practice either due to scarcity of provings records or insufficiency in clinically verified symptoms.

Material and Methodology

Only the clinically verified drugs of chemical origin and belonging to acidic group and which are published in four volumes of CV materia medica books of CCRH, are taken into consideration and a synopsis of those remedies were made. The medicines are *Acid butyricum*, *Benzoicum acid*, *Formic acid* and *Gallium acidum*. Total four drugs were found and the rest was either of plant, mineral, animal origin, other chemicals or nosodes^[4]. Benzoicum acid is a well-known drug frequently used in many specific clinical conditions related to genito-urinary organs and joints^[5]. Clinically it is used in gout, ganglion, bunion, enuresis (urine offensive), etc^[6]. The rest three medicines which are having diminutive proving records or in other words are lesser known because of lesser application are discussed in a nutshell.

After studying the clinically verified symptoms and clinical symptoms in Bold Capitals and in *italics* were looked for. The former signified relief in 30 patients or more and improvement in $\geq 90\%$ patients whereas the later also signified relief in 30 patients or more but improvement in $< 90\%$ but more than $\geq 50\%$ patients^[7, 8]. These patterns of differentiation were maintained in Vol I and II but not in Vol III and IV. In the latter two volumes to identify the relative degree of value of the verified symptoms, two marks of distinction have been given against the identified symptoms at their beginning with symbols 'I' and 'II' where 'I' represents those symptoms have been relieved in 05-09 patients and 'II' meant relieved in more than 10 patients^[9].

Discussion**Table 1:** Type of symptoms of medicine

Name of medicine	Symptoms
<i>Acid butyricum</i> ⁹	Mind - Anxiety and fear in evening and at night Head – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stitching pain in forehead, agg from sunlight, amel from pressure • Bursting pain in parietal region, more on right side with flushing of heat from head, amel from cold water application Eye – Pain in eye, amel by pressure of hand Nose – Bright red bleeding from right nostril in drops Face – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pimples on chin; red hard and painful, agg from touch • Red macular eruption on face with itching Mouth – Bright red bleeding from gums with swelling, amel from cold water, agg sucking gums Stomach – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sour eructation agg in empty stomach, amel after taking meal • Stomach feels heavy even after a small quantity of food • Poor appetite Abdomen – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cramp like pain in abdomen below umbilicus, agg in empty stomach and at night, amel after taking meal and from pressure • Pain in lower abdomen before, during and after stool with rumbling sound in abdomen, amel after passing stool Rectum – Stool scanty hard, constipated, passes with great straining Back – dull, aching of lumbar and sacral region, agg from standing or walking Sleep – Pronounced sleeplessness Perspiration – Profuse, offensive sweat from soles of the feet, agg in hot weather, amel by walking and cold washing Generalities – Weakness, agg in morning and by continued motion
<i>Formic acid</i> ¹⁰	Head – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heaviness of head in the morning from 6.30 am – 8.00 am, with chilliness • Headache agg at morning, evening Mouth – Tongue yellow coated Stomach – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Desire for onions • Appetite diminished Abdomen – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dull pain in right hypochondrium - agg by motion, amel by lying down • Flatulence-amel by passing flatus, agg at night • Heaviness in abdomen – agg motion Stool – offensive Male genitalia – Nocturnal seminal emissions without dreams, followed by weakness with amorous dreams Female – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pain, cramp-like in lower abdomen before menstruation, better after onset of menstrual flow • Heaviness of breasts before menses Extremities – pain in left leg, as if sprained
<i>Gallium acidum</i> ⁸	Stomach – loss of appetite with sour eructation Abdomen – pyrosis with burning in epigastrium Urine – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scanty, burning while urinating • haematuria Respiratory – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spasmodic dry cough with scanty expectoration • Cough with dyspnoea; agg day and night, amel by expectoration Back – pain in neck, agg in morning, amel by bending forward

Conclusion

Homeopathy is based on day to day experience. CCRH needs an applause for introducing for scientificity in its work and the arrangement of CV data is one such example. Large number of data with statistical analysis followed by comparisons is actually helping homoeopathic literature to be more precise and specific. This may reduce the burden of handling encyclopaedias and dictionaries, especially when we have a handful of more reliable, more validated symptoms and that too even for less frequently used homoeopathic drugs.

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