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# Aconitum napellus: A homeopathic remedy

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#### **Abstract**

Aconite is one among widely used homeopathic medicines specially given in acute conditions of severe intensity and sudden onset. Its sphere of action is wide having effect on almost all parts of body. Its main indications are fears, worries and restlessness accompanied with other complaints. Research studies also showed effectiveness of Aconite in various ailments like fever of acute onset, psychological problems like fear, agitation and regulation of blood pressure. Moreover it is also proven as analgesic. However, more research studies are required for proven its efficacy on scientific grounds.

Keywords: Aconitum napellus, homeopathic remedy

#### Introduction

The action of Aconite is mostly on sympathetic nervous system, so that's why, it has marked effect on the circulation and temperature. *Aconite* is valuable and first grade remedy for the certain acute conditions, such as: high grade fevers, acute inflammatory conditions etc. Its action on thermal system is dual; it reduces the high fever and increases temperature in hypothermia. *Aconite* is also good for the hyperemia due to loss of muscle tone and congestion with inflammation. *Aconite* removes irritation, improves the circulation, decreases the hyperthermia and re-establishes the secretions <sup>[1]</sup>.

# **Mind Symptoms**

Highly marked anxiety, fear, and worry are present with every illness. Anxiety from the company, during fever, pain, at night. Worries and Fears. Fear of death with feeling that he will die; tells the time of his death. Extreme fear of death during pregnancy and labor, with the prediction of the time. Fear of the crowd, crossing the street, of earthquakes, future, of narrow places. With fear; yells, distressed, moans, bites nails and wants to die. Marked nervousness is found especially after a fright. He is afraid of ghosts, dark, afraid to go out of the house, etc. Extreme mental and physical restlessness is characteristic of *Aconite*. Pains and music are unbearable, pains make him crazy and music makes him sad. Delirium feels as if what had just done was a dream. *Aconite* is one of the effective Homeopathic remedies that can treat shock.

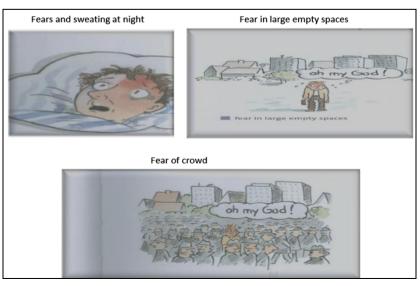


Fig 1: Mind symptoms of *Aconite* 

Correspondence Waheed Mumtaz Abbasi Medical Officer, Medical and Health division, Abbasia Campus, The Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Bahawalpur, Pakistan **Guiding symptoms:** Dryness, heat and sever pains of sticking and tearing type, symptoms develops sudden in onset like a storm for a short duration of time. Skin is dry and heated with unquenchable thirst for large quantity of cold water [2].

It is indicated in "high grade fever", so it should never be used in the cases of Typhoid Fever and Malarial Fever. It prevented rheumatic and intermittent fevers when continuous chilliness is felt. Gastric fever, with bad taste, yellow-coated tongue and diarrhea with the undigested material is treated with Aconite in small doses. *Aconite* is best prescription in erysipelas and meningitis with high grade fever. It also act well in skin inflammatory disorders. Mental agitation with fever, fear of impending disaster, with melancholia, is also treated by *Aconite* [3].

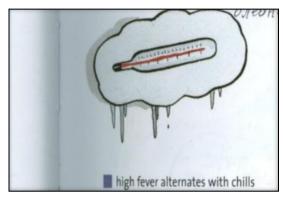


Fig 2: High Fever in Aconite

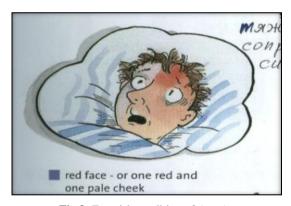


Fig 3: Feverish condition of A conite

Patient Throat dry red, constricted. Burning and cutting pains in the intestines. Vomiting, fear, heat, and profuse sweat. Intense thirst for cold water is present ameliorated by iced drinks. Stools are of pure blood, grass green colored, or like chopped herbs, or white.

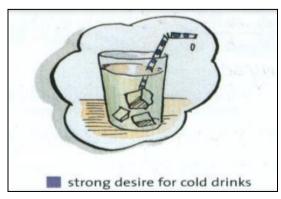


Fig 4: Aconite patient thirst during fever

# **Modalities**

**Aggravation:** Cold very chilled, smoking, during discharges (menstruation), sun exposure, music, emotions, residing from the bed.

**Amelioration:** Open air, warm sweating and sitting on affected side [4].

## Discussion

Aconitum napellus in Homeopathy is used widely for various kinds of ailments particularly fever, neuralgic pains, anxiety, fear and fright. The basic indication in any ailment is sudden onset of symptoms associated with marked anxiety and restlessness [4]. Various researches are performed to check therapeutic efficacy of Aconite in different ailments.

Aconite is a good analgesic when it is prescribe on symptom similarity. Symptoms being are violence and suddenness of the stress bringing about intense anguish. A double blind study showed a great relief in post-operative pain and agitation in children <sup>[5]</sup>. In Heart rate and blood flow physiological variability study, Aconite 30c showed response in heart rate variability and 1M shows in blood flow variability <sup>[6]</sup>. Avon 8.5 year data of longitudinal study of parents and children showed the use of Homeopathic products and medicines in childhood during different time periods. *Aconite* is a useful remedy in 81 months and 103-month aged children. It can be used in various kind of ailments as fever, anxiety, fright, etc. <sup>[7]</sup>.

A report on self-medication with 'tincture of Aconite' showed that it resulted in severe bradycardia, sinus inactivity and left bundle branch block pattern resulting in hypotension and syncope. These effects are due to presence of cardio toxic alkaloids in *Aconite* tincture [8]. A study checked *Aconitum*, *Belladonna*, *Argentum nitricum*, *Nux vomica*, *Tabacum* in 5CH potency on mice using ethological models of behavior. The test was double blind. An initial screening showed all the tested remedies except for *Belladonna*, have some effects on the behavioral parameters [9]. A recent study reported antipyretic effects of Aconite ultrahigh dilutions in baker's yeast induced fever [10].

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