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Homoeopathy is a surgical knife to a perianal abscess

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Abstract

Perianal Abscess (PA) is a pus filled cavity either around the anus or anus and rectum. It is a painful as well as life threatening condition if left untreated or not managed successfully. The most common complication of it is recurrent abscess formation and fistula in ano. Modern science manages it by prescribing antibiotics to prevent recurrent infection, analgesics for relieving the pain and antipyretics to control the fever arising from its infective pathology. Moreover, if they found that the scope of these measures to be limited, they will plan for incision and drainage of abscess and will repair the fistulous opening to control the progress of disease. But according to Dr. Stuart Close tissue changes are no essential part of disease, but only the products of the disease, which, as such, are not the object of treatment by medication because disease is represented by the totality of the symptoms of the patient and is only cured by the internally administered similar medicine with due regard to the proper auxiliary psychical, hygienic and mechanical treatment. Cure is not affected by the surgical removal nor by any local means, of the external, secondary, pathological "end-products" of disease, such as tumors, effusions, collection of pus, useless organs or dead tissues; for the morbid functioning which produced those effects often remains unchanged, after such removal. Cure is effected only by dynamical treatment according to fixed principles, directed to the primary, functional disorder as revealed by the complete symptom-picture preceding and accompanying the formation of the tangible products of the disease. Therefore, let us now understand this concept of cure through a case of 25years old female with the history of recurrent boils that landed into perianal abscess has been managed successfully without any surgical intervention based only on Homoeopathic similimum.

Keywords: Perianal, abscess, life threatening, tangible, disease, totality, dynamical, similimum

Introduction

Perianal abscess is an acute manifestation of infection in the perianal area caused by various strains of aerobic or anaerobic bacteria, with enteric bacteria being more common in perianal diseases. Cryptoglandular hypothesis (Parks, 1961) is useful in understanding the process of abscess formation where infective growth occurs from obstruction of anal gland by fecal matter. Other rare causes include sexually transmitted diseases, hair follicle infections, sweat gland infections, inflammatory bowel disease and compromised immune system. Perianal abscess is characterized by collection of pus in the perianal region presenting with the complaints of severe pain around anus, perianal swelling and redness associated with fever and chills. The abscess may rupture spontaneously or it may cause complications such as perianal fistula, systemic infection and life-threatening sepsis. In modern medicine the principal management of abscess is through surgical operations such as incision and drainage under local or general anesthesia to provide complete relief to the patient (Malik *et al.*, 2010) [1]. But according to Dr. Kent, there are several Homoeopathic medicines such as Calcarea carb, Calcarea sulph, Hepar sulph, Merc sol, Silicea, Syphilinum, Thuja that are indicated in such cases on the basis of "Law of Similia Similibus Curranter" for restoring the health of an individual in rapid and gentle manner without any surgical procedure [3, 4]. Therefore, let us now see how this law is applicable in a case of perianal abscess where Homoeopathic Similimum has played a role of surgical knife.

Case History

A 25 years old female consulted on 18.04.2023 at 11.30am with the complaint of left perianal pain, swelling and redness since 5days in association with fever without chills since 4days. Her complaints became worse since 3days with constant throbbing pain at left perianal region aggravated by walking+3; sitting+3; touch+3; covering+3; slight motion+3;

spreading legs+3; lying on back+3; lying on left side+3; turning in bed+3 and ameliorated by cold application+3; and uncovering+3. She was on Allopathic Rx such as Tablet C Let O 200; T. Dolo 650 and Injectables but there was no significant relief from it. She was getting restless+3 with

intermittent weeping+ while narrating her complaints; her sleep was disturbed+3; thirst was increased for cold water but she was not able to drink it. Moreover, her appetite was diminished+ along with hard stool+2 and headache+2.

Table 1: Pathology and Symptoms Observation

Location and pathology	Sensation	Modalities	Concomitants
Perianal region	Throbbing pain +3	< Walking +3	Weeping +2
Sweat gland	Swelling +3	< Sitting +3	Restlessness +3
Infection	Redness +3	< Touch +3	Sleep disturbed +3
Abscess	Difficulty in walking	< Covering +3	Thirst increased for cold water but cannot drink it
S: Left	Fever without chills +3	< Slight motion +3	Appetite diminished +
O: Sudden (5days)	No h/o nausea, vomiting	< Spreading legs +3	Hard stool +2
D: Constant		< Lying on back +3	Headache +2
F: Constant		< Lying on left side +3	
P: Progressing		< Turning in bed +3	
I: Severe (3days)		> Cold application +3	
		> Uncovering +3	
		Not > by Allopathic Rx:	
		1. Tablet C Let O 200	
		2. T. Dolo 650	
		3. Injectable	

Physical Generals

- **Appetite:** Diminished+
- **Thirst:** Increased for cold water but cannot drink
- **Urine:** 4 – 5times/day
- **Stool:** Hard stool+2
- **Sleep:** Disturbed+3; restless+3

- **Pulse:** 112/m
- **BP:** 118/78mmHg
- **SpO2:** 98%

Systemic Examination

- **RS:** AEBE
- **CVS:** S1, S2 Normal
- **CNS:** Conscious, Oriented
- **P/A:** Soft No tenderness

Past History

1. Boils in the gluteal region 1year ago
2. Typhoid at 10years of age
3. Jaundice 3years ago

Family History

1. Mother →Tinea 1year ago
2. Paternal Grand Father →Covid19
3. Paternal Grand Mother →DM

General Examination

- **Face:** Distress+3; Agony+3
- **Tongue:** Dry, Trembling, Thin white coating; Imprinted; Papillae++
- **Nails:** Pink
- **Conjunctiva:** Pink
- **Temp:** 99.8 deg F

Left Perianal Examination

- Inspection
- Hairy
- Shiny & tight skin
- Redness: +4
- Swelling (Cystic Lump): +3
- No oozing/blood/discharge
- No sinus / fistulous opening
- Palpation:
- Warmth: +5
- Tenderness: +4
- Induration: +5
- Size: ~6cm x 6cm



Diagnosis: Left Perianal Abscess.

Table 2: Classification of Symptoms

Sr. No.	Symptoms	Classification
1.	Throbbing pain+3	Characteristic Sensation in general
2.	Difficulty in walking	Common Symptom
3.	Fever without chills+3	Characteristic Symptom
4.	< Walking+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
5.	< Sitting+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
6.	< Touch+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
7.	< Covering+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
8.	< Slight motion+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
9.	< Spreading legs+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
10.	< Lying on back+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
11.	< Lying on left side+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
12.	< Turning in bed+3	Characteristic Physical General Aggravating Modality
13.	> Cold application+3	Characteristic Physical General Ameliorating Modality
14.	> Uncovering+3	Characteristic Physical General Ameliorating Modality
15.	Weeping+2	Characteristic Mental General Concomitant
16.	Restlessness+3	Characteristic Mental General Concomitant
17.	Sleep disturbed+3	Characteristic Physical General Concomitant
18.	Thirst Increased for cold water+3	Characteristic Physical General Concomitant
19.	Thirst Increased fever during+3	Characteristic Physical General Concomitant
20.	Appetite diminished+	Common Physical General Concomitant
21.	Hard stool+2	Characteristic Physical Particular Concomitant
22.	Headache+2	Characteristic Physical Particular Concomitant

Totality Of Symptoms

1. < Touch+3
2. < Covering+3
3. < Sitting+3
4. < Walking+3
5. < Slight motion+3
6. < Spreading legs+3
7. < Lying on back+3
8. < Lying on left side+3
9. < Turning in bed+3
10. > Cold application+3
11. > Uncovering+3

12. Throbbing pain+3
13. Fever without chills+3
14. Restlessness+3
15. Sleep disturbed+3
16. Thirst increased for cold water+3
17. Thirst increased fever during+3
18. Headache+2
19. Hard stool+2
20. Weeping+2

Repertorization

	Remedies	ΣSym	ΣDeg	Symptoms
MIND				
1 MIND - RESTLESSNESS - pain, from	bell.	17	30	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18
2 MIND - WEEPING - pains - with the	bry.	16	34	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
HEAD				
3 HEAD - PAIN - fever - during - agg.	acon.	16	30	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
STOMACH				
4 STOMACH - THIRST - fever - during - agg.	puls.	16	30	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
STOOL				
5 STOOL - HARD	sil.	16	30	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18
SLEEP				
6 SLEEP - DISTURBED - pain; by	merc.	16	29	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
FEVER				
7 FEVER - CHILL absent	lyc.	16	28	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
GENERALS				
8 GENERALS - COLD - applications - amel.	phos.	15	34	4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
9 GENERALS - FOOD and DRINKS - cold drink, cold water - desire	sulph.	15	31	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
10 GENERALS - LYING - back; on - agg.	ars.	15	29	1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
11 GENERALS - LYING - side; on - left - agg.	sep.	15	29	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18
12 GENERALS - MOTION - agg.	rhus-t.	15	28	1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
13 GENERALS - PULSATION - Internally	nux-v.	14	31	2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
14 GENERALS - SITTING - agg.				
15 GENERALS - TOUCH - agg.				
16 GENERALS - TURNING - bed; in - agg.				
17 GENERALS - UNCOVERING - amel.				
18 GENERALS - WALKING - agg.				

Table 3: Remedy Differentiation ^[4]

Sr. No.	Traits	Belladonna	Rhus tox	Silicea
1.	Sphere of action	Skin, Glands, Vascular system.	Skin, Mucus membrane, Glands.	Skin, Mucus membrane, Glands.
2.	Clinical	Boils. Abscess. ^[5]	Vesicles; Carbuncles; Septicemia.	Fistula; Abscess, Boils
3.	Skin	Eruption suddenly spreading.	Red, swollen, itching intense; vesicular suppurative forms.	Organic changes are deep and slow in action.
4.	Glands	Swollen, tender, red. Indurations after inflammations.	Swollen.	Painless swelling.
5.	Character of Pain	Throbbing.	Tearing asunder (apart) pain.	-
6.	Worse	Touch, jar, lying down; Sensitive to least contact.	During rest; lying on back; Right side.	Uncovering, lying down, left side.
7.	Better	In semi-erect posture.	By motion; Walking, change of position.	By wrapping up head.
8.	Fever	A high feverish state with comparative absence of toxæmia.	Adynamic; great restlessness, trembling. Fever with intermittent chill.	Chilliness, very sensitive to cold air. Creeping shivering over the whole body. Sweat at night.
9.	Thirst	Great thirst for cold water.	Unquenchable thirst.	Thirst excessive.
10.	Appetite	Loss of appetite.	Want of appetite for any kind of food.	Want of appetite.
11.	Sleep	Restless, sleepless.	Sleepless before midnight.	Sleepless.
12.	Mouth & throat	Dryness with aversion to water.	Dryness with great thirst.	-

Final remedy and Potency Selection

▪ **Final Remedy:** Belladonna

1. Sudden onset.
2. Swollen, Red, tender, indurations of glands after inflammation.
3. Boils, Abscess.
4. Throbbing pain < by touch, lying down, > by semi-erect posture.
5. Fever with great thirst of cold water but aversion to it.
6. Restlessness and sleeplessness in general.

▪ **Potency Selection:** 10M

1. Susceptibility → High
2. Sensitivity at Mind & Nerves → High
3. Reactivity → High
4. Functional changes → High

Prescription

Rx,
Belladonna 10M dilution 2drops oral STAT at 12.30pm

Table 4: Follow up on 08.06.2023

Symptoms	2pm	3pm	6pm	9pm	10pm	11pm
Pain Intensity	Only on motion	>85%	SQ	SQ	SQ	>100%
Pain Duration	Only on motion	>85%	SQ	SQ	SQ	>100%
Pain Frequency	Only on motion	>85%	SQ	SQ	SQ	>100%
Restlessness	>80%	>90%	>95%	>100%	>100%	>100%
Facial expression	Smiling Talking	Sleeping comfortably	Smiling Talking	Broad Smile	-	Relaxed Happy
Weeping	>100%	>100%	>100%	>100%	-	>100%
Difficulty in walking	-	-	>90%	>100%	-	>100%
Sleep position	Rt side	Lt side	Sitting on chair	-	-	Relaxed
Fever	+	+	++	++	+++	>95%
Thirst	2 sips	250ml	SQ	SQ	SQ	>100%
Appetite	SQ	SQ	SQ	SQ	SQ	>100%
Headache	>70%	>80%	+	+	++	>100%
Temperature	100.8°F	100.3°F	101.4°F	101.6°F	104°F	99.8°F
Pulse	112/min	100/min	120/min	126/min	Rapid	92/min
Abscess	+	+	+	+	Ruptured	-
Action	SL	SL	SL	Belladonna 10M dilution 2drops oral STAT	Dressing with calendula Q + Calendula Cream	SL

In consequent follow ups swelling, redness, tenderness, induration, discharges, sinus opening healed rapidly without fever and headache. Her physical and mental generals improved rapidly after 2 diluted doses of Belladonna 10M.



Conclusion

From this case we can conclude that Homoeopathy has an immense scope in curing the surgical cases with the help of Homoeopathic surgical remedies. The selection of the remedy shall be based on Law of Similia in association with characteristic symptom classification to formulate the totality. Moreover, after selecting the Homoeopathic medicine the physician shall inculcate and imbibe the knowledge of posology in association with susceptibility for rapid, gentle and permanent annihilation of disease.

Conflict of Interest

Not available.

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