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Homoeopathic medicines and typhoid fever: An integrated approach

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Abstract

Salmonella Typhi is the underlying cause of typhoid fever, a systemic illness typically contracted by consuming tainted food or drink. The acute illness is characterized by prolonged fever, headache and nausea, loss of appetite, and constipation or sometimes diarrhoea. The symptoms are frequently vague and clinically indistinguishable from those of other feverish conditions. Clinical severity varies, though, and severe cases might result in life-threatening complications or even death. It occurs predominantly in association with poor sanitation and lack of clean drinking water ^[1].

Keywords: Typhoid fever, homoeopathy, miasm

Introduction

Salmonella enterica serotype typhi (*S. typhi*) is the bacteria that causes typhoid fever, a systemic illness. The clinically identical illness known as paratyphoid fever is caused by *Salmonella enterica* serotype paratyphi (*S. paratyphi*) A, B, and C. Enteric fever is the collective term for typhoid and paratyphoid fever ^[2].

ICD-106: The International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM) A01.00.

1. Cause: The etiology agent of enteric fever *Salmonella typhi*, serotype A, B and C have no know the host other than humans Most commonly, Food borne and waterborne transmission result from fecal contamination by ill or asymptomatic chronic carrier. Sexual transmission between male partners has been. Healthcare there Negative bacilli within the family enterobacteriaceae consists of two species; *Salmonella enteric*, which contains 6 sub species, and *S. bongori* ^[3].

Age group: In endemic places, typhoid fever is thought to mostly affect children and young people. Children between the ages of 5 and 13 had the highest attack rate. Teenagers and young adults have the highest frequency of paratyphoid fever ^[2].

Gender: Males are more likely to contact typhoid fever. Women are particularly prone to being chronic carriers ^[2].

Incubation Period: Usually 10 to 14 days but it may be as short as 3 days or as long as 2 ^[2].

Mode of Transmission: The disease is transmitted by the faecal oral route contaminated food and water ^[2].

Reservoir of infection: Humans are the natural host.

Pathogenesis: It is caused by consuming contaminated water and food. It travels via the stomach and into the small intestine's distal ileum, or gut epithelium. After adhering to a mucosal cell, the bacteria infiltrate, move to intestinal lymphoid follicles, drain mesenteric lymph nodes, and some even spread to the liver and spleen's reticuloendothelial cells. *Salmonella* can dwell and proliferate in the liver, spleen, and lymphoid follicles' mononuclear phagocyte cells. Clinical illness results from the development of persistent secondary bacteremia following an incubation period of 7-14 days.

The organism spreads widely to the Peyer's terminal ileum patches, the liver, spleen, bone marrow, and gallbladder. It is believed that circulating endotoxins are not the exclusive cause of typhoid fever symptoms and indicators. Elevated amounts of pro- and anti-inflammatory cytokines in the blood.

Clinical feature: The most important symptom is prolonged fever initially low grade Rises progressively and by the second week is often high and sustained (38.8 -40.50 degree Celsius or 101.8 to 104.9 degree f). Characteristically fever rising in step ladder fashion is observed. A prodrome of non-specific symptoms often precede fever and includes chills, headache, anorexia, cough, weakness, sore throat, dizziness, and muscle pain [2].

Hepatomegaly and/or splenomegaly may be found. Relative bradycardia and dichotic pulse may develop. Approximately, in 30% of patients, at the end of the first week, small macula-papular, blanching and erythematous rash ('rose spot') typically on the trunk and chest may be seen particularly in fair-skinned patients [2].

Homeopathic system of medicine with wide application of effect in all the suffering can be well be utilized in this condition therefore to understand how far how far homeopathic could manage which condition this topic is selected.

Complication

1. Endocarditis.
2. Pancreatitis.
3. Pneumonia, Kidney or Bladder infections.
4. Meningitis.
5. Delirium, Hallucinations, and Psychosis [5].

Investigation

Typhoid are diagnosed by

1. Blood culture followed by microbiological identification of the mainstay diagnosis of typhoid fever. The yield of blood culture is quite variable it can be as high as 90% during the first week of infection and decrease to 50% by the third week. Positive in 1st week (Diagnostic gold standard). Sensitivity is 40 to 80% Clot culture has higher rate of isolation than blood culture [4].
2. Widal test detects antibodies against O and H antigen. Titer > 1:320 against O antigen and > 1:640 against H antigen is considered positive. Becomes (+) ve by end of 1st week, peaks at 3rd week, decline afterwards [6].
3. Typhi dot test is sensitive and specific test in diagnosing typhoid fever. It is a rapid, easy to perform, more reliable test for typhoid fever.
4. Stool culture 3rd week, particularly valuable in patient on antibiotics in which blood culture is negative sample are plated directly on MacConkey, DCA, and Wilson Blair media (highly selective) [6].

Miasmatic Diagnosis

Homeopathy recognizes the individuality of each patient or case. It does not treat disease, it treats patients, in one word individualization [7] and it means constitutional treatment based on the totality of the mental and physical reaction. The behavioral patterns and the underlying miasms [8].

Aphorism 234 - It is sometimes necessary to use a small

dose of a potentized solution of cinchona bark as an intermediate remedy in order to completely extinguish their intermittent type. These seemingly non-feverish, typical, periodically recurring morbid states that are only hinted at and only occur in one patient at a time (they rarely appear sporadically or epidemically) always belong to the chronic disease.

Aphorism 235 - with regard to the intermittent fever, 1 that prevail sporadically or epidemically (not those are endemically located in Marshy district) we often find every paroxysms likewise composed of two opposite alternating states (cold, Heat - heat, cold,) more frequently still of 3 (cold heat sweat). Therefore the remedy selected for them from the general class of proved (common, not antipsoric) medicines must either (and remedies of this sort are the surest) be able likewise to produce in the healthy body two (or all three) similar alternating state, or else must correspond by similarity of symptoms, 1 in the most homeopathic possible, to the strongest, best marked, and most peculiar state (either to the cold stage or to the hot stage, or to the sweating state each with its accessory symptoms, according as the one or other alternating state is the strongest and most Peculiar); but the symptoms of the patients health during the interval when he is free from fever must be the chief Guide to the most appropriate homeopathic remedy [9].

Aphorism 26 - "A stronger dynamic affection can permanently extinguish a weaker one in the organism if the two are very similar in their appearances yet may differ in kind." [8]

Homeopathic Approach: The alternative healthcare system known as homeopathy, or homoeopathy, was established in 1796 by Samuel Hahnemann. It is based on his theory that "like cures like" (Similia similibus curentur), which claims that the substance that causes illness symptoms in well-being would also cure similar symptoms in sick people.

Hahnemann believed that homeopathic remedies treated what he called miasms, which he considered to be the underlying causes of illness. The drugs are produced using a homeopathic dilution procedure, which entails repeatedly diluting a chosen ingredient in alcohol or distilled water [9].

Treatment

Baptisia: All breaths and waste products, notably ones from typhoid or other acute illnesses, are foul-smelling; this includes breath, stool, urine, perspiration, and ulcers. Dislike of mental effort; unwillingness or desire to think. Stupor dozes off while being addressed or while responding. Initially covered in red and white papillae, the tongue eventually grew dry and yellow-brown in the center before being cracked and ulcerated. Face flushed, dark red, and had a foolish, inebriated look. She threw around seeking to get everything together because she thought the three distinct individuals couldn't keep them covered [10].

China

Over sensitiveness, low-spirited with aversion to all noise. Degeneration caused by fluid loss. Attacks of pain, caused by the slightest touch of the body and then increasing gradually and becoming very severe. The parts on which

one lies go to sleep. Restlessness of the affected parts. Intermittent fever without thirst or thirst only between the cold and hot stage. Aggravation at night, from the least draught of air, after milk drinking ^[7]. Intermittent fever: paroxysm anticipates from two to three hours each attack returns every seven or fourteen days; never at night sweats profusely all over on being covered, or during sleep ^[10].

Arsenic

Anxiety and irritability combine the terrible prostration that is so typical of the medication. The patient is weak and faint, tired and might have delirium and cold sweats; the mouth hurts; there is a dark, disagreeable diarrhoea, a high temperature, and the typical Arsenicum thirst. A "prostrated restlessness" as opposed to a "rheumatic restlessness" is present, just like in Rhus. After midnight, all of Arsenicum's effects worsen. That remedy's main and distinguishing symptom has always been an intensely red tongue ^[10].

Eupatorium perfoliatum

Thirst, a tongue that is yellow, and cracks in the corners of the mouth. With the exception of headaches, sweat cures all symptoms. Chill between 7 and 9 am, accompanied by severe bone aches and discomfort and thirst. Nausea, bile vomiting at the end of hot or cold stages, and a throbbing headache. He can't drink enough, therefore he knows chill is coming.

Periodically, Agg.-Ame.- by discussion, by leaning over downwards ^[11].

Repertorial Rubrics for typhoid fever

Boericke's Repertory: Fever

Typhoid Fever-Agar.; Agaricin.; Ail.; Apis; Arg. n.; Arn.; Ars; Arum tr.; Bapt.; Bell.; Bry.; Calc. c.; Carbo v.; Cina; Cinch.; Calch.; Crot.; Cupr. ars.; Echin.; Eucal.; Gels.; Glon.; Helleb.; Hydr.; Hyos.; Hyosc. hydrobr.; Iod.; Ipec.; Kali p.; Lach.; Laur.; Lyc.; Merc. cy.; Merc. S.; Methyl. bl.; Mosch.; Mur. ac.; Nit. ac.; Nux m.; Op.; Phos. ac.; Phos.; Pyr.; Rhus t.; Selen.; Stram.; Strych. Sul ac.; Sumb.; Tereb.; Vaccin. myr.; Val.; Ver. a.; Xerophyl.; Zinc. m.

Kent's repertory

Fever

SEPTIC fever (See Zymotic, Continued, Puerperal, etc.): Acet-ac., Anthr., apis, Arn., Ars., bell., berb., Bapt., Bry., cadm., carb-v., Crot-c., Crot-h., cur., Echi., Kali-p., Lach., Lye., merc., Mur-ac., op., ph-ac., Phos., puls., Pyrog., rhus-t., rhus- v., Sulph., Tarent-c.

Conclusion

Effectiveness of homoeopathic medicine which are prescribe with the help of repertory so as to reduce the intensity of symptoms and to create an integrated approach in the management of case of typhoid fever. Homoeopathic medicine help in the removal of suffering of the typhoid patient.

Conflict of Interest

Not available

Financial Support

Not available

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