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A case of gall bladder calculi with hepatomegaly managed by homeopathy

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Abstract

Gall bladder calculi and hepatomegaly are common hepatobiliary disorders causing severe abdominal pain and digestive disturbances. Conventional treatment often involves analgesics, antibiotics, or surgical intervention (cholecystectomy). However, recurrences and complications are frequent. This case report presents the management of a 45-year-old female suffering from recurrent right hypochondriac pain due to multiple gall bladder calculi and hepatomegaly. Over two months of individualized homeopathic treatment with Natrum sulphuricum, the patient showed remarkable improvement with disappearance of calculi on repeat USG, reduction of hepatomegaly, and significant relief in pain.

Keywords: Gall bladder calculi, hepatomegaly, natrum sulphuricum, homeopathy, case report

Introduction

Gall bladder calculi (cholelithiasis) are crystalline concretions formed within the gall bladder, affecting 10-15% of the adult population worldwide. Hepatomegaly may accompany such conditions, leading to abdominal pain, dyspepsia, and post-prandial aggravation. While surgery is often considered the definitive solution, it may lead to complications and does not address the root predisposition. Homeopathy, with its holistic approach, offers non-invasive management. This case demonstrates successful treatment of gall bladder calculi and hepatomegaly using Natrum sulphuricum.

Case Profile

- **Patient:** 45-year-old female
- **Presenting complaints:** Severe recurrent pain in right hypochondrium for one month, aggravated after meals, sometimes requiring emergency admission. Previously treated with allopathic medicines but without relief.
- **History:** No significant past illness. Family history negative for gall bladder disease.

Investigations

Initial USG (June 2025)

- Hepatomegaly (16.6 cm)
- Distended gall bladder
- Multiple calculi, largest 12 mm

Repeat USG (24.08.2025)

- **Liver:** Normal size, increased echotexture → Fatty liver Grade 0
- **Gall bladder:** Contracted with thickened wall, calculi not seen

Physical Generals

- **Diet:** Mixed (non-vegetarian).
- **Appetite:** Reduced.
- **Thirst:** Normal.
- **Cravings:** Salty food.
- **Sleep:** Sound.
- **Thermal state:** Hot patient.

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Mental Generals

The patient was anxious regarding her health and family responsibilities. She exhibited emotional sensitivity, punctuality, and a tendency to worry excessively.

Repertorial Totality

Rubrics selected from Complete Repertory:

- **Mind:** Anxiety about health (3)

- **Mind:** Worried, trifles about (2)
- **Mind:** Responsible, sense of duty (2)
- **Abdomen:** Pain, right hypochondrium, after eating (3)
- **Abdomen:** Gall stones (3)
- **Liver:** Enlarged (2)

Repertorization Sheet

Remedy Name	Lyc	Chin	Kali-c	Magn	Merc	Nat-m	Sulph	Nit-ac	Nux-v
Totality	10	10	9	9	9	7	7	7	7
Symptom Covered	4	3	4	4	4	4	4	3	3
[C] [Mind]Anxiety:Health, about:	2		1	1	1	1	1	3	1
[LP] [Mind and Disposition]Anger:At trifles:						1		1	
[BN] [Hypochondria]Pain, simple, aching, painful, etc.:Right hypochondrium:	2	3	3	2	4	2	1		4
[C] [Abdomen]Pain:General:Liver:Colic, gallstones:	3	3	2	2	1		2		2
[KR] [Hypochondria]Liver:Enlarged:	3	4	3	4	3	3	3	3	

Remedy Selection

Based on the totality of symptoms and repertorial analysis, Natrum sulphuricum was selected. It covered the characteristic right hypochondriac pain after meals, gall

bladder pathology, and the patient's anxious, responsible, and sensitive disposition.

Prescription and Follow-up

Month	Progress	Prescription
June 2025 (Initial)	Severe right hypochondriac pain; hepatomegaly 16.6 cm; multiple calculi seen	—
July 2025	Pain reduced; digestion better; appetite improving	Natrum sulph 200C - one dose, then placebo
August 2025	Marked relief in pain; appetite improved; hepatomegaly reduced; calculi not seen on USG	Natrum sulph 200C - one dose, then placebo

Conclusion

This case highlights the efficacy of individualized homeopathic treatment in gall bladder calculi with associated hepatomegaly. Natrum sulphuricum, chosen on the basis of totality, not only relieved acute pain but also facilitated disappearance of calculi and reduction in hepatomegaly without surgical intervention. Such cases demonstrate the importance of holistic management and repertorial analysis in chronic conditions.

Conflict of Interest

Not available.

Financial Support

Not available.

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