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Role of homoeopathic medicines in dentistry

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Abstract

Homoeopathy was founded more than 200 years ago by German physician, scientist Dr. Samuel. F. Hahemann. The Homoeopathic medicines play major role in dentistry. Homoeopathic medicines are safe, nontoxic and non-addictive and produces no known side effects or interactions with conventional medicines. Homoeopathy may be used effectively in the place of drugs prescribed which sometimes have unpleasant side effects. The basic law of homeopathy is "The Law of Similia similibus curenta" (like cures like) which states that a substance can cure a disease if it produces in a healthy person symptoms similar to and much milder than those of the disease. This article provides an overview of homeopathy in dentistry.

Keywords: Dentistry, Homoeopathy, Potentization, Proving

Introduction

Homoeopathy is the system of alternative medicine originated in 1796 by Dr. Samuel. F. Hahemann from German. He was M.D. qualified physician and scientist. The term homoeopathy comes from Greek roots homoios, meaning similar and pathos meaning suffering or sickness ^[1]. He found that cinchona bark stimulated a fever similar to malaria in healthy patients, and deduced that substances triggering these symptoms could be used to treat similar signs of sickness in an ill person. He then discovered that by diluting remedies, their medicinal power were not reduced but rather enhanced. Dr. Samuel F. Hahnemann was dissatisfied with the medicine of his day due to its harmful effects, and wished to discover better and safer ways of prescribing medicines. The Homoeopathic Medicines worked based on doctrine of similia similibus curenta (like cures like) ^[2], i.e. substance which produces symptoms in a healthy person cures similar symptoms in a sick person.

The homoeopathy attempts to best match the patients symptoms to a remedy symptom picture. A symptom picture is comprised of all the patients' symptoms and includes such things as food cravings, temperature preferences and personality, as well as conventional physical symptoms.

The minimum dose in homoeopathy refers to the use of the smallest possible dose to evoke a healing response. The use of infinitesimal dose is the most controversial principle of homoeopathy. This principle states that the more a substance has been potentized, the more potent it is. Homoeopathic remedies are derived from original substances from plant, animal, mineral and unhealthy tissues.

Homoeopathic remedies involves the preparation of a base substance of the original substance in a hydroalcoholic solution, successive dilutions of the mixture and succession of the mixture after each dilution. According to which substances that causes the symptoms of the disease in healthy people will cure similar symptoms in sick people. According to Hahnemann 'The causes of our maladies cannot be material, since the least foreign material substance, however mild it may appear to us, if introduced into our blood vessels, is promptly ejected by the vital force. Founder of homoeopathy written primary text called 'Organon of Medicine' ^[3].

Dr. Samuel. F. Hahnemann believe that the underlying cause of the disease were phenomenon that he term miasms and the Homoeopathic remedies addressed these. Miasms are psoric, sycotic and syphilitic in nature. The remedies are prepared by repeatedly diluting a chosen substances in alcohol or distilled water followed by forceful striking on an elastic body call succession. Each dilution is followed by succession is said to increase the remedies potency⁴. Homoeopaths select the remedies by consulting reference book known as repertories. After complication of case taking by physician will analysis remedies with repertory. This repertory ^[5] contained Grade I, II, III. Considering the totality of the patient symptoms as well as the patient's personal traits, physical and psychological state and life

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history. Conventional therapy believes those symptoms as well as the patients personal traits, physical and psychological state and life history. Homoeopathic physician prescribed homoeopathic medicines on the base of totality of symptoms. Good health is more than an absence of disease; it is a state of balance of the mental, physician and emotional aspect of the body. In homoeopathic system will treat as on hole and sole of the body. The scope of Homoeopathy in dental practice is wide ranging, homoeopathy is used as an effective adjunct to dental surgery to help alleviate associated pain, bleeding and inflammation. Purpose of this review is to introduce homoeopathic remedies in dentistry.

Scope of Homoeopathy In Dentistry: Homoeopathy is used as an effective adjunct to dental surgery to help alleviate associated pain, bleeding and inflammation. In the area of dentistry and oral health in general, the judicious use of the appropriate homoeopathic medicines can offer or where the cure may at times be worse than the disease. Homoeopathy not replace the normal mechanics of dentistry but it does make the full procedure much more relaxed and pleasant for both patient and the dentist. Constitutional homoeopathic prescribing involved analyzing a persons body type, temperature, physical, mental and emotional status. Pathological prescribing is a treatment specifically for the disease or ailment.

Rationale For Homoeopathy In Dentistry Are: Reduce dental phobias, provide treatments that work alongside conventional medicine, prevent or inhibit the development of disease processes in the oral cavity and Manage dental conditions with a holistic approach.

Homoeopathy for dental problems here are some dental problems and the homoeopathic remedies that can be used in their management; as in all homoeopathic prescribing the remedy selection is more important than potency.

Following are some common conditions and some solutions that have been in routine practice to alleviate pain:

Bleeding Following Oral Surgical Procedures: Almost all post surgical bleeding is well controlled by pressing moist gauze pad over the bleeding are area. In cases where bleeding is not controlled by local measures certain homoeopathic intervention can be used such as Arnica if bleedings is accompanied by bruising or soreness, lame. Aversion to tobacco.

Phosphorous: bleeding will stop with this medicine. The common acid debility is very marked in this remedy.

Tootache: Chamomilla : This may help those individuals with lowered pain threshold, three doses of 30 C over several hours prior to dental visit.

Antimonium crudum is use for a toothache that is worse at night and is aggravated by heat.

Aranea diadema: use for sudden, severe pain in the teeth after lying down.

Calcarea carbonica: use for a toothache that worsens when exposed to cold air or hot⁷.

Abscesses: Belladonna: This remedy indicated that red, inflammation, heat, throbbing and burning. Great children's

remedy. It acts up on every part of the nervous system producing active congestion. No thirst, anxiety or fear. Early dental abscess accompanied by redness. Which is aggravated by slightest touch.

Hepar sulph: in chronic abscess this drug every 6 hours is prescribed up to one day. Where abscess is is accompanied by pus formation, increased salivation and where gums are sour to touch and bleed easily,

Silicea: twice daily issued (6C) when the abscess starts to drain^[6].

Calendula dilute the tincture one part to 20 parts of water. Use as a gentle but effective mouth rinse.

Delayed Eruption of Teeth: Use Calc carb 6C twice a week.

Dry Socket: With throbbing pain use belladonna 6c every hours up to one day. Unbearable pain use coffea 30C every two hours up to one day.

Trauma: Injuries resulting in bruising or fractures use arnica 30C three times daily for chronic problems or every hours for acute injury for up to 6 doses. Arnica reduces shock, soreness and bleeding.

Apthous Ulcer: In nervous patient use borax 30C every 6 hours once up to two days.

Where ulcer occurs with foul breath and tongue is large retains the imprints teeth use merc col 6C every 6 hours once.

Mer sol and Nit acid also can use in apthous ulcers.

Gingivitis: Arnica for bleeding accompanied by bruised, soreness and painful gum tissues. Hypericum for tender gum tissue and to promote healing. Mercurius solubilis for acute ulcerative tissue with a coated tongue and metallic taste in mouth.

Periodontitis: With bleeding gums, foul breath and large tongue that retains the imprint of the teeth use merc sol 6C once daily. For bleeding gums with substantial loss of periodontal bone, use phosphorus 6C once daily up to 2 days.

Oral Cancer: The treatment of cancer can be quite successful with homoeopathy often in conjunction with allopathic medicines in advanced cases.

Remedies used for cancer of tongue includes – Apis mel, aurum mur, arsenic album, carbo animalis, lachesis, sepia. Post surgical remedies includes calendula officinalis, hypericum perf.

Disease Related To Trigeminal Nerve: Aconite: trigeminal neuralgia.

Ignatia: use for headache as if a nail were driven through the side of the head.

Aranea diadema: use for radiating pain in the right side of the face that is aggravated by cold. Also use for sudden, severe pain in the teeth at night after lying down.

Lachesis : left sided complaints.

Lycopodium : Right side complaints.

Sanguinaria: right side neuralgia, facial migraine. Emphasis On Conditions Involving Tooth Socket Post

Extraction: Belladonna is indicated that red, inflammation, heat, throbbing and burning. No thirst with fear.

Condition Related To Salivation: Baryta carbonica: use when there is excessive saliva during sleep.

Pulsatilla: use for diminished saliva with no thirst.

Disease Related To Temporomandibular Joint (Tmj): Arum

triphylum: use for pain in joint on swallowing

Calcrea flourica – use for hypermobile joints

Rhus toxicodendron: use for joint stiffness that improves with movement and for popping of TMJ.

Phytolacca: use for earaches with pain extending in to teeth, jaw and throat.

Discussion

Many people are now turning to Homoeopathy spurred on by the ill effects of conventional drugs and the desire to find a system that does not suppress the body's natural balance. Besides treating acute dental problems, homeopathic medicines have the capacity to treat various chronic dental problems. Since some chronic dental conditions result from general health problems of the person, homeopathic medicines which have the capacity to strengthen a person's overall health therefore can augment general dental hygiene in order to prevent and treat teeth and gum disease.

Dental treatment can never be completely natural but utilizing homeopathic principles can avoid some of the side effects and also make it more pleasant for the patient.

Depending on the dilution, or potency, a remedy can have differing depths of action, ranging from the biochemical/cellular level, down to the emotional/spiritual. In light of the heavy emotional aspects of dental diseases and their treatments, and considering the burden of heavy metal toxicity plaguing more and more people, homoeopathy could be a valuable method of supportive therapy.

Constitutional homeopathic prescribing involves analyzing a person's body type, temperament, disposition, and behavioral tendencies. Pathological prescribing is a treatment specifically for the disease or ailment. Homeopathy in holistic dentistry offers a combination of these. Thus, it is possible to prescribe one remedy to suit the general temperament or psychological state of a patient and another for the particular problem the patient is experiencing.

Conclusion

Homoeopathic medicines can play important role in anxiety related to dental treatments, useful for wide range of treatment for relatively mild acute conditions to complex chronic pathologies as complementary therapy. Homoeopathy is an emerging field of dental medicine that is usefully management of conditions affecting orofacial structures.

With advantages of minimal side effects and favorable treatment outcome. The use of homoeopathy in dentistry is an innovation that opens up new clinical opportunities, particularly since many symptoms of systemic diseases are observed in oral cavity. A note of caution should be applied, negative findings are being reported as would be expected as more studies are being performed and as more applications are being sought for the use of homoeopathy.

Overall, homoeopathy appears to be here to stay as part of the physician's armanmentarium for the prevention and

treatment of disease. Homoeopathy can be used as complementary therapy in dental health and to the overall well being of patients.

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