



International Journal of Homoeopathic Sciences

E-ISSN: 2616-4493

P-ISSN: 2616-4485

www.homoeopathicjournal.com

IJHS 2023; 7(1): 85-88

Received: 02-11-2022

Accepted: 09-12-2022

Dr. Madan Mohan Reddy

Associate Professor,
Department of Anatomy,
MNR Homoeopathic Medical
College and Hospital,
Sangareddy, Telangana, India

Dr. G Pooja

Intern, MNR Homoeopathic
Medical College and Hospital,
Sangareddy, Telangana, India

Utility of Kent's repertory in alcoholism: A case report

Dr. Madan Mohan Reddy and Dr. G Pooja

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33545/26164485.2023.v7.i1b.734>

Abstract

Chronic alcoholism is the most major problem in society. WHO estimates that the harmful use of alcohol results in the death of 3 million people annually. Homoeopathy is having wide scope in treating the cases of alcoholism as well as in de-addiction of alcoholism. Working out case with Repertory of homoeopathic Materia medica by J.T. Kent was effective in treating Acid peptic disorder due to alcoholism as well as de-addiction of alcoholism (evidence-based treatment).

Keywords: Alcohol use disorder, Kent repertory, Nux vomica

Introduction

Alcohol is a CNS depressant. Nowadays about 45 to 50% are current drinkers mainly adults, 20% are former drinkers and 30-35% are lifetime abstainers. When a person starts drinking alcohol, it is difficult to quit and becomes slowly addiction. Magun Huss was the first who introduced the word 'Alcoholism'. Arabic word Alkhul meaning essence was the derivation of alcohol word. There is a proverb by Japanese that says, "First the man takes a drink, then the drink takes a man". Homoeopathic medicines provide promising results in cases of both Alcohol addiction as well as Alcohol withdrawal. Homoeopathy ensures that the person is relieved from his or her sufferings completely with minimal chances of recurrence. Observational studies of homoeopathic intervention for this study directs towards its usefulness in not only breaking the cycle of dependence but also improving alcohol related disturbances [1]. A pilot study of effectiveness of Homoeopathy in Alcoholism, as it is about to know the employment of Homoeopathic medicines according to theory of individualisation, the study revealed that alcoholism shall be treated without consent and knowledge of patient with homoeopathic medicines, it offers 67.5% result in alcoholism within 180 days and Nux vomica 1M twice a day is highly effective in management of alcoholism [2].

Review of literature

The American Medical Association (AMA) defines cause of chronic alcoholism as "a primary chronic disease with genetic, psycho-social and environmental factors influencing its development and manifestations [3]. Alcohol use disorder (AUD) is a medical condition characterised by inability to stop or control alcohol use despite adverse social, occupational or health consequences. AUD can be of 3 stages- mild, moderate or severe [4].

Criteria for chronic alcoholism

- Being unable to limit the amount of alcohol, wanting to cut down or making unsuccessful attempts to do so, spending a lot of time in drinking [5].
- Failing to fulfil major obligations at work, school or home due to repeated alcohol use.
- Continuing to drink alcohol even though you know it's causing physical, social or interpersonal problems.
- Giving up easily or reducing physical and social activities and hobbies. Using alcohol in situations where it is not good, such as when driving or swimming.
- Developing a tolerance to alcohol so its effect needs to be felt by the person or person have a reduced effect from the same amount [6].
- Symptoms such as nausea, sweating and shaking are the withdrawal of alcohol [7].

Corresponding Author:

Dr. Madan Mohan Reddy

Associate Professor,
Department of Anatomy,
MNR Homoeopathic Medical
College and Hospital,
Sangareddy, Telangana, India

Alcohol has more effects on body & impacts directly or indirectly on almost every neurochemical system in the brain. Beverages have additional Component (Congeners - methanol, butanol, acetaldehyde, histamine, tannins, iron & lead) that changes drinks taste and effects on body. The rate of absorption of alcohol is increased by rapid gastric emptying by the absence of proteins, fats or carbohydrates. Heavy drinking in a fasting individual causes consistent hypoglycemia within 6-36 hours that decrease gluconeogenesis causes diabetes mellitus [8].

The relation between alcohol consumption and health outcomes is complex and multidimensional. Alcohol dependency cause social problems like absenteeism from work, child abuse, financial difficulties, depression and anxiety relieved by taking alcohol and vice versa, Alcohol hallucinosis, delirium tremens [7].

Identification of patient with alcohol use are: 2 blood tests are of gamma glutamyl transferase (GGT)(>35U), carbohydrate deficient transferring (>20U/L) with ≥ 60% sensitivity & specificity for heavy alcohol consumption, the combination of the 2 tests is more accurate than either alone [8].

Homoeopathy literature says, when symptoms are fully matched, it effects the cure rapidly & gently even of long standing and inveterate cases. Homoeopathy not only relieves immediate symptoms it also works to heal the underlying cause whether inherited, acquired or psychological & gradually helps the patient to restore his / her health. Homoeopathy has scope in treating both alcohol addiction as well as alcohol withdrawal [9].

The most indicated medicines which are frequently used in treating Alcohol use disorder as follows

- Nux Vomica:** Bad effects of alcoholic stimulants, highly spiced, over eating. Eructation's-sour, bitter, nausea and vomiting every morning with depression of spirits [11]. Desire for stimulants, constipation, with frequent ineffectual urging, incomplete and unsatisfactory stool [10].
- Selenium:** Headache of drunkards, after debauchery. Hungry, at night, longing for spirituous liquors, an almost irresistible maniacal desire [11]. Desire for brandy and other strong drinks [10].
- Ranunculus Bulbosus:** Bad effects of alcohol, delirium tremens. Spasmodic hiccough [10].
- Arsenic Album:** Gastric derangements after cold fruits, alcoholic drinks [10].
- LACHESIS:** Drunkards with congestive headache and haemorrhoids. Constipation, inactivity, tool lies in rectum, without urging, sensation of constriction of sphincter [11]. Craving for alcohol and oysters [10].
- Sulphur:** Chronic alcoholism, dropsy and other ailments of drunkards [11].
- Sulphuric Acid:** Heartburn, sour eructation craving for alcohol, water causes coldness of stomach must be mixed with liquor [10, 11].
- Syphilinum:** Craves alcohol [10]. Hereditary tendency to alcoholism, obstinate constipation for years [11].

Some of the rare Indian remedies for alcohol use Disorder

- Avena Sativa:** Sleeplessness especially of alcoholics [10].
- Quercus Glandium Spiritus:** Antidotes effect of

alcohol, takes away craving of alcoholics [10].

- Angelica:** In tincture, five drops, three times daily, produces disgust for liquor [10].
- Strophanthus:** Nausea with special disgust of alcohol and so aids in treatment of dipsomania- 7 drops of tincture [10].

Important rubrics of Chronic Alcoholism from Kents Repertory [12].

KENT-VERTIGO-alcoholic liquors
 KENT-HEAD-congestion hyperemia etc. (see fullness, pulsation) alcoholic liquors
 KENT-HEAD-pain, headache in general: Alcoholics (see spirituous liquor)
 KENT-HEAD-pain, headache in general: nail, as from a, alcoholics, after
 KENT-STOMACH-aversion: alcoholic stimulants.
 KENT-STOMACH-desires: alcoholic drinks.
 KENT-STOMACH-desires: alcoholic drinks: menses, before.
 KENT-STOMACH-hiccough: alcoholic drinks, after.
 KENT-RECTUM-diarrhea: alcoholic drinks, after.
 KENT-RECTUM-diarrhea: spirits (see alcoholic drinks).
 KENT-GENERALITIES-alcoholic stimulants.
 KENT-GENERALITIES-alcoholic stimulants.
 KENT-GENERALITIES-weakness, enervation (see lassitude, weariness): alcoholic drinks amel.

Follow-up criteria for Alcohol use disorder

- Level of irritability.
- Craving or desire for alcohol (Alcohol intake)
- About the appetite.
- Constipation.
- Cramping pain in stomach.

A case of Acid peptic disorder due to Alcohol use disorder cured by Nux vomica

Patient aged 45 years, male, working as labour in goods carriage. He is lean and whitish complexion. Presented with complaint of pain in abdomen in the last 3 months on and off, episodic. Cramping pain in epigastrium appear in morning and continuous till afternoon. Pain in epigastrium increases by taking food. Appetite decreased since the beginning of pain. He was under analgesics and antacids to suppress the pain. He is known case of hypertension since 20 years, under control with antihypertensives. Desires for alcoholic drinks³⁺ and having habit of alcohol intake for 20 years (120 ml/day) Bowels: constipation-stools hard, once in 2 days, unsatisfactory stool. Chilly patient. Irritable temperament ³⁺ and can't tolerate contradiction.

Case analysis and Evaluation

Irritable temperament ³⁺
 Anger on contradiction ³⁺
 Decreased appetite ²⁺
 Desires alcohol ³⁺
 Cramping, gripping pain in stomach
 Pain in stomach aggravated by eating ²⁺
 Pain in stomach aggravated on morning ²⁺
 Constipation unsatisfactory ³⁺
 Constipation – Stool hard ³⁺

Potential differential Field

Chilly patient Desire warm weather ¹⁺

Remedy Name	Nux-v	Lyc	Sep	Sulph	Lach	Bry	Nat-m	Phos	Puls	Kali-c	Sil	Nat-c
Totally	26	18	18	18	15	14	14	14	13	13	13	12
Symptoms Covered	10	8	8	7	6	7	6	6	7	6	6	7
Kingdom												
[Kent] [Mind]Irritability (see anger): (245)	3	3	3	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3	3
[Kent] [Mind]Anger,irascibility (see irritability,qua...	2	3	3			2					2	1
[Kent] [Stomach]Desires:Alcoholic drinks: (57)	3		2	3	3	1		2	2			
[Kent] [Stomach]Appetite:Diminished: (112)	1	2	1	1	2		1	1	1	1	1	1
[Kent] [Rectum]Constipation (see inactivity):Insuffic...	3	2	2	3		2	3			3	2	3
[Kent] [Stool]Hard: (164)	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	1
[Kent] [Stomach]Pain:Eating:After: (116)	3	3	3	3	3	2	2	3	3	2	2	2
[Kent] [Stomach]Pain:Morning: (36)	3	1	1	2	2		2	2	1	2		1
[Kent] [Stomach]Pain:Cramping,gripping,constrictin...	2								1			

Prescription: On 27/10/2021: 1. Nux vomica 200C, 1 dose 6 pills at night, for 3 days
 2. SL 15 days BD.
 Follow-up:

Date	Progress	Prescription
13/11/21	1. Cramping pain reduced. 2. Alcohol intake reduced. 3. Appetite increased. 4. Constipation not relived. 5. Irritability relived by 50%.	Nux vomica 200C, water dose 6 pills at night for 3 days followed by 15 days SL.
29/11/21	1. Constipation relived. 2. Appetite good. 3. Alcohol intake still reduced. 4. Irritability totally reduced.	SL for 1 month
29/12/21	1. Alcohol intake completely stopped. 2. Patient is gaining weight and complexion improved. 3. Appetite good and bowel movements regular.	SL for 1 month

From then up to now he doesn't have any craving for alcohol and his complexion improved, leading a good social life.



Fig 1: Show the before



Fig 2: Show the after

Results and Discussion

After evaluating the case through repertory and Materia medica, the final remedy given based on constitution is Nux vomica, 200c of one dose for each day for 3 days at bed

time. Improvement in first follow up were cramping pain decreased with reduced intake of alcohol and level of irritability decreased slightly and repeating the medicine after 15 days, constipation was relieved, appetite was good and alcohol intake still reduced. Later on, he was maintained on placebo for 1 month, he improved his complexion with complete stoppage of alcohol intake and slowly gaining of weight with improvement in his social life. Nux vomica helped the person for de-addiction of alcohol and many studies stated that it helps in removing the effects of alcohol after de-addiction.

Conclusion

In this case, after thorough investigation and evaluation of symptoms, Nux vomica was selected as a constitutional medicine. It has shown its action in deaddiction of Alcohol and relieving of Gastric complaints. Homoeopathy has scope in treating alcohol use disorder which was proved with above case presentation (evidence-based practice). Homoeopathy has wide range of medicines in treating different stages of alcohol use disorder as well as de-addiction of alcohol.

Acknowledgement: Nil

Author's contribution: Nil

Financial support and sponsorship: Nil.

Conflicts of interest: None declared.

Reference

1. Dr KN Nishkala. Alcoholism And Homoeopathy published in Homeopathy 360, Available from: Homeopathy Medicine, Remedies or Treatment for Alcoholism (homeopathy360.com)
2. Dr. Binimol. A pilot Study of effectiveness of Homoeopathy in Alcoholism, published in homeo book, February 11, 2012. Available from: alcohol-homeopathy.pdf (homeobook.com)
3. Casa Palmera. Chronic alcoholism; c2021 Jun 30th Available from: https://www.google.com/search?q=define+chronic+alcoholism&rlz=1C1RLNS_enIN792IN792&oq=define+chronic+alcoh&aqs=chrome.1.69i57j0i512i3j0i22i30l6.10799j0j15&sourceid=chrome&ie=UTF-8

4. Casa Palmera. Chronic alcoholism; c2021. June 30th
Available from: <https://casapalmera.com/blog/chronic-alcoholism/>
5. Stuart H. Ralston, Ian D Penman, Mark W J Strachan, Richard Hobson-Davidson's principles and practice of medicine 23rd edition, published by Elsevier, pg. no-1184.
6. Alcohol use disorder, 1998-2022 Mayo foundation for Medical Education and Research.
<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/alcohol-use-disorder/symptoms-causes/syc-20369243>
7. Dr. Eshwar Das. Alcohol Dependence and Homoeopathic Management, published by Zahid, NHP; c2016 Feb 15. Available from:
https://www.nhp.gov.in/Alcoholism-and-Homeopathic-Management_mtl
8. Jameson, Fauci, Kasper, Hauser, Longo, Loscalzo. Harrison's principles of internal medicine 20th edition, published by Mc Graw Hill Education; c2018.
9. Dr. Manish Bhatia. Homoeopathy for Alcoholism and Alcohol Addiction Treatment, published in Hpathy; 2019 Aug 27. Available from:
<https://hpathy.com/cause-symptoms-treatment/alcoholism/>
10. William Boericke. Pocket manual of Homoeopathic Materia Medica with Indian medicine and repertory, 9th edition, published by Indian books and periodicals publishers; 2016 Apr.
11. Allen HC. Keynotes rearranged and classified with leading remedies of the Materia medica added with other leading Nosodes and Bowel Nosodes, 10th edition, published by B. Jain publishers (p) ltd; c2016.
12. Dr. JT Kent. Repertory of the Homoeopathic Materia Medica, 6th American edition, published by B. Jain publishers (p) ltd; c2019.

How to Cite This Article

Reddy MM, Pooja G. Utility of Kent's repertory in alcoholism: A case report. International Journal of Homoeopathic Sciences. 2023;7(1):85-88.

Creative Commons (CC) License

This is an open access journal, and articles are distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution-Non Commercial-Share Alike 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-SA 4.0) License, which allows others to remix, tweak, and build upon the work non-commercially, as long as appropriate credit is given and the new creations are licensed under the identical terms.