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The study of spider group remedies and their clinical utility in day to day practice

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Abstract

SPIDER group remedies play a pivotal role in the organized world, but usage is limited in Homoeopathy. Only one to two drugs are well understood and utilized. Most Remedies sourced from this group are relatively small and not well documented. A 3 yrs PG project was taken up to gather all the literature available on this group drugs for better understanding and utilizing it in daily practice.

Keywords: Spider group remedies, drugs, remedies

Introduction

Group study Materia Medica is Trending in this era. Day to day the medicines are expanding in number, and now there are almost 6000 drugs in Homoeopathic Materia Medica. So it is very difficult to study and remember entire characteristics by individual study of drugs. This has led to evolution of this concept “STUDY OF DRUGS IN GROUP” in Homoeopathic Materia Medica.

Group study has made Homoeopathic Materia Medica more comprehensible, easy as well as time saving while prescribing. Group analysis is a language of remedies in a particular group. Here in group study, characteristic symptoms are compared and common symptoms are extracted.

In this project an attempt is made to extract characteristics, common to all spider group remedies, and it is utilized in clinical practice.

The English term “SPIDER” originally derived from the Anglo-Saxon word “spinnan” meaning “to spin”/ “one who spin”.

Classification of Spiders

Spiders belongs to the Kingdom Animalia, Phylum Arthropoda, Class Arachnida, Order Araneae. Mesothelae, Mygalomorphae, Araneomorphae are 3 suborders under order Araneae.

Important Spider Remedies in Homoeopathy

Although some of these remedies are not well proven, there are about 17 spider remedies being used in homoeopathy currently and the names of the drugs are as follows

17 spider remedies

Aranea Diadema	Aranea Ixobola	Aranea Scinencia
Atrax robustus	Araneum Tela (cobweb)	Lampona cylindrata
Latrodectus Hasselti	Latrodectus Katipo	Latrodectus Mactans
Loxosceles reclosa	Mygale Lasiodora	Pholcus phalangiodes
Portia fimbriata	Tarentula cubensis	Tarentula Hispanica
Tegenaria atrica	Theridion curassavicum.	

Group indications

Constitution

Useful for persons who are highly nervous, restless, hypersensitive, colourful personalities wearing colourful clothes, intelligent, cunning people who are active and quick in actions and reactions. These are the people with artistic traits. Temperament- they are irritable and nervous.

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Diathesis- tubercular. Miasm- predominantly tubercular, and syphilitic. Thermally - chilly.

Sphere of action

Acts on CNS, spine, peripheral nerves, blood, heart, skin, genital organs especially ovaries and uterus in females.

Ailments from

Unrequited love, scolding, punishment, fails bad news and sepsis condition.

Mental Generals

- They are mentally and physically restless people. They cannot be quiet in any position, must keep in motion though walking aggravates all complaints.
- They are Hyperactive, industrious, driven. Active, hurried, impulsive with rush of thoughts. Time passes too quickly for them. They have aversion to do any kind of work. They find pleasure in nothing. They are thrill seekers, look always for new and interesting. They are Fearless, brave, courageous and daring people. Spider people are jovial and friendly. They want to possess power.
- Hypersensitivity is well marked. Sensitivity to noise, sound, vibrations felt in the body, even slightest noise startles him from sleep, even scratching of linen or silk or even crackling of paper is unbearable. Sensitive to touch. Even slightest touch along spine provokes spasmodic pain in chest and cardiac region. Sensitive to bright colours. Aversion or fond of bright colours like red, yellow, green, black.
- All spider group persons are affected by music and dance. These patients are fond of fast music and violent dance. Violence is one of the strong features of spiders. There is violent anger, tearing of clothes, etc.
- Desire to hide and attack. Foxy and mischievous. Jumping, climbing ropes, pouncing. Joking, pranks, teasing, tricks, trickery, flattery, risk taking, defiant, outspoken, deceit, sly, selfish, cunning, plotting, conniving. Whimsical and quarrelsome. Humorous, teasing and cruelty. Revengeful. Power struggle, jealousy, revenge, feel small, powerless, female dominance.
- Apprehension, fear and anxiety. Great fear of death. Anxiety about one's family, and caring for the loved ones. Depression and sadness.
- Hysterical, causeless weeping, feigning and malingering. Hypochondriasis. They not only imagine as sick but also pretend to be sick when they are not. Emotionally imbalanced. Easily affected by emotions. Rapid mood changes.
- Fear and grief affects them seriously. Least contradiction affects them. Cheerfulness or gaiety alternating with anger, irritability. Attractiveness, sexuality, adornment. Fear of spiders or fascination with spiders.
- Depression and sadness is seen in many spider group remedies. Dyslexia, poor memory.
- Dreams and delusions of floating and flying.
- All mental symptoms are > by eating, walking.

Physical Generals

- Periodicity of complaints- the complaints occur

- periodically in same hour and annually in same period.
- Chronic fatigue is seen. They are weak, prostrated, tired, nervous exhaustion, lassitude, wants to lie down.
- Burning and stinging type of pains, compels them to walk on floors at nights.
- Termini of nerves are irritated in these remedies, so friction ameliorates. For ex- rubbing against pillow, rolling something between fingers, strong desire to dance etc.
- Hemorrhagic tendency is commonly seen in these remedies.
- Bones are affected. Caries and necrosis is seen.
- Craves for sand, bananas, raw food cold water, tobacco and alcohol. Aversion to meat and bread.
- Nervous excitability expressed physically as twitching, chorea, tremors, convulsions and sometimes paralysis also seen.
- Nausea and vertigo are common features in spiders.
- These are best for septic conditions.
- Growth and tumour formation is another characteristic of spiders.
- Uncontrollable sexual erethism, nymphomania is seen.
- Most of spider group remedies have disturbed sleep.
- all spider remedies have increased pulse rate.
- Modalities- < touch, cold, noise, damp weather, periodical, night.
- Smoking > many complaints and other ameliorating factors are open air, sun, relaxation, music, riding on horseback, sweating, rubbing, and smoking.
- Relationship- ledum-pal antidotes most of the spider group drugs.

Aims and Objectives

1. To collect the symptomatology of SPIDER group of remedies from various sources.
2. To see the clinical utility of SPIDER group of remedies in day to day practice.

Material Methods

To fulfill the aims and objectives, the present study was divided into following components:

Theoretical Study

In this study, various literature available about the study was taken which includes the following reviews.

1. Review related to literature of Spiders in general.
2. Review related to literature about Spider group of remedies.

Source of data: In this regard materials of the theoretical part were collected from different source books of *Materia Medica*, and from other sources.

Clinical Study

Clinical study was carried out in the Outpatient and Inpatient department of Dharma Kiran Govt. Homoeopathic Hospital attached to the J.S.P.S Govt. Homeopathic Medical College, Ramanthapur, Hyderabad, during the period of 2012 to 2015.

Results

Distribution of cases in relation with different Spider group remedies used in the study

Table 1: Distribution of cases in relation with different Spider group remedies

S. No.	Spider group remedies	No. of cases	Percentage
1	Tarentula Hispanica	12	40%
2	Aranea Ixobola	4	13.33%
3	Aranea Diadema	3	10%
4	Latrodectus Mactans	3	10%
5	Tarentula cubensis	2	6.67%
6	Theridion curassavicum	2	6.67%
7	Aranea Scinenci	1	3.33%
8	Araneum Tela	1	3.33%
9	Latrodectus Hasselti	1	3.33%
10	Mygale Lasiodora	1	3.33%
	Total	30	100%

The above table shows that, among the different Spider drugs used in the study, out of 30 cases, Tarentula Hispanica was indicated in 12 cases (40%), Aranea Ixobola was indicated in 4 cases (13.33%), Aranea Diadema was indicated in 3 cases (10%), Latrodectus Mactans was indicated 3 cases (10%), Tarentula cubensis was indicated in 2 cases (6.67%), and Theridion curassavicum was indicated in 2 cases (6.67%), Aranea Scinencia was indicated in 1 case (3.33%), Araneum Tela is indicated in 1 case (3.33%), Latrodectus Hasselti was indicated in 1 case (3.33%), Mygale Lasiodora was indicated in 1 case (3.33%).

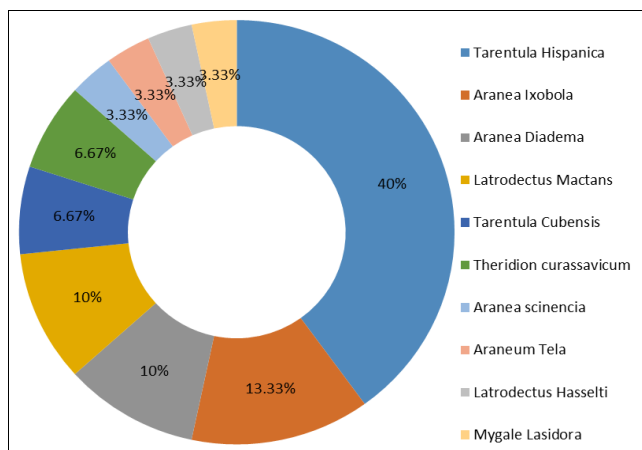


Fig 1: Distribution of cases in relation with different Spider group remedies used in the study

Table 2: Distribution of cases in relation to result of treatment

S. No.	Result	No. of cases	Percentage
1	Markedly improved	14	46.67%
2	Moderately improved	16	53.33%
3	No improvement	0	0
	Total	30	100%

Statistical Analysis

Paired t test is used here for statistical analysis of data. Here the efficacy of Spider group remedies in various clinical conditions is evaluated before and after giving medicines. Marks are given basing on the improvement of each and every case.

2 marks – marked improvement. 1 mark – moderate improvement. 0 mark – no improvement

This criterion is used to evaluate each case, before and after the treatment.

The table value of t at 29 degrees of freedom and 5% significance is 2.05 the result obtained is 16.22, which is more than the table value. So the result is highly significant.

This shows the efficacy of Spider group of remedies in various clinical conditions.

Discussion

The study of spider group, and their clinical utility confirmed the usefulness of these medicines as quoted in various books.

This study with 30 cases, where spider group remedies were indicated show the following results:

- The commonest age group where spider group of remedies indicated is in between 0-9 years, middle age persons. This shows its wide range of action in children and young adults.
- Out of 30 cases, there are 15 male patients (50%) and 15 female patients (50%). This shows that Spider group drugs acts equally on both sex.
- Out of 30 cases, there are 12 cases of Central nervous system, 6 cases of Skin, 3 cases of Genito urinary system, 2 cases of Gastro intestinal system, 2 cases of Loco motor system, 2 cases of Cardiovascular system, 1 case of Respiratory system, 1 case of ENT, 1 case of Infectious disease involved. So it shows that Spider group of remedies has wide sphere of action which is conformed with the literature available in the Textbook of Materia medica. This shows that its chief sphere of action of spider group remedies is Central nervous system.
- Out of the total 30 cases, 14 cases (46.67%) showed marked improvement, 16 cases (53.33%) showed moderate improvement, 0 cases (0%) showed no improvement in my study.
- Out of 30 cases, Tarentula Hispanica was indicated in 12 cases (40%), Aranea Ixobola was indicated in 4 cases (13.33%), Aranea Diadema was indicated in 3 cases (10%), Latrodectus Mactans was indicated 3 cases (10%), Tarentula cubensis was indicated in 2 cases (6.67%), and Theridion curassavicum was indicated in 2 cases (6.67%), Aranea Scinencia was indicated in 1 case (3.33%), Araneum Tela is indicated in 1 case (3.33%), Latrodectus Hasselti was indicated in 1 case (3.33%), Mygale Lasiodora was indicated in 1 case (3.33%).

Conclusion

Though we have adequate number of spider preparations we have literature on only some preparations. Hence many drugs are left without adequate literature so there is lot of scope to prove and do research on other preparations of this group.

The study included only a small group of 30 patients. So the study was limited to a very small sample size, which needs further study comprising a wide range of patients.

The limited period of study has its own limitations in the clinical study.

Conflict of Interest

Not available

Financial Support

Not available

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