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## Retrospective study on the effectiveness of tarentula hispanica in the management of attention deficit hyperactive disorder in children

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### Abstract

A Retrospective Cohort Study was conducted in Learning Disability Unit of Sarada Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College, where 30 children diagnosed with ADHD were chosen according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria. On analyzing the children before and after treatment, it was observed that the symptoms of ADHD manifest before the age group of 6 to 8 years in 46.6% cases and 9 to 11 years in 36.6% cases. This study showed a male predominance. Correlation of ADHD with maternal history during pregnancy was seen with maternal stress, Hypertension and Hyperemesis gravidarum. It was found that Milestone delay, Head trauma and Epilepsy also seemed to play its part as an etiological factor for ADHD. Here, Tarentula Hispanica was prescribed commonly in the potencies 1M and 200, which showed an astounding result with 80% cases having marked improvement. This implies that Tarentula Hispanica is an effective choice of treatment for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. In conclusion, this study signifies that Homoeopathy with its holistic approach is an ideal choice of treatment for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

**Keywords:** Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, homoeopathy, tarentula hispanica

### Introduction

Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), one of the most common neurodevelopmental disorder marked by steady patterns of inattention, impulsivity and hyperactivity [1]. Despite being very common, rudimentary data regarding the prevalence of ADHD in various countries and different populations has been unsatisfactory. Detection of ADHD is intricate due to the associating co morbid conditions such as learning disability, conduct disorder, and anxiety disorder that often accompany it. ADHD shows its prevalence in about 2 to 7% of children worldwide whereas a study conducted in Coimbatore shows the prevalence to be 11.32% which is higher than the global estimate. Various studies that were carried out in different parts of India propound the incidence between 2% to 17%, which is approximated that 10 million children suffer from ADHD every year [2].

Children with ADHD manifest a slew of behaviors that can simply upset their everyday living. The behavioral disturbances they exhibit have a tremendous impact on the social, academic and occupational functioning of the person and ultimately derange the quality of life of the individual. ADHD can occur alongside with several other psychiatric disorders such as Depression, Anxiety Disorders, Oppositional Defiant Disorders and Conduct Disorders. These co morbid conditions further more add on to the difficulties with relationships and social interactions of the patient [3]. Modern treatments for ADHD involve the administration of stimulants, non-stimulants and sometimes antidepressants. Stimulants are more widely used and act more rapidly, whereas non stimulants are not as rapid as stimulants. Still, both of these seem to reduce the symptoms of ADHD. In spite of reducing the symptoms, these medications have their own drawbacks. They appear to disturb the patient's health by causing various other derangements such as loss of appetite, weight loss, sleep problems, mood disturbances [4].

Homoeopathy lends a helping hand by providing a holistic approach where the patient is considered as a whole. Choosing the right Homoeopathic remedy is indeed an artful process that requires much skill. Looking into the characteristic features of the Arachnida group, it will be evident that it shares a close similarity with the symptoms of ADHD and especially on emphasizing Tarentula Hispanica [5], it will be helpful in finding the symptoms presented by an ADHD child that also run through the remedy.

Taking into consideration the associating co morbid conditions such as learning disability, conduct disorder, and anxiety disorder that often accompany it. ADHD shows its prevalence in about 2 to 7% of children worldwide whereas a study conducted in Coimbatore shows the prevalence to be 11.32% which is higher than the global estimate. Various studies that were carried out in different parts of India propound the incidence between 2% to 17%, which is approximated that 10 million children suffer from ADHD every year [2].

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**Materials and Methods**

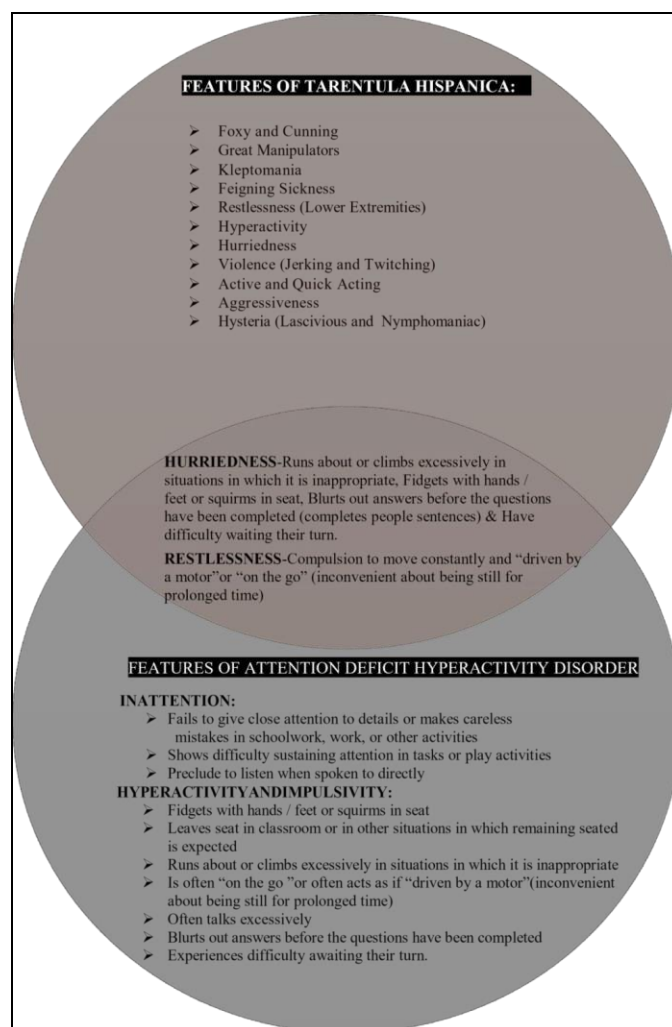
30 cases of ADHD whose general assessment was made using Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Parent Rating Scale and confirmed using the diagnostic criteria given in DSM V, prescribed with Tarentula Hispanica were identified from the Learning Disability Specialty Unit of Sarada Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital for the study.

**Selection of sample:** Sample size-30.

**Selection technique:** Purposive sampling.

**Type of study:** Retrospective Cohort Study.

**Relationship between tarentula hispanica and ADHD** [6,7].



**Source of data**

Thirty cases of ADHD whose general assessment was made using Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Parent Rating Scale and confirmed using the diagnostic criteria given in DSM V, prescribed with Tarentula Hispanica were identified from the Learning Disability Specialty Unit of Sarada Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital for the study.

**Selection of tool**

Data was collected from standardized case records of Sarada Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital. Vanderbilt ADHD Diagnostic Parent Rating Scale was used as the assessment criteria for evaluating the prognosis of the case.

**Inclusion criteria**

Children diagnosed with ADHD cases prescribed with Tarentula Hispanica. Both sexes. Children between the age group of 6 -15 years.

**Exclusion criteria**

Children with other systemic illness.

**Data collection procedures**

Data was collected from Learning Disability Specialty Unit of Sarada Krishna Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, sorted out on the basis of inclusion and exclusion criteria.

**Discussion and Results**

**Table 1:** Distribution based on age

Age	Number of Cases	Percentage
6 to 8	14	46.6%
9 to 11	11	36.6%
12 to 15	5	16.6%

**Table 2:** Distribution based on gender

Gender	Number of Cases	Percentage
Male	27	90%
Female	3	10%

**Table 3:** Distribution based on past history

Past History	Number of Cases	Percentage
Head injury	6	22.2%
Epilepsy	4	14.8%
Typhoid	4	14.8%
Recurrent Respiratory infection	3	11.1%
Measles	2	7.40%
Urinary tract infection	2	7.40%
Chicken pox	1	3.70%
Burns	1	3.70%
Chikungunya	1	3.70%
Fracture	1	3.70%
Mumps	1	3.70%
Dengue	1	3.70%

**Table 4:** Distribution based on family history

Family History	Number of Cases	Percentage
Mental stress during pregnancy	7	22.58%
Diabetes mellitus	6	19.35%
Hypertension during pregnancy	3	9.67%
Hyperemesis gravidarum	3	9.67%
Hypertension	3	9.67%
Asthma	2	6.45%
Rheumatism	2	6.45%
Cancer	1	3.22%
Eczema	1	3.22%
Hyperlipidemia	1	3.22%
Trauma on abdomen during pregnancy	1	3.22%
Thyroid dysfunction	1	3.22%

**Table 5:** Distribution based on milestone development

Milestone	Number of Cases	Percentage
Normal	19	63.3%
Delayed	11	36.6%

**Table 6:** Distribution based on potencies

Potency	Number of cases	Percentage
200	4	13.3%
1M	26	86.6%

**Table 7:** Distribution based on improvement

Results	Number of Cases	Percentage
Improved	24	80%
Not improved	06	20%

**Results and Conclusion**

On assessing the pre and post Vanderbilt Diagnostic Parent Rating Scales, following were the conclusions made: The symptoms of ADHD initially manifest before the age

group of 12 years in children i.e., 14 cases between the age group of 6 to 8 years and 11 cases between 9 to 11 years. 90% of cases were males which indicates that Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder is male predominant. 22.2% of cases had Head injury and 14.8% of cases had Epilepsy. Hence it might have correspondence with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. 22.58% of cases had maternal stress during pregnancy, 9.67% of cases had Hyperemesis gravidarum and Hypertension during pregnancy. Therefore, it might have correlation with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder 36.6% of cases had Delayed Developmental Milestones. Hence it might have relation with Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The commonly prescribed potencies were 1M and 200, which were found to be effective in the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. 80% of cases treated with Tarentula Hispanica had marked improvement. Therefore, it is effective in the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

The scores were statistically evaluated and thus we can conclude that Homoeopathic Medicines are effective in the treatment of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder.

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**Conflicts of interest:** None declared.

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### How to Cite This Article

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