

## HOMŒOPATHIC PROPHYLAXIS

DR. KHWAJA MUHAMMAD WAJEEHULLAH, M.A., B.T., DACCA

The word *prophylaxis* means the prevention of a disease. *Homœopathic prophylaxis* means the use of Homœopathic remedies in preventing diseases.

Prevention is better than cure. So Homœopaths should pay more attention to the prevention of diseases. Homœopathy offers a great scope in the field of preventive medicine.

According to Dr. A. H. Grimmer, "Homœopathic prophylaxis never causes anaphylaxis or shock, never results in secondary infection, never leaves in its wake serum or vaccine disease or any other severe reaction; it simply protects surely and gently."

The following are some of the Homœopathic medicines having prophylactic powers:—

*Aconite* prevents abortion from fright or excitement.  
—*Cowperthwaite*.

A dose of *Aconite* 1 given shortly before passing a catheter will prevent pain if there is any difficulty.—*Clarke*.

*Agnus Castus* prevents excoriation from walking.  
—*H. C. Allen*.

*Ammonium Carbonicum* will often abort a recent cold.  
—*Cowperthwaite*.

*Ammonium formaldehyde*, known commercially as *Cystogen* prevents the decomposition of urine in kidneys and ureters.—*Wm. Boericke*.

*Anagallis Arvensis* is . . . employed to prevent injurious effects from the bites of rabid animals.—*Blackwood*.

I use *Apis* as a prophylactic against diphtheria.—*Pierce*.

*Arnica* is a prophylactic of pus infection.—*Boericke*.

*Arnica* prevents suppuration and septic conditions.  
—*H. C. Allen*.

*Arnica* prevents post-partum haemorrhage and puerperal complications.—*H. C. Allen*.

*Arnica* given immediately after a blow, fall or physical shock, prevents pain and other ill-effects, local or constitutional.—*H. Fergie Woods*.

The strong tincture of *Arnica* applied to a wasp sting, prevents the pain and swelling, and in a couple of hours the sting is forgotten.—*M. L. Tyler*.

*Grauvogl* considered *Arnica* as remedy to prevent suppuration and particularly to hinder the absorption of pus and so prevent pyaemia.

*Arsenicum* is prophylactic against yellow fever.

*Baptisia* is prophylactic against typhus and typhoid.—*A. H. Grimmer*.

*Baryta Carb* not only prevents tonsillitis but also the otitis media that so frequently result from it.—*Blackwood*.

According to Hahnemann, *Belladonna* is the most sure preventive of hydrophobia.

*Belladonna* prevents air-sickness in aviators.—*Boericke*.

*Berberis* prevents the recurrence of boils.—*Dewey*.

In weaning *Bryonia* is used to prevent engorgement.—*Clarke*.

"When given in season *Calcarea Phosphorica* will often prevent marasmus.—*J. B. Bell*.

*Calcarea Renalis* prevents the formation of tartar upon the teeth.—*Blackwood*.

Dr. W. E. Leonard claims that in the 12x *Calcarea Sulphurica* will abort felons and furuncles.

*Calendula* prevents suppuration and pain in wounds.—*H. F. Woods*.

*Calendula Tincture* 1x diluted with an equal part of water is used to check bleeding and to prevent a wound from going septic.—*P. H. Sharp*.

*Camphor* is said to ward off a head cold if given at the time of exposure.—*Mills*.

*Camphoric acid* is employed as a prophylactic against catheter fever; also for prevention of night sweats.—*Boericke*.

*Carduus Marianus* has the reputation of preventing the further formation of stones.—*Karo*.

*Caulophyllum* is a powerful agent for the prevention of premature labour and miscarriage, provided the premonitions are pains of a spasmodic character.—*Tyler*.

*China* is used for the prevention of the formation of biliary calculus.—*Clarke*.

*Chionanthus Virginica* is said to prevent the formation of gall-stones and promotes the discharge of those already formed.—*Cowperthwaite*.

*Cistus Canadensis* aborts colds that center in posterior nose.—*Boericke*.

*Cocculus Indicus* 12 is used to relieve or prevent the type of sea-sickness characterised by great nausea, vertigo, faintness and loss of orientation.—*P. H. Sharp*.

*Cocculus* is said to prevent hernia when a weak feeling in the abdomen indicates that a hernia may take place, though the symptom is probably of a purely nervous character.—*Cowperthwaite*.

*Euphorbia Prostata* is employed as prophylactic to snake poison.—*Blackwood*.

*Fluoric Acid* will prevent the manifestation of disease (œdema of prepuce) in sycotic subjects, will prevent formation of warts.—*Kent*.

*Fragaria* prevents formation of calculi, removes tartar from teeth and prevents attacks of gout.—*Boericke*.

*Gelsemium* has also proved prophylactic against 'flu.—*Tyler*.

Its (of *Golondrina*) use also renders the body immune to the influence of the snake venom, and thus as a prophylactic. (*Indigo*).—*Boericke*.

*Helonias Dioica* prevents abortions which occur as the result of the slightest overexertion or irritating emotions.—*Blackwood*.

To prevent convulsions, (after bites of mad dogs) give *Hydrophobinum*, evening and morning, every week, until it produces fever, diarrhœa, etc.—*Hering*.

*Hypericum* prevents lockjaw.—Boericke.

Attacks of even chronic epilepsy, which only occur after mortification or some similar vexation (and not from any other cause) may always be prevented by timely administration of *Ignatia*.—Hahnemann.

*Ilex Aquifolium* is said to be of use as a prophylactic against sunstroke.—Boericke.

The remedy *Lath. sat.*, has given the most certain protection in thousands of cases exposed to polio through many epidemics over the last forty years.—A. H. Grimmer.

*Ledum* is a preventive medicine when an accident happens to the ends of the fingers, if a patient steps on a nail or tack or sticks a splinter under a finger-nail or into the foot. These punctured wounds, rat bites, cat bites, etc., are all made safe by *Ledum*; i.e., *Ledum* prevents the shooting pains that naturally come and the nerves will never be involved.—Kent.

*Lycopodium* is an important remedy early in the case to prevent the formation of renal calculi.—Blackwood.

*Lyssin* may be used as a prophylactic in hydrophobia.—Hering.

*Malandrinum* 30 has been given with great success as a preventive as well as a curative agent against and for variola.—Raue.

*Mercurius Cyanatus* prevents diphtheria.—H. F. Woods.

*Millefolium* is preventive in post-partum haemorrhage.—H. C. Allen.

*Morbillinum* has been used as a prophylactic against infection by measles.—H. C. Allen.

*Mucobacter* is a good prophylactic against 'flu.—H. F. Woods.

*Nux Vomica* 3 may prevent a cold if given early before the commencement of the running of the nose.—Cartier.

*Parotidinum* has been used as a prophylactic against infection by mumps.—H. C. Allen.

*Pertussin* is a very valuable and good protection against whooping cough.—A. H. Grimmer.

*Petroleum* has been employed as a prophylactic against sea-sickness.—*Blackwood*.

*Phosphorus* is said to act as a prophylactic and prevent the return of croup.—*Cowperthwaite*.

*Pilocarpine* should be used once daily as a preventive against mumps.—*Clarke*.

*Pituitrin* is used chiefly for its action on the uterus to check bleeding after delivery.—*Boericke*.

*Podophyllum* will often prevent hydrocephaloid when the symptoms accompany profuse, exhausting stools.—*Cowperthwaite*.

*Pulsatilla* tones up the uterus and prevents post-partum haemorrhage.—*Cowperthwaite*.

*Pulsatilla* is said to prevent whooping cough.—*Pulford*.

*Pulsatilla* is also preventive of measles, or administered during the disease, it tends to prevent sequelae.—*Ruddock*.

*Pyrethrum* is very useful in preventing and relieving the annoyance of mosquitoes, gnats, fleas, and bugs.—*Laurie*.

*Rhus tox* is prophylactic against chicken pox.—*F. Mackenzie*.

*Sabbatia Angularis* is employed as a prophylactic and cure in autumnal, periodic fevers.—*Blackwood*.

When employed early *Santoninum* is believed to have prevented puerperal convulsions.—*Blackwood*.

*Saponaria* will often "break up" a cold.—*Boericke*.

*Sarracenia Purpurea* is indicated in *variola*; it aborts the disease and prevents pustulation.—*Blackwood*.

*Silicea* is a remedy to prevent boils.—*Dewey*.

*Staphisagria* acts also as a prophylactic against styes.—*Pierce*.

We have, then, in *Sulphur* a true prophylactic of that dreaded epidemic (cholera). It may be used by placing a little *Flowers of Sulphur* inside of the stockings, as recommended by Dr. Hering several years ago.—*E. A. Farrington*.

The administration of the *Tincture of Sulphur* will, as our experience proves, act as a *preventive* against small-pox.—*Ruddock*.

*Tabacum* is employed as prevention for sea-sickness, car-sickness.—*H. F. Woods*.

*Terebinth* is recommended as a prophylactic in malarial and African fevers.—*H. C. Allen*.

*Thuja* is prophylactic against small-pox.—*Boenning*.

The strong tincture of *Urtica Urens* applied to a bee sting, prevents the pain and swelling, and in a couple of hours the sting is forgotten.—*Tyler*.

If *Tuberculinum bovinum* be given in 10m., 50m., and cm. potencies, two doses of each potency at long intervals, all children and young people who have inherited tuberculosis may be immuned from this inheritance and their resiliency will be restored.—*J. T. Kent*.

A dose of the 6x trituration of *Vaccinum* is a "Homœopathic vaccination" having, it is claimed by competent observers far more prophylactic power against small-pox than vaccination.—*Boericke* and *Tafel*.

*Vaccinum* is employed as a prophylactic against, and to modify the course of an attack of small-pox.—*Blackwood*.

As a preventive of, or protection against, small-pox, *Variolinum* is far superior to crude vaccination and absolutely safe from the sequelae, especially septic and tubercular infection.—*H. C. Allen*.

*Viburnum Opulus* will prevent miscarriage, if given before the membranes are injured, and when pains are spasmodic or threatening.—*Hale*.

Dr. Boericke towards the end of his famous *Materia Medica* gives us the following useful list of PROPHYLACTICS—

- Catheter fever ; Camph. ac.
- Cholera—Ars.; Cupr. ac.; Ver. a.
- Diphtheria—Apis (30) ; Diph. (30).
- Erysipelas—Graph. (30).
- Hay fever—Ars.; psor.

Hydrophobia—Bell.; Canth.; Hyos.; Stram.

Intermittent fever—Ars.; Chin. s.

Measles—Acon.; Ars.; Puls.

Mumps—Trifol. rep.

Pus Infection—Arn.

Quinsy—Bar. C (30).

Scarlet fever—Bell. (30); Eucal.

Variola—Ant. t.; Hydr.; Kali cy.; *Malandr.*; Thuj.;  
Vaccin.; Variol.

Whooping Cough—Dros.; Vaccin.

*Apis* and *merc.* are great remedies to ward off, or cure, hydrocephalus after scarlet fever.—*Pulford.*

With regard to prevention of hydrocephalus Dr. Von. Grauvogl says that in families in which hydrocephalic children have been born he has succeeded in preventing recurrence of cases by single alternate daily doses of Sulphur 6, and Calc. Phos. 6, given to the mother during the term of pregnancy—*Ruddock.*

The best prophylaxis against an epidemic disease would be the choice of a drug based on the doctrine of *genius epidemicus.*

As regards the potency to be used Dr. A. H. Grimmer writes that the 10M is a protective potency and the reaction is good at least for that epidemic. That holds good in all the protections that Dr. Grimmer has given—polios and all.

To those who do not admit the use of Homœopathic remedies for prophylaxis, Dr. G. Boericke beautifully states that practically certain Homœopathic remedies do also exert a prophylactic action. Certain symptoms are anticipated, as it were, and assumed to take a certain course—then a remedy which pictures this syndrome can be given with every chance of benefit.

Lastly, we shall do well to remember that an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure.

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