

# THE HAHNEMANNIAN GLEANINGS

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## EDITORIAL

### THINK IT OVER

Homoeopathic system of medicine has already taken strong roots in our country and it is quite unlikely that it will find disfavour with those who have experienced its invaluable benefits. The system is now fast spreading and has come to stay in the academic field as well. Recently the universities have also included it in their courses of studies. With the increasing popularity both at the academic and field levels our responsibilities have also increased.

There has been a long debate whether homoeopathic colleges need hospitals at all. Some feel that all the clinical training can be done at OPD level as there is not much of emergency to be handled. This means that only chronic diseases are to be handled but not the acute exacerbation of the chronic phase of a disease. But if we claim that Homoeopathy successfully handles acute conditions also then we must be equipped with hospital facilities for their successful handling. Are we prepared for this situation and how many homoeopathic hospitals attached to the teaching colleges can fulfil this need? Before we start developing this area, our teaching programme should incorporate all the necessary techniques to handle emergencies. Therefore, the universities and the CCH's academic committees are required to introduce the training in the curriculum. The times have changed now and if a homoeopath has to practise successfully, his ideas have also to be tuned to the need of the changed times though he must stick to the principle of *similar*.

Coming back to the in-bed facilities, apart from the material equipment, the quality of nursing staff needs a total change. The nurses must not only be trained in their job as per nursing curriculum, but must also be trained to be a keen observer as every homoeopath knows how vital it is for the selection of proper remedy. The progress of a patient depends upon correct observation of the nursing staff to be reported to the physician, for efficient selection of remedy. It is learnt that Kerala Government has started a course of training in the science of observation of signs and symptoms, modalities and their importance in treatment. A similar course of studies should be

introduced in all hospitals so that we can get trained nurses for the homoeopathic hospitals.

With respect to handling of emergencies, we may have to depend upon the staff of the modern medicine employed to teach in the homoeopathic institutions at least in the initial stage. Once our students are well trained, they can handle the emergencies on their own. Every homoeopathic hospital should have an emergency or casualty section. Even today most of us have a feeling that Homoeopathy cannot treat emergencies. This idea is to be changed.

In short the teaching homoeopathic hospitals should be fully equipped to handle all kinds of emergencies to develop in the student a confidence in Homoeopathy which is lacking today.

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