

Search for homoeo booster to control blood disorders

Centre Aids Research On Sickle Cell Anaemia

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Bhopal: In a bid to look for alternatives to treat sickle cell anaemia and its prevalence in primitive tribal population of the state, Bhopal-based Government Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital will carry out a research project.

Sickle cell anaemia is largely detected in primitive Bagia, Bharia and Saharia tribes concentrated in Annupur, Dindori and Chhindwara districts. The Union government-supported evaluation study would be conducted for three years, said government homoeopathic medical college and hospital associate professor Dr Nishant Shrivastava.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) states sickle cell disease as one characterised by a modification in shape of the red blood cell from a smooth, doughnut shape into a crescent or half-moon shape. The misshapen cells lack plasticity and can block small blood vessels, impairing blood flow. Carriers of the disease show signs of sickle cell, but are not affected. The patients, on the other hand, have anaemia and require medication periodically. A slight change in their routine medication can severely affect patients due to a drop in immunity even leading to death.

Prevalence of sickle cell anaemia is up to 20% in the tribes some of whom face a threat of extinction. The study would also utilise various research and interventions carried out by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR). The project would be a first to look at alternative interventions besides allopathic medication, said government homoeopathic medical college and hospital principal and superintendent Dr SK Mishra. It aims to address lacunae in the diagnosis, prevention and management of the disease.

Experts were speaking at international homoeopathic seminar on 'management of advanced blood pathologies in sickle cell disorders', organised by homoeopathic medical college here. About 400 doctors, scholars and PhD students from across MP participated in the seminar.

Sickle cell anaemia is a debilitating disease transmitted from parents to children. At present, there is no effective treatment for the ailment. Around 50% of the cases are reported from India, with Chhattisgarh, MP, Odisha, Jharkhand, and Andhra reporting a higher frequency.

EXPERTS WARN ABOUT QUALITY OF EDUCATION



Two day homeopathy conference concluded on Saturday

Registered homoeopathy practitioners in India more than doubled in the last two decades, largely due to an increase in the number of government and private medical colleges. On Wednesday, in a move to bring in transparency and accountability, the Union cabinet approved an ordinance which will replace the existing Central Council of Homoeopathy with a National Commission of Homoeopathy to regulate and standardise homoeopathy education and treatment in the country.

The system of alternative medicine developed in 1796 by Samuel Hahnemann, has seen a boom, but it comes with riders. Experts like Dr Farokh J Master warn about poor state of education and just about 20% of graduates sticking to the field.

Malaysian Experience In Curing Blood Disorders

Thalassemia and haemophilia are blood disorders common in the tribal population in east Malaysia. Dr Dayanandan



Dr Umesh Dayanandan | Malaysia

explained that there has been successful homoeopathic intervention by Cyberjaya University College of Medical

Sciences in Malaysia. He claimed that

a teenager suffering from haemophilia was cured of bleeding by almost 80%, thus improving his overall general immunity.

"Homoeopathy has been successful too in patients with terminal stages of a disease. The intervention makes the immune system stronger and more tolerant," he added.

"There is a realisation that compared to allopathic medicine, homoeopathy offers a more holistic approach to patient care," said Dr Dayanandan.

Homoeopathy Needs Quality Docs

Author of more than 50 books, Dr Farokh J Master, after almost 4 decades in homoeopathy is not impressed with the present state of education. He lauded the Modi government decision of creating a separate department for AYUSH, but said, "Let there be five or ten excellent homoeopathy colleges rather than 300 which fail to maintain the standards."



Dr Farokh J Master | Mumbai

"The challenge for the increase in number of patients turning to homoeopathy is to take it forward

in the right direction", Dr Master added.

The academic class is being neglected by the system and those who reach the top are usually not the best ambassadors for homoeopathy. "Those without skills will cause a decline in the science," Dr Master said.

"I would like to see a change where homoeopathy provides a viable alternative in India," said Dr Master. He said that self-medication for ailments such as cold and cough is acceptable, but it cannot be the same for serious ailments and conditions. He admitted that over the counter sales for homoeopathic medicines are increasing.

Indian Medicines Meet International Standards

Homeopathic approach to treatment has been successful in tribal areas along Bardoli (Gujarat). Dr Suvagiya claimed that intervention has led to fewer complications and in many cases, blood transfusions can be avoided. Overall, patients were energetic enough to live a healthy life. He reiterated that Indian made homoeopathic medicines were on par with international manufacturers.



Dr Mukund Suvagiya | Surat