

DIABETES AND HOMŒOPATHY

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Years ago I prescribed a drug for a patient who presented these symptoms : thick white coating on the tongue ; cracks in the corners of his lips, in nose and eyes and rectum ; coarse râles in his chest simulating capillary bronchitis, and cracks about the finger nails ; horn-like calluses on feet and hands ; gangrenous appearance of an injured heel. This patient had diabetes. The remedy gave him much relief and comfort. Instead of dying, he recovered, went back to his occupation and lived years longer. This was in those days when blood sugar tests were not to be had, and there was poor urine analysis equipment; but *Antimonium crudum* pulled him out of his trouble.

This gave me a real desire to know more about Homœopathy in diabetes, and a desire to know why and how our drugs improve the diabetic. Without blood sugar tests and with urine analysis alone, one could learn when he helped diabetic patients.

In 1946 the Research Committee of the Homœopathic Medical Society of the State of Pennsylvania had a study made of 20 drugs at Hahnemann Medical College and Hospital. The committee found that *Antimonium crudum* 3x would reduce blood sugar 6.9 to 40.9 mg. of blood sugar in 100 c.c. of blood in a period of 29 days.

Apis mell. ♂ showed a tendency to normalize the patient. *Baryta carb.* 30x elevated blood sugar by as much as 23 mg. per 100 c.c. of blood. *Cocculus indicus* showed increases up to 35 mgs. per 100 c.c. of blood. *Colchicum* normalized blood sugar. *Echinacea angustifolia* normalized blood sugar. *Cactus grandiflorus* normalized blood sugar. *Iberis amara* varied up and down. *Myrica* lowered blood sugar. *Nux moschata* normalized up or down.

According to the report of the Research Committee, the blood sugar was influenced by the following drugs : *Antimonium crud.* 3x ; *Apis mell.* 1x ; *Baryta carbonica* 30x ; *Cactus grand.* 1x ; *Cocculus ind.* 3x ; *Colchicum* 3x ; *Cuprum ars.* 2x ; *Ipeca-*

cuanha 30x; *Iris vers.* 1x; *Merc. corr. sub.* 3x, 200x; *Myrica* ϕ ; *Nux mosch.* 30x.

According to my experience, the following remedies have worked well: *Antimonium crudum* 3x; *Echinacea* ϕ ; *Gelseminium* 2x; *Capsicum* 6x; *Pulsatilla* 30x. They must be selected according to homœopathic principles.

In order to get ready for the selection of a remedy, consider the following:

1. Chief complaint from patient symptoms and blood sugar.
2. Personal history.
3. Physical examination.

Suppose you would have symptoms as follows: heavily whitecoated tongue; fissures or sores in ears; fissures in corner of eyes; fissures in corner of mouth; fissures in corner of nostrils; fissures on fingers; fissures on toes; callus on feet; callus on hands; high blood sugar.

If you do not know the remedy, have a means to get the remedy, and a repertory is the thing to use. There are a number of them. It is well to get acquainted with a few of these. Bœninghausen's *Therapeutic Pocket Book* is one; Kent is a more complete repertory. Diet is essential. In fact, many diabetics get along well through controlled diet under the action of the simillimum.

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