

## WEB INFORMATION

### Chikungunya and Homoeopathy SEARCH ON INTERNET O.P.Verma\*

*"The greatest gift is a passion for reading. It is cheap, it consoles, it distracts, it excites, it gives you knowledge of the world and experience of a wide kind. It is a moral illumination."*

— Elizabeth Hardwick

Chikungunya virus was first isolated from patients during an epidemic in Tanzania in 1952-53.

Chikungunya is a Makonde word (one of the local languages in Tanzania) meaning '*that which bends up*', and describes the symptoms caused by the severe joint pains that usually accompany the infection.

Chikungunya virus is highly infective and disabling but is not transmissible between people. It would most likely be dispensed as an aerosol or by the release of infected mosquitos. The disabling joint pain and fever, the lack of a suitable animal reservoir in Western countries and its lack of lethality make it a very "clean" weapon that could be used against key civilian installations.

Chikungunya is one of a group of arboviruses (viruses transmitted by insects) transmitted by mosquitoes, usually of the *Aedes* spp, which tend to bite during daylight hours. The illness characteristically begins with rapid onset of joint pains and may or may not be accompanied by muscle pain, high fever, conjunctivitis, and a rash. The severity of the illness varies and tends to be less severe in children. Most patients recover after a few weeks but a small proportion of individuals may experience chronic joint pain for some years. Deaths related directly to infection with chikungunya virus have not been documented to date, but chikungunya virus may be a contributing factor in the death of some individuals with underlying health problems.

This article is intended for busy scientists engaged in research work in the field of Chikungunya to help them reap the benefits of the Internet without surfing too much for locating the resources.

[www.who.int/csr/don/2006\\_02\\_17a/en/](http://www.who.int/csr/don/2006_02_17a/en/)

Between 28 March 2005 and 12 February 2006, 1 722 cases of chikungunya have been notified by physicians from a sentinel network in La Réunion, including 326 cases reported during the week 6 to 12 February. Estimations from a mathematical model indicate that 110 000 people may have been infected by chikungunya virus since March 2005 in La Réunion, including 22 000 persons during the week 6 to 12 February. During the first week of February, other countries in the south west Indian Ocean have reported cases: Mauritius (206 cases) and the Seychelles (1 255 cases).

Because of the extensive outbreaks in the region, WHO is planning to send a team from the Regional Office for Africa (AFRO) and headquarters to assess the control measures under way. These include anti-vectoral activities; an extensive public health education campaign using mass media to sensitize the population about protective measures; and reinforcement of epidemiological surveillance and vectoral surveillance.

· [www.vadscorner.com/chikungunya.html](http://www.vadscorner.com/chikungunya.html)

This page is dedicated to Chikungunya virus. This page will be updated as and when information is available. Comments/Suggestions related to this site, if any may sent by e-mailing to the Council mentioning the link in the guestbook. The Council reserves the right to moderate these links.

· [www.chikungunya.co.uk/2006/06/homeopathic-cure.html](http://www.chikungunya.co.uk/2006/06/homeopathic-cure.html)

Looking at the outbreak of Chikungunya fever and possible remedies and cures. The *New India Press* talks of the assertion of Dr A N Sundaresh from the Homeopathy Medical Association of India. At the moment there appears to be no cure to this contagious disease in traditional medicine, only the control of symptoms is offered. He said that homeopathy can help fight against the disease with *Eupatorium perf.*, *Rhus tox.*, *Pyrogenium* and *Gelsemium* being the most effective.

· [www.hpathy.com/diseases/chikungunya-symptoms-treatment-cure.asp](http://www.hpathy.com/diseases/chikungunya-symptoms-treatment-cure.asp)

Homeopathy offers many medicines which may help in Chikungunya. These include medicines like *Eupatorium-perf.*, *Pyrogenium*, *Rhus-tox*, *Cedron*, *Influenzinum*, *China*, *Arnica*, *Belladonna*, *Bryonia* etc. Many homeopaths consider *Eupatorium perf.* as a preventive medicine for Chikungunya. The most commonly suggested potency as prophylaxis is 200C of *Eupatorium perf.* *Eupatorium Perfoliatum Q* (tincture, 3 to 5 drop dose) will remove the debilitating joint pains and cut short the intensity and duration of the disease. Other potencies may be used according to the intensity of the case.

· [www.chennaionline.com/health/Homoeopathy/2006/09homeo101.asp](http://www.chennaionline.com/health/Homoeopathy/2006/09homeo101.asp)

The World Health Organisation has not declared or authenticated any drug against chikungunya till now. Since chikungunya seems to be a self-limiting viral fever and has no specific treatment till now, conservative treatment will be usually given with the advice of bed rest, anti-pyretic drugs (like Paracetamol, Crocin, etc.) and analgesics. One need not go in for antibiotic treatment unless the situation requires it. Also, one should be aware that chikungunya fever is caused by virus and not by bacteria to have antibiotics. In spite of ineffectiveness of antibiotics against viral infections, if one opts for antibiotic treatment, they may often face drug effects with weakened stamina.

In Homeopathy, medicines are usually selected with the mode of onset of complaints, characteristic symptoms of the patient with respect to appetite, thirst, sweat, shivering, mental restlessness, sleep, urine, stool habits, and the character of the disease and its exciting cause, etc. A well-selected remedy quickly supports the body mechanism and clears the complaints at the earliest.

· [www.homeopathyhelps.com/chikungunya.htm](http://www.homeopathyhelps.com/chikungunya.htm)

In conventional system of medicine, no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for chikungunya fever is available, treatment is symptomatic - rest, fluids, and analgesics (pain killers) may relieve symptoms of fever and pain. But Homeopathy has very effective treatment for Chikungunya. Also prevention can be achieved by administering Homeopathic "Genus Epidemicus". Homeopathic medicines are equally effective for post-chikungunya complaints like weakness, stiffness in joints, muscles pain etc. Infected persons should be protected from further mosquito exposure (staying indoors and/or under a mosquito net during the first few days of illness) so that they can't contribute to the transmission cycle.

· [www.uardt.org/news/freehomeocamps.aspx](http://www.uardt.org/news/freehomeocamps.aspx)

In view of the escalating epidemic, the Medical Tsunami "Chikungunya, Umar Alisha Rural Development Trust, Pithapuram, a Non Governmental Voluntary Organization at Pithapuram, Andhra Pradesh, INDIA (Regd No: 19/ 2000), has organized six free Homoeopathic Medical Camps in various parts of Andhra Pradesh, India.

These camps were conducted to create awareness among the public about the disease and to create awareness about the Scope of Homoeopathy in the prevention and Treatment of Chikungunya. The people were advised to take mosquito eradication measures and maintain good sanitation, and consume

the Homoeopathic Medicine - Eupatorium Perf 200, 4 pills per day for 3 days which helps as a prophylactic. They have been emphasized that Homoeopathic medicine is giving good results for chikungunya fever and also for post fever arthritis.

· [www.irishhomeopaths.com/](http://www.irishhomeopaths.com/)

There is a story isaying the the Andhra Pradesh government is distributing homeopathic remedies to treat the disease. Readers of this site will already know of Homeopathy's track record in epidemics and in India the remedies Rhus. Tox., Eupatorium and Bryonia have been recommended as being effective, all common remedies standard kits.

· [www.chikungunya-fever.com/23-Facultate-magis-quam-violentia-Chikungunya-HIPPOCRATES.htm](http://www.chikungunya-fever.com/23-Facultate-magis-quam-violentia-Chikungunya-HIPPOCRATES.htm)

The microscope, which has made a new science of the intimate structure of the organs, has at the same time cleared up many uncertainties concerning the mechanism of the special functions. But to suppose that men with minds so constituted as to accept such statements and embrace such doctrines as make up the so-called science of Homoeopathy are more competent than others to regulate the circumstances which influence the human body in health and disease, would be judging very harshly the average capacity of ordinary practitioners.

· [www.similima.com/general.htm](http://www.similima.com/general.htm)

As per the guidelines laid down by Dr. Samuel Hahnemann in the Organon a Genus epidemics has to be found out in the specific area and it could be the best to be found out in the specific area and it could be the best prophylactic remedy.

Many homeopaths consider Eupatorium perfoliatum as a preventive medicine for Chikungunya. The most commonly suggested potency as prophylaxis is 200C of Eupatorium perfoliatum. As per the reports the homoeopathic remedies useful for propylaxis are - Eupatorium Perfoliatum, Gelsemium, Rhustox, Bryonia Alba, Ars alb ,Aconite and Polyporus.

· [www.similimumsoft.com](http://www.similimumsoft.com)

Eupatorium Perfoliatum is the genus epidemicus for present attack of Chikungunya in Kerala. As preventive, this drug in 200c potency, three doses a day, for three days. For treatment, this drug can be given every 3 hrs.

· [www.ailments.in/chikungunya.html](http://www.ailments.in/chikungunya.html)

Chikungunya is an infection caused by an antivirus which was first isolated from a fever patient in Tanzania in 1953. It has been detected regularly in Asia and Africa, but the first outbreak in India was detected in 1965. The last outbreak was detected in 1973 in Barshi, Solapur, Maharashtra. The outbreak lasts for a few years and then disappears as people develop immunity.

· [www.khojhyderabad.com/News/Fullstory.asp?q=66264](http://www.khojhyderabad.com/News/Fullstory.asp?q=66264)

The Ayurveda, Unani, Sidda and Homeopathy (AYUSH) department conducted a 'Free Chikungunya Homeopathic medicine distribution' camp with the co-ordination of 'Andhra Pradesh Brahmana Seva Sangha Samakya' at Ramnagar.

On the occasion Dr. Muralidhar Prasad, of Government Homeopathy Dispensary, Chikkadapally said their department is distributing the medicine free of cost as per the direction of the Government. The medicine is very useful to prevent the 'Chikungunya Fever'. It is to be used for three days and does not give any side effect she said. The department distributed the medicine to nearly three thousand people in the camp.

Mr. Dronamraju Ravi Kumar, President, Mr. Ruyyuru Shesha Sai, General Secretary, Mr. Koundinya Ravi Kumar and other members of the Samakhya participated in the camp.

[www.homeopathyhelps.com/chikungunya-treatment.htm](http://www.homeopathyhelps.com/chikungunya-treatment.htm)

Patients who have contracted Chikungunya Virus infection are found to have incapacitating joint pain or arthritis, stiffness and swelling of joints for weeks or months. Many Chikungunya patients cannot do their routine work for several weeks after illness due to debilitating stiffness and joint pain, weakness etc. Additionally, some patients have reported prolonged fatigue lasting several weeks. Loss in terms of absence at work is very huge.

Homeopathic drugs like Sulphur, Lycopodium, Colchicum, Ledum Pal, Arnica, Eupatorium Perfoliatum, Ruta etc. when given according to symptoms of the patients, relieves sufferings after Chikungunya very effectively.

[www.homeopathyhelps.com/chikungunya.htm](http://www.homeopathyhelps.com/chikungunya.htm)

In conventional system of medicine, no vaccine or specific antiviral treatment for chikungunya fever is available, treatment is symptomatic - rest, fluids, and analgesics (pain killers) may relieve symptoms of fever and pain. But Homeopathy has very effective treatment for Chikungunya. Also prevention can be achieved by administering Homeopathic "Genus Epidemicus". Homeopathic medicines are equally effective for post-chikungunya complaints like weakness, stiffness in joints, muscles pain etc. Infected persons should be protected from further mosquito exposure (staying indoors and/or under a mosquito net during the first few days of illness) so that they can't contribute to the transmission cycle.

---