

Clinical Verification

Hygrophila spinosa

(Symptoms Clinically verified under CCRH)

Introduction

Botanical name *Astercantha longifolia* Nees¹

Synonyms *Hygrophila spinosa* T. Anders¹
Hygrophila auriculata
(Schum.) Heine¹

Family (Natural order) Acanthaceae

Common Names

Hindi *Talmakhana, Gokshura*²

Marathi *Talimakhana*²

Telugu *Nirguviveru*²

Bengali *Kuliakhara*²

Sanskrit *Ikshugandha, Kokilaksha*²

Description

It is an indigenous spiny bush and is common throughout India. Though whole plant has been used medicinally but root & leaves are used more. In the ancient times it was used for renal stones, skin disease, dropsy and sleeplessness.

No systematic proving of the plant has been made but a tincture has been prepared and being used by some physicians in urticaria which generally appears in summer and its symptoms get worse from heat or warmth. Its efficacy is surely found in some of the skin diseases that are worse from heat and better from cold.

Part used in preparation of Homoeopathic Medicine Whole fresh plant and root

Source of Drug

Hahnemann Publishing Company Pvt.Ltd,
Kolkata (West Bengal)

Period of study

April 1984 - March 2003

Potencies used

Mother tincture, 6, 30, 200

Number of cases studied

2396

Clinical Verification study conducted at

- A. Regional Research Institute (H), New Delhi
- B. Homoeopathic Drug Research Institute, Lucknow (U.P.)
- C. Homoeopathic Research Institute, Jaipur (Rajasthan)
- D. Clinical Research Unit, Jammu (J&K)
- E. Clinical Verification Unit, Ghaziabad (U.P.)
- F. Clinical Verification Unit, Patna (Bihar)
- G. Clinical Verification Unit, Vrindavan (U.P.)

Clinically verified Symptoms

Location	Symptom	No. of patients	
		prescribed	relieved
Vertigo	Vertigo & giddiness with general weakness ^N	4	4
Head	Headache with dyspnoea agg. exertion, ascending ^N	2	2
	Bursting headache in forehead ^N	4	4
	Coryza, sneezing with thin nasal discharge & cough ^N	2	2
Nose		118	81
✓ Stomach	Anorexia ^N	28	15
✓ Abdomen	Cholecystitis ^N	22	10
	with cholelithiasis ^N	7	6
	with colicky pain ^N		
	Flatulence agg. eating after with distension of abdomen amel. by passing flatus ^N	15	15
	✓ Pain in abdomen in umbilical region ^N	4	4
Rectum	Constipation- dry hard stools ^N	47	27
	Loose stools with rumbling in abdomen ^N	2	2
✓ Urinary System	✓ Renal calculus ⁴	49	40
	with colicky pain in right kidney region ^N	8	8
	✓ Frequent urine with burning micturition ^N	51	44
✓ Female genitalia	✓ Leucorrhoea ⁴	94	73
	with thick whitish discharge ^N	12	12
	with thin whitish discharge ^N	3	3
	with pain in lower abdomen ^N	2	2
✓ Extremities	✓ Rheumatic pain in joints ⁴	99	76
	agg. at night ^N	6	5
	✓ agg. on movement & cold application ^N	61	56
	in elbow & wrist joints ^N	1	1
	agg. from sun ^N	1	1
	Pain in knee joints amel. ascending stairs ^N	2	1
	Pain in left leg, aching agg. standing, walking ^N	1	1
✓ Sleep	✓ Insomnia ⁴	236	177
✓ Skin	✓ Prickly heat like eruptions with itching ⁴	82	75
	✓ Small dry reddish eruptions with itching ^{3,4}	362	280
	agg. at night ^N	18	18
	✓ agg. from heat, amel. by cold application ⁴	286	222
	agg. scratching, bleeds after scratching ³	3	3
	agg. undressing ^N	4	4
	agg. sweat ^N	2	2
	agg. morning ^{3,4}	1	1
	with fever ^{3,4}	4	4
	✓ Urticaria with itching, burning ^{3,4}	1057	780
	✓ agg. from heat amel. from cold ⁴	879	665
	with fever ⁴	25	19
	recurrent in nature ⁴	2	2
	agg. evening ^N	3	3
	agg. at night ^N	4	4
	with pain in joints ^N	2	2
	with sleeplessness ⁴	1	1
	itching followed by burning ⁴	11	11
	with loose stools ^N	2	2
	with dry cough agg. at night ^N	2	2
with thirstlessness ^N	2	2	
agg. from tight cloth, summer, amel. in open air ³	19	11	

Location	Symptom	No. of patients	
		prescribed	relieved
	amel. by covering ³	5	2
	with puffiness of face ³	2	2
	with restlessness ³	2	2
	Blackish eruptions with itching		
	agg. under sun, summer & rainy season ^N	4	4
	Itching over the whole body without eruptions with redness, burning after scratching agg. evening & night ³	15	13
Back	Pain & stiffness in lumbar region ^N	13	13
	Burning sensation on back with eruptions agg. heat ³	1	1
✓Fever	✓Fever agg. morning, without chill ⁴	117	64

Observations

- The drug picture, given below, is drawn from the data obtained during the course of clinical verification study. The symptoms observed in less than 30 patients have been excluded.
- The symptoms are also grouped, with a view to segregate more significant symptoms from trivial symptoms as:
 - symptoms superscribed with the number(s) denote the source of particular reference book and are found both in the literature and also verified clinically by CCRH, and
 - symptoms superscribed with the alphabet 'N' are those observed in the course of clinical verification only.

Drug picture

- Anorexia^N
- Constipation- dry hard stool^N
- Frequent urine with burning micturation^N
- Renal calculus⁴
- Leucorrhoea⁴
- Rheumatic pain in joints⁴
- < on movement & cold application^N
- Insomnia⁴
- Prickly heat like eruptions with itching⁴
- Small dry reddish eruptions with itching^{3,4}
- agg. from heat amel. by cold application⁴

- Urticaria with itching & burning^{3,4}
- agg. from heat amel. from cold⁴
- Fever agg. morning without chill⁴

Conclusion

Clinical conditions: Anorexia, Renal calculus, UTI, Leucorrhoea, Rheumatic pains, prickly heat, Urticaria, Fever.

Prescribing Symptoms:

- Frequent urine with burning micturation*
- Rheumatic pain in joints*
- < on movement & cold application*
- Prickly heat like eruptions with itching*
- Urticaria <from heat >from cold*
- Small dry reddish eruptions with itching*
- <at night*
- <from heat >by cold application*

References

- R.N. Chopra, *Glossary of Indian Medicinal Plants*, CSIR, 1980, p 138.
- Wealth of India*, Vol 5 CSIR, 1959, p 148.
- William Boericke, *Pocket Manual of Homoeopathic, Materia Media & Repertory*, B. Jain publishing company, New Delhi, 1987.
- Sarat Chandra Ghose, *Drugs of Hindoosthan, Seventh edition*, Hahnemann Publishing Company Pvt. Ltd., Kolkutta. 1974, p 192-195