

ALLOPATHY HAS THE SECRET OF HOMŒOPATHIC MINIMUM DOSES

(A Clue to Synthesis)

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In view of the fact that a heap of ridicule has been cast on homœopathic small doses it will be interesting to know how allopathy furnishes the true explanation of the need for infinitesimal doses in homœopathic treatment.

Allopathy has, from antiquity, forbidden the use of specific remedies: "Where experience showed the curative power of homœopathically acting remedies, whose mode of action could not be explained, the difficulty was avoided by calling them *specifics*, and further investigation was stifled by this actually unmeaning word. The homogenous excitant remedies, the specific (homœopathic) medicines, however, had long previously been prohibited as of very injurious influence."—

Rau, *On the Value of the Homœopathic Method of Treatment*, Heidelberg, 1824, pp. 101, 102. Now what is a specific remedy? The meaning of the word *specific* seems to have undergone a change; any medicine credited with the virtue of positively removing a particular disease is now-a-days called a specific, e.g. Neo-Salvarsan is called a specific for Syphilis, or, rather, was considered so in the beginning until many brands of the same had to be manufactured in order to suit different types of Syphilis; even time-honoured Mercury had to be re-introduced.

But originally a drug which had the power of producing a disease was apt to be called the specific for that particular disease. For instance, Potassium iodide produces cold in the head, so, it is a specific for cold. It appears to be common sense that a man having diarrhoea should not be given a drug which causes loose motions. That is why allopathy has put

forward the proposition: Specifics should not be used in diseases.

To this thesis Hahnemann puts forward his antithesis: "Those that would certainly be of benefit could be none other than the specific medicines, that is, those whose action is homogeneous (Homœopathic) to the morbid irritation; whose employment, however, is denounced and forbidden by the old school as highly injurious, because observation has shown that in consequence of the receptivity for homogeneous irritation being so highly increased in diseases, such medicines in the usual large doses are dangerous to life. The old school never dreamt of smaller, and of extremely small doses. Accordingly no attempt was made to cure, in the direct (the most natural) way, by means of homogeneous, specific medicines; nor could it be done, as the effects of most medicines were... unknown, and even had they been known it would have been impossible to hit on the right medicine with such generalising views as were entertained."—(Introduction to *Organon*).

In the earlier part of his homœopathic practice Hahnemann himself could not dream of "smaller and of extremely small doses", he used to employ big doses; he was compelled to minimise the doses in order to reduce the force of aggravation, which has been found almost like a necessary evil, the pangs of childbirth, for the happy ushering of radical cure. The rightly selected homœopathic remedy has the tendency to act vehemently on the diseased parts. A law of elective affinity seems to be at work with unerring precision. This experience and observation of Hahnemann corroborate, the experience and observation of the master allopaths of yore, who had inculcated the total prohibition of specifics in the field of allopathic treatment.

The underlying truth of this prohibition seems to be so great that Hahnemann did not succeed in overcoming serious homœopathic aggravation, at least in some susceptible cases in spite of reducing the dose to the utmost degree he could, *viz.*, 0/30, the 30th degree of his latest innovation of 50 millesimal scale, in which every succeeding degree contains 50, 000th part of the medicine content present in the preceding degree.

This power of aggravation itself becomes the power of healing when the patient can be made to tolerate the specific through the ingenious resourcefulness of the prescriber. In reply to a query as to how far this dilution and potentiation could be carried on, Hahnemann replied: "So long as the power of aggravation is retained". But this power of aggravation would make itself known only in cases of susceptible patients who appear to be allergic to the specific remedies.

The homœopathic aggravation, if not too violent, should be welcomed. "This so-called homœopathic aggravation is a sign of an incipient cure". (Hahnemann). Too violent aggravation should be anti-doted.

In delicate cases, when the patient could not tolerate even teaspoonful doses out of a solution of a pilule, in a glass of water, Hahnemann would put a tablespoonful of this solution into a fresh glass of water, stir it well and then give it again in teaspoonful doses; sometimes he had to use a third, even a fourth, glass of water in the above mentioned way before he succeeded in making the patient tolerate his specific remedy and bring about the cure.

Dr. Kent was in favour of rejecting the medicine that causes tremendous aggravation even if it were the 'similimum', the most similar remedy.

In fact, sometimes a less similar remedy is better tolerated with benefit and paves the way for the toleration of the similimum later, e.g. the mild and gentle remedy *pulsatilla* may so much improve the patient that he would later be able to tolerate *Silicea*. A patient who could not bear *Kali-carb* could tolerate *Carbo-veg*, which contains an element of *Kali-carb*, and was cured.

Homœopathic remedies are so similar, yet having so many fine shades of differences that sometimes one remedy seems to do the work of the other; again at other times the desired result will not be found until the precise choice is made.

It must be remembered that the cure will be proportionate to the similarity between the drug and the patient; the *specific* is sure to act on the symptoms to which it has the elective affinity whether the symptoms are discovered or otherwise.

However, it can be safely assumed that eminent allopaths had a clear and definite knowledge of the terrible, pernicious aggravations following the use of some *specifics*.

Now the question arises: why did they use the *specifics* at all? They must have used them either knowingly or unknowingly by chance.

The eternal law of nature operating in all times and climes might not have escaped their notice. Even in their days an expert cook who happened to scald his hand would hold it as near the fire as could be tolerated and thereby avoid the formation of blisters. The bad effects of a severe blow could be obliterated with gentle strokes and mild, light, repeated massage.

Observations like these may have prompted those master physicians to make use of some known *specifics*; or, casual use of *specifics* on quite a good number of occasions and the consequent terrific aggravations may have scared them away and finally promoted them to prohibit the use of *specifics* once for all.

It was the same fear of aggravation that led Hahnemann continually to reduce the dose until he reached a tolerably safe ground; where most patients would be cured without severe aggravation.

When men will learn the secret of using *specifics* without causing frightful aggravations, the objection to the use of *specific* will naturally cease. It is then and then only Homœopathy and Allopathy will have been synthesised. All systems using contrary medicines may be classed under Allopathy.

Dr. Kent writes: "It often causes suspicion of latent syphilis when such aggravations are very severe after *Sulphur* high. *Sulphur* low will not be followed by such results. After such prolonged aggravations *Syphilinum* should be considered." "In some cases of brain syphilis *Sulphur* and *Causticum* have caused prolonged suffering and weakness. *Syhilinum* will act favourably." "Latent syphilis often exists where it is least expected."

Our own experience shows that some patients suspected of having latent syphilis could hardly tolerate Arsenic, Thuja,

Natrum Sulph, Nat. mur, Kali phos, Kali sulph. An old lady covered all over with warts could tolerate *Syphilinum* quite well, while *Thuja* used to upset her. Many homœopaths have noticed intense aggravation from high potencies of Nux vomica, Phosphorus, Sepia, etc. Warts are so closely connected with sycosis that Hahnemann called it "the fig-wart disease." Sycosis is the remote effect of gonorrhœa.

So we can conclude that the fear of aggravation from specific remedies has resulted in the use of minute doses in homœopathy as well as the total prohibition of specifics in Allopathy. The Allopathy has furnished the secret of Homœopathic minimum doses.

THE PRESENT EPIDEMIC OF DENGU AND ITS TREATMENT

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left alone, or a few doses of NUX VOMICA will be sufficient into a cure.

Dr. Mohendra Lall Sircar has recommended EUPATORIUM PERFOLIATUM at the onset, when such are premonitory signs of the approaching fever, as general malaise pain in the bones and joints etc. to be continued as long as no rash appears. [Vide—Calcutta Journal of Medicine (Edited by Dr. Mahendralal Sircar) 1872, Vol. V].

Dr. L. Salzer, M.D., recommended the same, if applied properly it will cut short the disease and patients may be able to attend to his business by the third day.

Dr. Sircar says "Just when the pains are declaring themselves in the joints and the muscles a few doses of RHUS TOX may avert the attack at least a severe attack".