

ALTERNATING SYMPTOMS IN HOMOEOPATHIC MATERIA MEDICA

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Alternating symptom is essentially a combination of two symptoms which follow each other. These symptoms are not usually contradictory or opposite of the symptom they follow eg. Asthma alternating with skin eruptions. But, sometimes they may be opposite of each other eg. cheerfulness alternating with sadness.

Most of them are common symptoms but, what makes them unique and peculiar is their character of alternation. Homoeopathic materia medica(s) are full of such symptoms but, in clinical practice either they are not presented clearly by the patient or not utilised properly by the physician. Notwithstanding their neglect, it remains a fact that they are unique and peculiar and help in the selection of simillimum. Also, they lie scattered in homoeopathic literature and, not readily available for reference. Repertories do contain many alternating symptoms but, at the same time many are left. The objective of this study was, therefore, to gather alternating symptoms from standard materia medicas and repertories and present them at one place for clinical reference.

Following thirteen materia medicas/repertories were consulted for the present compilation. While some of the symptoms which were similar and represented same drug(s) were clubbed together, some other symptoms which appeared to be similar but represented different drug(s) have been mentioned separately eg. Despair alternating with hope (Avon, Bov.) and Hopeful, alternating with despair (Acon, Kali.c.) have been mentioned separately though they appear to be similar in character.

Abbreviated names of the drugs used in this compilation are those used by Boger-Boenninghausen, Boericke, Kent, Barthel—Klunker, Knerr and Lippe. Full names could not be used for technical reasons.

Materia Medicas and Repertories Consulted

1. Encyclopedia of Pure Materia Medica; T.F. Allen, (Vols.11 and 12).
2. Keynotes of Leading Remedies with Nosodes; H.C.Allen.
3. Boger-Boenninghausen's Characteristic and Repertory; translated, compiled and augmented by C.M. Boger.
4. Pocket Manual of Homoeopathic Materia Medica with Repertory; W.Boericke (Third Edition).
5. A Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica; J.H. Clarke (Third Edition).
6. The Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica; C. Hering (Vols. I to X).
7. Lectures on Materia Medica with New remedies; J.T.Kent.

8. Repertory of the Homoeopathic Materia Medica; J. T. Kent.
9. Synthetic Repertory; H. Barthel & W. Klunker.
10. Repertory of Hering's Guiding Symptoms of our Materia Medica; Calvin B. Knerr.
11. Repertory of the more Characteristic Symptoms of the Materia Medica; Constantine Lippe (5th Edition).
12. Materia Medica of New Homoeopathic Remedies; O.A. Julian (Revised English Edition).
13. A Textbook of Materia Medica; Adolph Lippe.

Alter nating Symptoms of Mind

Absent minded alternating with animation	: Alum.
Absorbed alternating with frivolity	: Arg. n.
Activity alternating with exhaustion	: Aloe.
Activity, mental alternating with dullness	: Acon.
exhaustion	: Aloe.
indifference	: Sarr.
indolence	: Aloe.
Anger alternating with antics playing	: Op.
calmness	: Corc.
cares	: Ran b.
cheerfulness	: Ant. t., Aur., Cann.s., Caps., Caust., Cocc., Croc., Ign., Nat.m., Op., Seneg., Spong., Stram., Zinc.
contentment	: Caps.
discontentment	: Ran.b.
discouragement	: Ran. b., Zinc.
exhilaration	: Bov., Caps., Op., Seneg.
exuberance	: Ant.t ,
hilarity	: Op.
hysteria	: Ign.
indifference	: Carbn.s., Chin.
jesting	: Caps., Cocc., Ign.
kindness	: Cencl.
laughing	: Croc., Stram.
repentence, quick	: Croc., Lyss., Mez., Sulph., Vinc.
sadness	: Ambr., Coff., Sumb., Zinc.
singing	: Croc
tenderness	: Croc

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timidity	: Ran. b., Zinc.	Cares, alternating with	
tranquility	: Croc., Kali-c.	anger	: Ran. b.
vivacity	: Cocc., Nat. m.	exhilaration	: Op.
weeping	: Bell., Cann. s., Lac. c.	quarrelsomeness	: Ran. b.
Anger, after		Cheerful alternating with	
chilliness alternating with		dancing	: Bell
heat; vomiting		distraction	: Spong.
bile and thirst	: Nux. v.	ill humor (see irritability)	: Aur. m.
alternate laughing and weeping, with great anguish		melancholy	: Zinc.
and fear of death	: Nux. v.	sadness	: Cann. i., Petr.
Anger followed by alternate chill and heat, with thirst and bilious vomiting:	Nux. v.	sadness and congestion agg. by nose bleed	: Kali m.
Anger, hysteria, alternating with	: Ign.	seriousness	: Spong.
Anger, laughing and weeping, alternate	: Plat.	shouting	: Chin.
Anger, sudden, alternates with gaiety	: Aur.	vexation	: Bor.
Anxiety alternating with contentment	: Zinc.	Cheerful, gay, happy, alternating with	
exhilaration	: Spig., Spong.	aversion to work	: Spong.
indifference	: Nat. m.	gaiety and laughter	: Spong.
jollity	: Spig., Spong.	ill humour with (see irritability)	
rage	: Bell.	mania, with	: Bell., Cann. s., Croc.
Anxiety, nervousness, harshness of temper and great irritability alternating with weeping	: Kali hydroiodicum	pain, with	: Plat
Anxiety and tears, alternating with bufoonery	: Cupr.	passion, with burst of	: Aur., Caps., Croc., Ign., Stram.
Apathy alternating with angry words and actions	: Phos.	peevishness	: Aur. m.
intellectual activity	: Sarr.	physical sufferings	: Plat.
Apathy, great alternating with restlessness	: Ant. t.	sadness with	: Acon., Agar., Asar., Canth., Carb. an., Caust., Chin., Cimic., Clem., Croc., Ferr., Fl. ac., Gels., Hell., Ign., Iod., Kali. chl., Lyco., Med., Nat. c., Nat. m., Plat., Phos., Psor., Senec., Sep., Spig., Tarent., Zinc, Ziz.
Apathy, the sensation, and constant staring at one point alternates occa- sionally with unintelligible muttering (Melancholy after Typhoid)	: Hell.	Violence with	: Aur., Croc., Stram.
Austerity and mildness of character, alternate	: Croc.	want of sympathy, with weeping with (see weeping)	: Merc.
Avarice alternating with squandering	: Calc., Lach., Merc., Sulph.	Cheerful, gay, mirthful, alternating with	
Bouyancy alternating with despondency	: Nux. v.	absence of mind	: Alum., Spong.
Brain as if squeezed and relaxed alternately	: Calc.	anger	: Aur., Caps., Croc., Ign., Seneg., Stram.
Brooding, screaming and screeching alternately state, of	: Verat.	anxiety	: Ant. t., Cast.,
Buffoonery alternating with anxiety and tears	: Cupr.		
Busy and wanting to pray, alternately:	Opun. v.		

aversion to work	: Spong.	seriousness	: Cann.s., Plat., Spong.
burst of indignation	: Aur., Caps., Croc., Ign.	talk, aversion to	: Asar.
of passion	: Acon., Aur., Cann.s., Caps., Croc., Hyos., Ign., Seneg., Stram.	timidity	: Mag. arct.
dancing	: Bell.	vexation	: Ant.t., Bor., Caust., Croc., Nat.m., Spong.
distraction	: Spong.	violence	: Aur., Croc., Stram.
dullness	: Jab.	want of sympathy	: Merc.
grief	: Calc.s., Graph., Op.	weeping	: Acon., Alum., Arg.m., Bell., Carb. an., Graph., Iod., Phos., Plat., Spong.
impatience	: Tell.	Cheerfulness alternating with	
irritability	: Ant.t., Caust., Cocc., Croc., Nat.m., Spong., Stram., Zinc.	ill humour	: Ars.
lachrymose mood	: Plb., Psor., Sep., Spong., Sumb.	sadness	: Chin.
looking down on the street	: Dios.	shouting	: Chin.
mania	: Bell., Cann.i., Cann.s., Croc.,	Cheerfulness and gloom	
moaning	: Bell., Coff., Stram.	alternate conditions	: Chin.
moroseness	: Acon., Ant.t., Ars., Aur., Carb.v. Cycl., Form., Merc.c., Nat.c., Nat.m., Plat.	Child cross and irritable quickly	
pain	: Plat.	alternates with laughter	: Chin.
palpitation	: Spig.	Coma alternating with delirium	: Plb.
physical sufferings	: Plat.	Coma alternating with delirium	
quarrel	: Croc., Spong., Staph.	after epilepsy	: Plb.
sadness	: Abrot., Acon., Agar., Aran., Arg.m. Asar., Canth., Carb- an., Caust., Chin., Cimic., Clem., Croc., Ferr., Fl-ac., Gels., Hell., Ign., Iod., Kali-chl., Lyc., Med., Nat.c., Nat.m., Nit-ac., Nux-m., Plat., Phos., Psor., Senec., Sep., Spig., Tarent., Zinc., Ziz.	with loquacity	: Plb.
		Coma alternating with excitement	
		in diphtheria	: Kali br.
		Comatose alternating with delirium	: Plb.
		Company, aversion to, alternating	
		with bursts of pleasantry and	
		sarcasm	: Rhus tox., Rad.
		Company, aversion to, alternating	
		with desire for company	: Acon.
		Complaining, alternates with	
		delirium	: Bell.
		Complaining alternating	
		with shrieking	: Bufo.
		Comprehension, difficult,	
		alternating with uterine pains	: Gels.
		Concentration, difficult,	
		alternating with uterine pains	: Gels.
		Contemptuous, self, of alternating	
		with eccentricity	: Agn.
		"Coprophagia" violent mania	
		alternates with silence and refuses	
		to talk	: Verat.
		Courageous, alternating with	
		discouragement	: Merc., Op., Staph.
		fear	: Alum.
		Dancing alternating with moaning	: Bell.

sighing	: Bell.	Delirium, violent, at first alternating with intervals of consciousness, afterwards interrupted	: Phos.
Death, anticipation of, and rage alternate	: Stram.	Delusions alternating with dizziness, confusion of head in the evening	: Atro.
Death, desires, alternating with laughing	: Aur.	Delusions alternate with half confused sleep	: Ars.
rage	: Bell.	Dementia alternating with excitement	: Carbn.s.
Death, premonitions of, alternating with attacks of rage	: Stram.	Depressed, alternating with buoyant	: Nux.v.
Death, presentiment of, alternating with anguish	: Raph.	Depressed, alternating with irritable	: Ars.
rage	: Stram.	Depressed, alternating with quarrelsome liveliness (mania)	: Con.
Dejection alternates with gaiety	: Petr.	Depression alternating with lively mood	: Caust., Psor.
Delirium alternating with colic	: Plb.	vehemence of temper	: Ambr.
Delirium alternating with constant desire to escape, eyes half closed (Abortion)	: Coloc.	Depression, physical, alternating with mirth	: Caust.
Delirium alternating with coma	: Plb., Stram.	Depression, silent, and quarrelsome liveliness, fits of, alternate (mania)	: Con.
coma after epilepsy	: Plb.	Despair alternating with hope	: Acon., Bov.
coma also with somnolency	: Plb., Stram.	Despair religious alternating with sexual excitement	: Lil.t
consciousness	: Acon., Phos.	Despondent and buoyant alternately	: Nux.v.
muttering, in cancer of mammae	: Apis	Discouraged alternating with anger	: Ran.b., Zinc.
somnolency	: Plb.	confidence	: Alum.
sopor	: Acet.ac., Cocc., Coloc., Plb., Vip.	courage	: Merc., Op., Staph.
stupor	: Atro.	exaltation	: Petr., Sul.ac.
stupor (Typhus)	: Acet. ac.	exuberance	: Petr.
stupor in child bed fever	: Coloc.	laughtiness	: Agn.
stupor (in measles)	: Lach.	hope	: Alum, Kali c., Merc., Op., Staph.
tetanic convulsions lies on his back, knees, and thighs flexed, hands joined	: Stram.	irritability	: Zinc.
Delirium, gay, alternating with laughing, singing, whistling, crying etc.	: Stram.	quarrelsomeness	: Ran.b.
Delirium, gay, alternating with melancholy	: Agar.	Disgust of life, alternates with laughing	: Aur.
Delirium of a lively, active, vivid character alternating in short periods with apparent horrified flights, seeming to dread approach of some imaginary monster and giving alterance to most piteous appeals for help	: Stram.	Distraction, alternates with gaiety and singing	: Spong.
Delirium, muttering, alternating with stupor	: Apis	Dizziness, alternating with clearness of ideas	: Murx.
Delirium, quiet, in alternation with the greatest restlessness and desire to run away (Typhus)	: Chlor.	Drollery, alternating with earnestness	: Stram.
Delirium, quiet, alternating with restlessness	: Chlor.	Dullness, alternating with hilarity	: Jab.
Delirium, raging alternating with religious excitement	: Agar.	Dullness, alternating with hilarity and mirth	: Jab., Spong.
Delirium, raving alternating with consciousness	: Acon.	Dullness, alternating with hilarity without cause	: Jab.
		clearness of mind	: Colch.
		dim vision	: Bell.
		singing	: Spong.
		vivacity	: Crot.h.
		work, desire for	: Cycl.

Eccentricity, alternating with sadness	: Petr., Stram.	Fullness and tension after eating alternately with lightness, cheerfulness and activity of mind and body	: Ant.c.
timidity	: Sul. ac.	Funny pranks alternating with sad demeanor	: Stram.
Ecstasy, alternating with sadness	: Senec.	Gaiety with groaning with dancing alternation of	: Bell
Elated, alternating with sadness	: Senec.	with laughter alternation of	: Stram.
Embraces companions and kisses their hands, alternately with vexation	: Agar.	hatred of work alternation of	: Spong.
Euphoria, alternating with quarrel quiet, desire for sadness	: Thyr. : Asar. : Asar., Cortiso., Mand. : Asar.	ill humor, peevishness alternation of	: Ant.t., Nat.m
silence, need for, and Exaltation alternating with melancholy	: Stram.	melancholy alternation of seriousness alternation of sorrowfulness, depression alternation of	: Ferr. : Plat.
Exaltation alternating with melancholy in myelitis	: Stram.	indignation burst of alternation of	: Caust., Ferr., Nat.c.
Exalted states and settled melancholy alternation between	: Stram.	mania alternation of	: Aur., Caps., Croc., Ign.
Excitement alternating with chilliness	: Myric.	tearfulness alternation of	: Bell., Cann.s., Croc.
convulsions	: Stram.	sympathy, want of alternation	: Acon., Arg.n., Carb. an., Ign. Iod., Spong.
delirium	: Agar.	vexation, alternation of	: Merc. : Ant.t., Caust., Cocc., Croc., Nat.m., Spong.
dullness	: Alum.p., Anac.	Gaiety alternating with sadness every other day	: Ferr.
gloom	: Plb.	Gaiety and depression alternation of before attack	: Cupr.
indecision	: Cortiso.	(whooping cough)	
prostration of mind	: Kali.c.	Gaiety and disposition to weep, rapid alternation of	: Ign.
sadness	: Aster., Colch., Con., Cortiso., Ferr.p., Foll., Ox.ac., Phenob., Plb., Rauw., Sul.ac., Thyreotr.	Gaiety or irritability, alternation of with melancholy	: Aur.
sleepiness	: Kali. br.	Gay and depressed, alternately	: Aran.d.
somnolence (diphtheria)	: Kali. br.	Gay, alternately with depression	: Agar., Nux.m.
taciturn, afternoon	: Thiop.	Gay, alternately with depression in whooping cough	: Cupr.
Exhilaration alternating with grief	: Op.	Gay and sad alternate	: Plat.
sadness	: Agn., Croc., Ox.ac.	Gay, lachrymose and cross alternatively	: Spong.
Exuberance alternating with moroseness	: Ant.t.	Gay excitement, alternations of laughing, crying out, singing, whistling, leaping up, catching at flies, pricking at flocks	: Stram.
sadness	: Petr.	Gloom and taciturnity alternate with frantic delirium	: Plb.
Fear alternating with exhilaration	: Coff.	Gloominess, excessive, with alternations of serenity, hilarious in evening	: Chin.b.
mania	: Bell.		
rage	: Bell.		
sadness	: Zinc.		
Fear, death if, alternate laughing and weeping with (after anger)	: Plat.		
Fearsome, anxiety, dread, frightened easily etc., sadness alternating with	: Zinc.		
Frolicsome and sad, alternate	: Ign.		

Gloomy, alternating with cheerfulness	: Chin., Med.	Hysteria, excessive mirth and cheerfulness	
frantic delirium	: Plb.	alternating with melancholy	: Croc.
excitement	: Con., Plb.	Hysteria, mental condition, preceded by weeping and laughing alternately	: Stram.
serenity	: Chin.b.	Hysterical alternation of laughter and weeping	: Phos.
Groaning alternating with gambols with laughter, with singing	: Bell.	Ideas, abundant, alternating with deficiency of Idiocy alternating with furor	: Alum.p.
Alternations of excessive happy, tenderness and rage	: Croc.	Ill humor alternating with cheerfulness	: Aeth.
Happiness and gloominess, alternation of Happy, hopeful states alternating with depression and weakness	: Med.	gaiety	: Aur., Ars.a. Ant.t., Cycl., Nat. c.
Hatred of work with gaiety, alternations of	: Suffon.	good jollity	: Chin.b. Chin., Merc., Plat., Spig.
Headstrong crossness quickly alternating with laughter and playfulness in children	: Spong.	joy, great liveliness	: Meny.
Hilarity alternating with dullness	: Sabad.	sadness	: Lyco.
fearful mood (sciatica, probably hysterical and due to retrolateral version of uterus)	: Jab.	tenderness	: Ferr.
Hope with faint heartedness despair alternation of	: Nux.v.	weeping	: Plat. Bell.
Hopeful, alternating with despair	: Acon., Kali.c.	Incredible changes of mood. at one time jokes and makes merry, at another is lachrymose, alternating every three or four hours	: Ign.
sadness	: Acon., Raph.	Indifference, apathy alternating with activity	: Sarr.
Horripilation alternating with heat, followed by slight sweat and frequent pulse (fever)	: Anthrako.	anger	: Carbn.s., Nid.
Humor, good or bad, alternate	: Chin.b.	anxiety and restlessness	: Ant.t., Nat.m.
Humor, good and dullness of intellect alternating with mental excitement and sensitive dispositions	: Sabad.	cheerfulness	: Agn., Meny., Tarent.
Humor, grave and gay, alternately	: Nux.m.	excitement	: Alum., Phenob., Sabad.
		happy mood jesting	: Tarent. Meny.

(To be continued...)