

mostly from within outwards. They can burn or bore or tear and when they subside they leave a sore bruised sensation with actual tenderness of the part affected.

The heart symptoms are not exempted from the characteristic sudden nature of the symptoms and here too the pains can be exceedingly severe. When they subside the region of the heart has this bruised sore feeling.

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REMEDIES MOST COMMONLY INDICATED IN THE TREATMENT OF ACUTE CATARRHAL FEVER AND ITS COMPLICATIONS

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Acute catarrhal fever is the Navy's terminology to cover the syndrome commonly referred to as la grippe, epidemic catarrh and influenza. A multitude of sins are covered by this broad terminology, but well it may be, as it precludes a multiplicity of diagnoses of conditions involving the respiratory tract, nervous system and gastro-intestinal tract. Some authors object to so broad a use of the term but the clinical criteria of influenza are quite indefinite, particularly in the absence of widespread prevalence of the disease.

The symptoms of this condition are numerous and varied, e.g. chills or chilliness, fever, general malaise, aching of the muscles and bones, discharges

from the mucous membranes which may be serous, mucoid, sanguinous, purulent or mixed, and these may be bland or acrid, scanty or profuse, thick or thin, and of many colours. Epistaxis and hæmoptysis may occur in severe cases.

Prostration is usually present and out of proportion to other symptoms. Profuse perspiration is common. The heart and circulation may be greatly disturbed as evidenced by tachycardia, bradycardia, palpitation, arrhythmias, and by pulse variation, as hard or soft, regular or irregular, rapid or slow.

Modalities may also be present, as aggravation from motion, position, temperature or time of day.

When the nervous system is involved, malaise, prostration, convulsions, coma, neuralgias, neuritis, impairment of the senses of taste and smell, and many other symptoms may be present.

With gastro-intestinal involvement, nausea, vomiting, diarrhoea, constipation or colic may occur.

If laryngitis, tracheitis, bronchitis or pneumonia complicate this condition, cough of any variety, from a harsh, dry or croupy, to a loose catarrhal type may be found.

The above list by no means covers all the symptoms of acute catarrhal fever, but serves to show what a large group of remedies may be required to cover this syndrome. Of these remedies among the most common is aconite.

ACONITE

Aconite acts chiefly upon the mind, sensory nerves, heart and arterial circulation.

This remedy typifies a synochal sthenic or simple fever and corresponds to hyperæmic congestion preceding inflammatory fever. It is most frequently brought on by exposure to cold winds or chilling of the body after over-heating and perspiring.

• It suits the young and robust and holds practically no relation to the weak and sickly.

There is great mental anxiety and fear. Restlessness forces a constant change of position. There is a violent circulatory storm as evidenced by palpitation and a hard full pulse. In the recumbent position the face is flushed but on arising or changing to the sitting position, the face becomes pale and faintness and giddiness is felt. If pain is present, it is stitching and tearing in character and is poorly tolerated by the patient. The skin is dry. Profuse sweating relieves most of the aconite symptoms and Dr. A. E. Hinsdale believed that when sweating occurs aconite is no longer indicated.

ARSENICUM ALBUM

The patient requiring arsenicum complains of being tired, weak, or oftentimes prostrated, yet cannot remain quiet due to extreme restlessness. There is a sensation of dryness and burning of the mucous membranes, with marked thirst, yet liquids and food are vomited soon after being taken.

If coryza is present it is acrid, and causes redness, rawness and swelling of the nose and upper lip.

• There are two outstanding modalities:

- (1) There are burning pains which are relieved by heat.

- (2) All symptoms are aggravated between 12 and 3 A. M., especially the symptoms of apprehension and restlessness.

The arsenic patient always complains of having spent a miserable night.

ARSENICUM IODATUM

The symptoms of arsenicum iodatum are similar to those of arsenicum album but in a slightly more advanced stage. The discharges are still profuse and acrid, causing the same excoriation of tissues as arsenicum alb. but the mucus is now yellowish or greenish in colour and may have a foul odour. This type of discharge is frequently seen in otorrhoea, ozæna and sinusitis. There may be a hacking cough and a yellow-green foul expectoration. It suits well the tuberculous patient.

BRYONIA

Bryonia is useful in both the complicated and uncomplicated forms of acute catarrhal fever. For bryonia to be indicated there must be present its outstanding modality, namely, pain which is aggravated by motion. This is manifest during coughing, deep breathing, jarring, stooping, etc.... The pains are aching in character but during motion become shooting or stitching.

If cough is present it is dry and hacking with associated stitching pains in the lungs or pleura. In pleurisy the pain is relieved by having the chest bound or by lying on the affected side. The eyeballs ache and the pain is aggravated by pressure or movement of the eyeballs.

There is a dull frontal headache which becomes splitting during attacks of coughing.

There is thirst for large amounts of water which satisfy, the opposite of belladonna.

The tongue is coated brown and there is a bitter taste in the mouth. It is believed that if bryonia is given early enough in acute fibrinous pleuritis, effusion may be prevented.

SABADILLA

Sneezing is the keynote to this remedy, uncontrollable sneezing with lachrymation, which is aggravated by cold air. The throat is swollen and sore and the pain is increased by empty swallowing.

Other remedies for sneezing are gelsemium, euphorbia and cyclamen.

EUPATORIUM PERFOLIATUM

Eupatorium acts upon the bones, stomach, liver, occiput and the muscles of the chest, back and limbs. The outstanding symptom is a deep-seated pain in the back and extremities, as if the bones would break.

There is an associated gastric and bilious derangement with nausea, vomiting of bile and frequently, jaundice.

There are chills and fever, and an associated insatiable thirst, but the water tastes oily or brackish.

The larynx and trachea are sore and there is hoarseness and a dry cough. There may be a headache with a sensation of weight in the occiput. Bryonia is its nearest analogue but in bryonia the patient is compelled to remain quiet, whereas with eupatorium, pain forces the patient to move about, which affords some relief.

GELSEMIUM

For the uncomplicated case of acute catarrhal fever gelsemium is undoubtedly the most frequently indicated remedy. This remedy is indicated early in the illness when the patient is tired, weak, and there is aching of the muscles throughout the body. There is a chilliness with chills running up and down the spine, and the patient hugs the fire, or if in bed, will not move, as it brings on chills.

The face is flushed, dark red or dusty in appearance. There is a free watery discharge from the nose, which is non-irritating.

In spite of a temperature of 102 or 103 F, there is no thirst.

Sneezing is a frequent symptom in the beginning of the illness. Listlessness, apathy or even prostration are common, and trembling is frequently seen.

If the above symptoms do not respond to gelsemium, baptisia should be the next choice.

RHUS TOX.

Rhus is indicated for the patient with rheumatic pains in muscles and joints, who has been exposed to cold and dampness. There is stiffness and soreness of the joints and muscles which is relieved for a time after beginning to move about but continued movement causes a return of the pain.

Restlessness and insomnia are marked. A nightly cough with tickling behind the upper part of the sternum is a frequent symptom.

There is a constant chilliness as if cold water were poured over the body.

The tongue is dry, cracked and with a red triangular tip.

IODINE

Iodine is indicated in dark-complexioned patients, who, after becoming ill, emaciate quickly. Prostration is rapid and profound. Bronchial and pulmonary congestion is marked, and hæmorrhage from the lungs is frequent. The debility is so great that the effort to talk makes the patient perspire. Sweat is profuse and cold. There is violent palpitation of the heart which is aggravated by the least exertion. The condition for which iodine is indicated is as violent as that in which arsenic is used.

CUPRUM METALLICUM

Cuprum is indicated when pneumonia develops and a condition is present in which the patient seems to be devoid of the power to react.

There is much rattling in the chest, and the bronchus and lungs fill with a jelly-like mucus. Dyspnoea is marked. The surface of the body is cold and covered with clammy sweat.

There is likely to be a diarrhoea, accompanied by cramps in the abdomen and legs.

An incessant, fatiguing cough is present, which if productive, raises a small amount of viscid material.

KALI BICHROMICUM

Kali bichromicum is one of the best remedies for catarrhal conditions following acute catarrhal fever.

Hydrastis shares this honour. The symptoms of each are practically the same. Both have their discharges made freer in the open air. Kali Bi. has the deeper action.

There is ulceration of the mucous membranes of the nose. The mucus is so tenacious that when dried, "clinkers" form, which frequently cause bleeding when dislodged. The stomach may be disturbed, and if so, nausea, hot eructations and burning may be felt in the stomach after meals.

Other remedies for the gastro-intestinal form of this condition are: nux vomica, ipecac, cuprum arsenicosum, china and baptisia.

For TRACHEAL and BRONCHIAL disturbances antimonium tartaricum and stannum iodide may be indicated.

For POST-CATARRHAL NEURITIS arsenicum alb., belladonna and rhus tox. are useful.

For CONVALESCENCE and ASTHENIA strychnia phos., china, phosphoric acid, and phosphorus may find their places.

For ANÆMIA ars., china, ferr. met., nat. mur., and pulsatilla may be indicated.

So much for the homœopathic remedies in acute catarrhal fever—

Recently, an influenza virus vaccine has been prepared from the extra-embryonic fluid of chick embryos, infected with influenza virus Type A and Type B. The virus is refined and concentrated by absorption on calcium phosphate and is inactivated by formalin. The calcium phosphate absorption

method is similar in principle to that used in the preparation of diphtheria and tetanus toxoids. The dose is 1. cc. administered subcutaneously in one injection. This vaccine is claimed to afford a wide range of clinical protection. The duration of immunity has not been determined although antibody titers in vaccinated persons have been found at a high level at the end of one year.

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TREATMENT OF THE PATIENT WITH SYPHILIS

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In this contribution an effort will be made to avoid a recitation of much material that can be had by a simple scanning of the pages of any one of a number of texts on this subject written by admitted authorities. It will be assumed that the accepted cause, the signs and symptoms, the typical course and atypical manifestations and so forth are more or less familiar to the reader.

Also, and for the very good reason that there is readily available to all a tremendous amount of literature dealing with the modern, empirical, chemotherapy of this condition, we will, when we discuss the subject of drug therapy of this illness, confine our remarks to the homœo-therapeutic approach. One's inclination is to launch immediately into that discussion. Many considerations require that we refrain