

# THE BEGINNING OF MODERN HOMOEOPATHY

## ANIMAL TESTING VS. PROVING

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In our last paper\* we dealt with three points which critics label against Homoeopathy as a science. First, What exactly is Homoeopathic Potency? An elucidation of this has been published in our paper titled: 'Physical Effects on the Suspending Medium by Compounds in Asymptotically Infinite Dilutions'.<sup>1</sup> There we suggested that in a homoeopathic drug a molecule acts as an 'organiser' leading to polarization, adlineation, electrostriction of solvent or of the medium amplifying the effect. 'Thermal' (IR) photons bring about a type of phase change since the rotational quantum numbers of molecules are within reach by environmental temperatures; they irradiate each other and by similarities bring about transitions to a metastable states which are different from the one in which medium exist before such irradiation. The second objection that homoeopathic drugs are never tested on laboratory animals and therefore, their efficacy is questionable. This question can be divided into two parts namely, (i) Is testing on animals reliable? and (ii) Is testing of medicines on human beings alone unreliable? Let us discuss these points.

Although modern scientific research using animals has accomplished a great deal, but unfortunately, it has succeeded in treatment of only some infestations such as inflammations, infections. For a vast majority of diseases of genetic, developmental, neoplasia, degeneration, science has yet found no cure, but only symptomatic relief.

We may then ask why this failure? Is it due to some logical fallacy in theory of modern medicine and the design of drugs or therapeutic procedures. One aspect is quite obvious. Organic pathology down to molecular pathology study the effects of disease in progressive isolation from the system and not the malfunctioning of the body as a whole, the constituents of which cooperate to pronounce disease of a particular vulnerable organ. From Selye to Synergetics constitute a dimension of 'wholeism' which is missed. Homoeopathy starts with such a concept. Alexis Carrel<sup>2</sup> also said, "he does not realize sufficiently that individual is whole, that adapted cell functions extend to all organic systems, and that anatomical divisions are artificial. The separation of the body into parts has so far been to his advantage. But it is dangerous and costly for the patient and ultimately for the physician."

The concepts of modern medicine (contra-medicine = Allopathy) are based

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on statistical evaluation of time course of manifestations in disease models and trial of therapeutic agents; Such is the specificity of innumerable interactions that young and old, age, sex, weight, food, nutrition, light, darkness may bring about or suppress a result. The results of one animal or one species cannot be extrapolated to any other. Said Selye, "When I say cortisone produces an effect on 100g old male rat, I cannot say it would do so in a 200g rat". Julie Ann Miller<sup>3</sup> said, "How useful animals may be in experiments, mice and rats are not scaled down people." Numerous experiments in this direction prove this point. To extrapolate trials from rats to human beings is too serious to be accepted. Naturally, introducing rhesus monkey in research became a necessity. But then even this model ignores the psychosomatic causes of modulation of disease and therapy which may make all the difference. For example, no reliable experiments on fertility can be done in monkeys in captivity.

Therefore, the prevailing study of man in fragments, as also testing medicine on animals, cannot finally help the physician because the most essential part of the principle of life is ignored during experiments. In view of the fact that no two human beings are alike though belonging to the same generic tree, we cannot blindly apply animal results to humans. Therefore, as proposed by Albrecht von Haller<sup>4</sup> and confirmed by Hahnemann,<sup>5</sup> we are obliged to apply medicinal substances on the basis of their effects, i.e. testing medicine on healthy humans.

As regards proving, i.e. psychophysical evaluation of drug for producing a symptom as close to the disease complex treated, test animal has to be intelligent enough to describe the disease and its full symptoms. This too should be susceptible for adequate mathematical analysis. Homoeopathy will thus gain by 'artificial intelligence'.

Since organic pathology is not produced instantaneously by the disease, there appear disagreeable sensations first. Therefore, to study disease, the physician has to take help of sensations through which the disease manifests itself. Sensations are the messages received by the sensorium (an aspect of mind) through the nerves. The disease is expressed by the movements<sup>6</sup> of atoms and molecules and their assemblies that give rise to sensations called symptoms. Study of symptoms requires close acquaintance with functioning of nervous system:

According to biologist,<sup>7</sup> the entire nervous system is a functional unit, and also an impulse arising in any receptor can have effect on sites far removed from the region of stimulus.

When a drug in homoeopathic dose given by mouth comes in contact with nerves, one may speculate that in some subliminal way the nervous system is prepared to react. In this way, a homoeopathic dose prepares a background activity of each and every cell of the organism and establishes the psychophysical basis of 'proving'.

While referring to the homoeopathic materia medica or repertory, we

find that all the polychrest (fully proved) remedies carry symptoms pertaining to all the 'three levels of nervous system'. During 'proving' human organism evokes responses and gives rise to sensations (symptoms) at all levels of manifestation of the nervous system.

We have observed<sup>9</sup> unusual behaviour of an enzyme, acetylcholinestrerase under the influence of a homoeopathic drug (Arsenic album). Briefly, the enzyme is inhibited/activated by a homoeopathic potency. Since Acetylcholinestrerase is associated directly with the transmission of impulse in the realm of a large part of neuromuscular apparatus, this study may have considerable interest from the point of view of homoeopathic theory. The nature of homoeopathic potency as postulated by Jussal et al.<sup>1</sup>, provides the most plausible explanation of homoeopathic drug action in the human biological system. Oriented dipole molecules play a vitally important role in the functioning of a living organism, mainly in the functioning of the nervous system. The functioning of the various organs and processes is directed by the brain through the nervous system. As the dipole orientation plays a major role in the functioning of the nervous system and also in homoeopathic preparation of drugs, it gives strong support to the homoeopathic philosophy that the medicines act on mind through the nervous system.

Homoeopathic system is now making rapid progress. Many workers have shown effect of homoeopathic micro doses not only on animals<sup>13</sup> but also on plants<sup>12</sup>. In view of this, a befitting comment comes from Dr. K.K.G. Menon,<sup>10</sup> Director of Research, Hindustan Levers Ltd. and Member of the Science and Engineering Research Council of the Department of Science and Technology, who said, "the deployment of public funds more or less exclusively for allopathic medicine has resulted in neglect of ayurvedic, unani, and homoeopathic systems of medicine and has resulted in a proliferation of drugs and their widespread misuse." He further added, "I think, we have have far too long focussed our attention on disease processes of cellular origin at the cost of the wider view of organ systems." The Department of Education<sup>11</sup> have also rightly recommended that from the point of view of optimal utilization of national resources all systems including Homoeopathy should realize their limit as well as potentials and support each other mutually and draw inspiration from one another.

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