

CONFERENCE REPORT

National Conference of Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (Indian Chapter) 2014 marks new vistas in Homoeopathy research

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ABSTRACT

India hosted its first National Conference of Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica Internationalis (LMHI) in New Delhi on 24th-25th May 2014. "Homoeopathy Success Stories through Basic and Fundamental Research and in Paediatric Disorders" was the premise of the conference. With 37 oral presentations, the conference brought around 350 delegates and eminent speakers from all over the nation to a common platform. The leading speakers deliberated on topics which demonstrated the sound progress being made in the field of Homoeopathy. Researchers, academicians and practitioners got the opportunity to share their experiences, ideas and information through this venture. The present report is a synopsis of the key findings reported during the conference highlighting some of the important researches in the field.

Keywords: Conference, Homoeopathy, Paediatric, Fundamental

The first ever National Homoeopathic Conference of LMHI (Indian chapter) was hosted in the capital city of Delhi on 24th-25th May, 2014 in technical collaboration with Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH), Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH) and other Homoeopathic Associations of India including Homoeopathic Medical Association of India (HMAI), Indian Institute of Homoeopathic Physicians (IIHP), Asian Homoeopathic Medical League (AHML), South Delhi Homoeopathic Association (SDHA) and Centre for Advanced Study in Homoeopathy (CASH). Attended by around 350 delegates, this event brought together homoeopathic professionals from all over the country to present and discuss their latest researches and success stories in the field of Homoeopathy. The theme of the congress chosen was "Homeopathy Success Stories through Basic and Fundamental Research and in Paediatric Disorders".

OPENING/INAUGURAL CEREMONY

The inaugural ceremony began with welcoming of the chief guest, Sh. Nilanjan Sanyal, Secretary, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India. He opened the conference with the lighting of the lamp along with personages including Dr. N. Radha Das, Advisor, Homoeopathy, Department of AYUSH, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India; Dr. S.P.S Bakshi, President, LMHI (Indian chapter); Dr. Alok Pareek, LMHI Vice-President (International); Dr. Raj K. Manchanda, Secretary (Research), LMHI and Director General, Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy (CCRH); Dr. Ramjee Singh, President, Central Council of Homoeopathy (CCH); Dr. A.K. Seth, Senior Consultant, Homoeopathy, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital; Dr. K.K. Juneja, Chairman, Board of Homoeopathic System of Medicine, Delhi; Dr. V.K. Gupta, Former



Figure 1 and 2: Sh. Nilanjan Sanyal, Secretary, Department of AYUSH, lighting the lamp and giving his inaugural speech

Honorary Physician to the President of India and Principal, Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi; Dr. Arun Bhasme, Vice President, CCH; Dr. R.N. Wah, Chairman, South Delhi Homoeopathic Association and Dr. Sandeep Kaila, Secretary, LMHI (Indian chapter).

Dr. S.P.S Bakshi, President, LMHI (Indian chapter), in his welcome address, congratulated the entire homoeopathic fraternity on the occasion of this first National Conference of LMHI. He enumerated the struggle of more than 50 years to get the Indian chapter of LMHI recognized. He took pride in informing that the popularity of Homoeopathy is increasing not only in India but also in many other countries. He emphasized the fact that the contribution of manufacturing companies has played a major role in development of Homoeopathy.

Dr. Raj K. Manchanda, Secretary (Research), LMHI and Director General, CCRH marked this national conference a historic event and underlined the role LMHI has played for the development of the system. While expressing his gratitude for the political support received from the Government of India, he informed that there is a well-established institutional and research framework in India and many cutting edge researches are being conducted by CCRH in collaboration with highly acclaimed institutes. He congratulated the Secretary, Department of AYUSH for taking initiative with Director General, Health Services to explore the role of Homoeopathy and other AYUSH systems in Non Communicable

Diseases (NCDs). He was hopeful that with appropriate research work, we would be able to incorporate Homoeopathy in many public health programmes including that of epidemic diseases.

Dr. Alok Pareek, LMHI Prime Vice-President (International), congratulated the organisers under the banner of Indian chapter of LMHI and stated that India is a centre for high quality research and education but the research outcomes are not propagated globally. There is a need to have more international interactions as India owns the biggest homoeopathic market. He suggested that all homoeopathic associations in India need to join this platform to provide a gateway to India in becoming world leader in Homoeopathy.

Dr. N. Radha Das, Advisor (H), in her address, emphasized that various basic and fundamental researches carried out in Homoeopathy have helped in its international recognition. Under different schemes of AYUSH, research can be taken up by the institutes and at individual level with minimum infrastructure. She appreciated and thanked the former Secretary, Department of AYUSH for his constant support and also cherished the support being provided by the present Secretary, Sh. Sanyal under whose leadership, Homoeopathy would flourish.

Dr. Ramjee Singh, President, CCH, in his speech thanked the Honourable Secretary, Department of AYUSH for his positive attitude and for his constant



Figure 3: Dr. Raj K. Manchanda, Director General, Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, in his inaugural address

efforts in improving the standards of homoeopathic education in India. Dr. A.K. Seth, representing AHML, presented a citation to Sh. Achyuta Samanta, who has been dedicatedly involved in education and upliftment of underprivileged children.

The chief guest, Sh. Nilanjan Sanyal, marked the first National Conference of LMHI as one of the significant events. While addressing the delegates in the conference, he appreciated the zeal and dedication of the organizers for organizing the first ever National Homoeopathic Conference and encouraged the gathering to strive hard so that India gets its due prominence in LMHI in future. He congratulated LMHI for maintaining the high level of professional integrity. While fondly remembering the National Campaign on Homoeopathy for Mother and Child Care carried out by the Department of AYUSH that had given a great philip to the system, he appreciated the chosen theme of the conference. He emphasized that as no single system can take care of the healthcare needs of the country, the strengths of Homoeopathy need to be utilized fully. Homoeopathy has a well-established role in paediatric conditions, due to easy administerability and its safer usability in children. Sh. Sanyal also informed about the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM), where AYUSH services have been integrated at PHC level and hoped that these services will be fully integrated into national healthcare system. The need for establishing specialized clinics for utilizing the

potential of Homoeopathy in Lifestyle Disorders on similar lines as that of Central Research Institute (H), Kottayam, Kerala which focuses on mental health, was highlighted. He assured that Government will encourage Homoeopathy to become one of the key components in the public healthcare systems in India. He stressed on the need to have more evidence based researches so that Homoeopathy can get its due recognition among other systems of medicine. On this occasion, the souvenir of the conference was released by him with other dignitaries on the dais. Dr. Sandeep Kaila thanked all the dignitaries for their gracious presence during the inaugural ceremony and hoped that this initiative would place India at a leading position in LMHI.

SCIENTIFIC SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

The scientific session began with the presentation of the keynote speaker, Dr. Farokh J. Master who highlighted the role of Classical Homoeopathy in the cases of meningoencephalitis and cerebral haemorrhage. He also emphasized the need of physiotherapy and occupation therapy in the management of such cases. The different stages of recovery of the patients were depicted through the video clippings. Various presentations during the conference reaffirmed that due attention needs to be paid to child's behaviour prior to his illness and the mother's emotional state during pregnancy while

managing the case of a child, which was discussed in detail by Dr. Geeta Rani Arora. These presentations opened up new avenues to undertake further efforts in this area.

Dr. J.D. Daryani in his presentation cited his clinical experiences in paediatric practice. He emphasized that homoeopathic medicines boost the immune system and have been found to be effective in many paediatric ailments such as lactose intolerance, complaints during dentition, allergic disorders, respiratory complaints, febrile convulsions, breath-holding attacks, growing pains, etc., Dr. Vishpala Parthasarthy, in her presentation, underlined the important factors that need to be considered to ensure the correct prescription. Homoeopathic approach in paediatric disorders with due emphasis on case taking was discussed in detail by Dr. Nandini Sharma and Dr. Amiya Goswami.

Homoeopathic perspective on mental retardation was addressed by Dr. Ajit Kulkarni, the keynote speaker of second day of the conference who highlighted the promising role of Homoeopathy in such conditions. Various presentations by eminent speakers during the conference affirmed that Homoeopathy has an immense role in the disorders like Autism, Attention Deficit Disorder (ADD) and Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and behavioural disorders which were deliberated upon by Dr. Samir Chaukhar, Dr. Babita Rasheed and Dr. Naveen Vishnoi respectively. Efficacy of higher dynamisation in psychiatric disorders was conferred upon by Dr. Aman Goel.

Successful management in cases of Acute Lymphoblastic Leukaemia (ALL) and Chronic Myeloid Leukaemia (CML) Dr. Tarang Krishnan and Dr. Tanvir Husain exhibited the scope of Homoeopathy in such diseases. Role of Homoeopathy in advanced paediatric cases was discussed in detail by Dr. Pawan Pareek.

Effective management of iron overload, which is the major cause of morbidity and mortality in Thalassaemia major, presented by Dr. Bipin Jethani opened up new possibilities to further explore the role of Homoeopathy in such a condition. Need for proper methodology and parameters of analysis while approaching a case of Thalassaemia major were underlined. Successfully managed cases of Type-I Diabetes mellitus in children and Nephrotic

syndrome treated with Homoeopathy presented by Dr. Sanjeev Narula, Dr. Gaurav Kackar and Dr. Leena Dighe indeed boosted the confidence of the gathering and encouraged them to take up the challenges ahead.

Scope of Homoeopathy in managing conditions like Atopic dermatitis, Psoriasis, Vitiligo, Allergic rhinitis and Migraine were reaffirmed by the cases presented by Dr. A.K. Gupta, Dr. Smita Brahmachari, Dr. S.L. Parakh, Dr. Shubhamoy Ghosh and Dr. Nishant Daryani respectively. Homoeopathic management of lifestyle disorders in children was taken up by Dr. Lily Jain. The importance of early detection, treatment and management of sub-clinical hypothyroidism presented by Dr. Saurav Arora urged the gathering to explore the areas which often go unnoticed.

A case of Epidermolysis bullosa efficiently managed with Homoeopathy by Dr. Gyandas Wadhvani indeed supported the immunomodulatory role of Homoeopathy. Tuberculosis forms a major disease burden in India. A study carried out to explore the role of Homoeopathy in the treatment of multi drug-resistant tuberculosis (MDRT) by Dr. Sudhir Batra underlined the convincing role of Homoeopathy and suggested the need for further validation under controlled trials with immunological markers. Need for changes in the fundamental research angle in regard to Diabetes mellitus was the topic of discussion of Dr. R.A. Patel. The outstanding presentations during the conference strengthened the discussion taken up by Dr. Ajay Yadav where in he removed the myth of Homoeopathy as a slow acting system of medicine.

Apart from the chosen theme of the congress, other important subjects in the arena of homoeopathic research were touched upon by different speakers.

Pharmacy an important homoeopathic research area yet less known to the practitioners was also deliberated upon by speakers covering its important aspects. The importance of strict testing of raw plant materials used in preparing homoeopathic medicine was presented by Dr. Geeta Rani Arora. Power and efficacy of homoeopathic medicines their preservation and use was touched upon by Dr. V. Elia Reddy. Study on leaching properties of plastic vials often used in storing and dispensing of homoeopathic medicine by Dr. Neeraj Gupta was a

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new topic of discussion. Plastics are being widely used in storing the homoeopathic medicines and the above study suggested that the plastic vials may leach out different plastic components and additive compounds in stored homoeopathic medicine which could interfere with its medicinal property or be hazardous for human use.

Integration of Homoeopathy in school health programme, another area where the role of Homoeopathy could be identified, was deliberated upon by Dr. Yogesh Niturkar. Suitability of homoeopathic graduates in public health sector was taken up by Dr. J.S. Rathore. Homoeopathic management of Uterine leiomyoma was another subject of interest put forth by Dr. Poornima Shukla.

The need of robust Basic and Fundamental research was detailed by Dr. Anil Khurana who presented the activities carried out by CCRH in the field of fundamental and basic research. Research outcome of the Council's studies on ADHD (RCT), a case of Sub acute measles encephalitis in an immunocompetent child and common diseases in children were presented to the audience by Dr. S. Gopinadhan, Dr. Vaishali Shinde and Dr. Subash Kaushik, the scientists of the Council.

The abstracts of all the presentations are available online at www.lmhiindia.in for a wider readership.

VALEDICTORY SESSION

During the valedictory session, all the officials from various associations whose contribution made this conference a success were felicitated by Dr. Ramjee Singh and Dr. Bakshi. Dr. Ramjee Singh marked the conference as a significant occasion for homoeopathic fraternity and highlighted the struggle of Late Dr. Diwan Harish Chand, Late Dr. Rastogi and many others to get India recognized in LMHI.

Dr. Bakshi concluded on a delighted note that Indian chapter of LMHI has brought all associations under one banner, and further steps need to be taken to work as one organization. The dignitaries who graced the dais included Dr. S.P.S. Bakshi, Dr. Ramjee Singh, Dr. S.M. Singh, Dr. J.D. Daryani, Dr. Poornima Shukla, Dr. Man Singh, Dr. Sandeep Kaila and Dr. Kamal Puri.

Dr. Sandeep Kaila gave the vote of thanks expressing his gratitude to all the executive members of LMHI and the delegates whose contributions made this conference a success. He also thanked CCRH for its technical support.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE (LMHI) INDIAN CHAPTER BRINGS TOGETHER HOMOEOPATHIC PROFESSIONALS NATIONWIDE

LMHI's first National Conference brought together many Homoeopathy stalwarts and researchers from all over India. Apart from prominent homoeopathic practitioners, there were some new faces with interesting presentations. The quality of papers presented at the conference along with the zeal and enthusiasm of the participants was a good experience for practitioners and researchers alike.

Indian chapter of LMHI was a stepping stone and an event to be cherished in the history of Indian LMHI.

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लीगा 2014 का राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन

सार: 24-25 मई, 2014 को भारत ने अपने पहले लीगा सम्मेलन, की मेज़बानी राजधानी दिल्ली में की। सम्मेलन का आधार वाक्य, "बाल चिकित्सा विकारों में मूल और बुनियादी अनुसंधान" था जिसमें 37 मौखिक प्रस्तुतियाँ थीं। प्रमुख वक्ताओं ने उन विषयों पर विचार रखे जिन्होंने होम्योपैथी के क्षेत्र में होने वाली मजबूत प्रगति को प्रदर्शित किया। इस कार्यक्रम के द्वारा शोधार्थियों, शिक्षाविदों और चिकित्सकों को अपने अनुभवों, विचारों और सूचनाओं को साझा करने का अवसर मिला।