

A CASE OF SPERMATORRHOEA

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Patient: P. Pullanna, shepherd, age 45, Gangadevipath, Cuddapah.

Signs and Symptoms: 11.6.62. In the Patient's own words:—

"I feel burning often in the middle of my chest, which is severe at 6 p.m. Cold drink or rest or sleep gives me some relief. I feel burning in soles and here and there. They are severe on copious urination, which I get at times. I have vertigo and at times trembling, which too subside by rest. There is plenty of saliva, which at times is with blood. I have good appetite. At times I pass slimy or thick or white fluid instead of or along with urine: and it is passed involuntarily at times. There are night pollutions also and I have become impotent. There is marked progressive emaciation and prostration. It is pronounced as spermatorrhœa."

Observation: The patient's looks, talk and gestures depict anxiety.

Past History: "Since 7 years, M.B.B.S.'s and Ayurvedics have treated me in vain. Finally I ran up to a big London Mission Hospital, where there are M.D.s and F.R.C.S.s. They examined me without putting questions and said that I had no disease except weakness. Thoroughly disappointed, I narrated to them my sufferings and the nature of my discharges. On their advice, I bought from them some pills and tonics, which proved quite ineffective."

Treatment: 15.6.62 Phos. 0/6—Single dose. (An aggravation was foretold).

The patient did not turn up. On 18.12.62 when I met him by chance, he said, "Your medicine increased my troubles. I suffered a lot for 10 days. There is slight burning here and there yet. I am in a hurry". He went away. On 10.4.63, when I met him again likewise, he said, "I must make myself sure that my troubles do not return." And they have not yet returned till today 1.1.64. in spite of his stern outdoor life as usual.

Commentary: In the symptoms above selected from his lengthy narration, "Phos." stands out quite prominently with its bold relief: and the following analysis too confirms it. Of all the burners with amelioration on cold drink, "Caust." and "Phos." can be thought of. But "Caust." feels paralysed to claim jurisdiction over involuntary and nocturnal vital drain and impotency. So it was ruled out. The modalities and other symptoms—amelioration on cold drink or rest and vertigo, ptyalism, hæmoptysis etc. fall within the compass of Phos. Moreover it had to deal with symptoms, purely subjective or phenomenal devoid of structural changes or pathology.

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brought it to me. It just went through the half-inch mouth diameter of a vial. It is still in that bottle, and I measured it again. It is black on the outside, with a brown center, that can be seen because some of the surface has flaked off. The patient found quantities of smaller stones, down to mere sand, for more than a week after the large one was expelled. She has never had another attack of gallstone colic in these past twenty-two years. I have always been sure that the stone was lodged some place in the duct, probably the common bile duct, throughout the seven months preceding its final expulsion.

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