

CASES TREATED WITH BOENNINGHAUSEN'S REPERTORY*

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Dr. Boenninghausen's Repertories, Therapeutic Pocket Book and Boger Boenninghausen's Characteristic & Repertory are close to Kent's Repertory in importance as a reference tool in the selection of medicine. Boenninghausen's concept of totality of complete symptom i.e. Location, Sensation, Modalities and Concomitant has firmly stood the test of experience for nearly 200 years of Homoeopathy and is as relevant and useful today as it was earlier.

In the present time there is an increasing trend for prescribing on mentals alone or on dreams alone, in my view the approach of Boenninghausen appears more balanced as it takes into consideration the whole sick man, both his physical and mental symptoms.

I would like to mention a few cases in which remedy was selected on the basis of Boger's Boenninghausen's Characteristics & Repertory (BBR).

Case 1

Sebaceous cyst Baryta carbonica

A male patient, aged 38 years came on 5.11.93 with cystic swelling over left temple for the last 2 years. The swelling was static, painless, mobile and no other details of the patient were characteristic. On the basis of these indications only, Boenninghausen's Repertory was consulted taking the following rubrics:

FACE, proper, temples
SKIN, Cysts

Baryta carbonica was suggested as a possible remedy, and was given in 30 potency two times a day for 3 weeks. After 3 weeks, swelling got burst and discharged its contents. The patient is very happy to relate the action of the homoeopathic remedy. Needless to add

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that I would not have thought of Baryta carbonica without BBR.

Case 2

Psoriasis Sepia

A female 37 years of age came in January '94 with problem of psoriasis manifested as scaly erythematous plaques over both the legs, buttocks, knees, ankles, elbows, and ears for the last 4 years. Itching was aggravated after scratching. Her complaints used to get aggravated during winters and before menses. She had tendency to weep easily on trifles, desire for company, desire for warm food and drinks, and amelioration in open air.

Initially she was prescribed Pulsatilla 0/1 on 22.1.94 followed by Pulsatilla 0/2, 0/3, 0/4 at an interval of one week. She had only 5% relief in her complaints of scaling and erythema with no further improvement. The case was worked out with the BBR taking rubrics:

SKIN, Eruptions, scaly, psoriatic
Itching, scratch, must
Itching, after scratching, agg.
UPPER EXTREMITIES, Joints, elbow
Joints, elbow, bend of
LOWER EXTREMITIES, Buttocks
Joints, knee
EARS, lobules
Eruptions, on lobule
FEMALE, Menstruation, before
MIND, weeping
Company, desires
STOMACH, Desire for, warm, food
GENERALITIES, Agg., winter in
Amel., air, open in

The drug Sepia came out prominently covering 15 rubrics with 41 marks. From 7/3/94 onwards she was given Sepia 0/1, 0/2, 0/3, 0/4 in succession with marked relief.

Now till reports on 3/10/94 she is 90% better in respect of itching, scaling, erythema and clearing of the patches from the parts mentioned above.

Comments

Psoriasis is a chronic disease with relapses and remissions. In our case patient had aggravation in winters and had come at the close of winters in the month of January. For two months she had no improvement with the first medicine and thereafter with Sepia case improved with 90% reduction in the intensity of complaints. From case record it appears to be a natural remission as patient had reported for treatment at the end of winters in January, but she never had 90% relief during this period before start of treatment.

It was only after selection of Sepia mainly on the basis of location of eruptions using BBR, she was relieved of her sufferings.

Case 3

Recurrent abortions Calcarea carbonica

A female, 26 years of age, married for last 6 years came on 6/4/94 with complaint of recurrent abortions (seven times) occurring between three to six months of gestation. Abortions were occurring without any known precipitating factors beginning as mild pain in the abdomen and bleeding per vagina. Her menstrual cycle was 4 days/ 28 days.

Other features: Anxious, liked company, thirstlessness. desire for warm food and salt, constipation before menses, hot patient, stool hard, dry, no urge, on alternate days. Leucorrhoea: whitish, thin, copious, worse before menses. Burning urination.

The case was worked out with Boenninghausen's Repertory taking all characteristics as mentioned above.

The case was worked out with BBR taking the following rubrics:

FEMALE, abortion, leucorrhoea, profuse with
Abortion, month, at third
Abortion, tendency to
Leucorrhoea, white
Leucorrhoea, thin
Leucorrhoea, profuse
STOMACH, Desire for, salty things
Desire for, warm, food
Thirst, thirstlessness
CONSTIPATION, on alternate days
Inactive bowels, from
faeces, hard, from
URINATION, during, bladder, burning
MIND, anxiety
Company, desires

Calcarea carbonica came at first place covering 9 rubrics out of 15 with maximum 24 marks. Therefore it was selected as the similimum in this case.

On 6/4/94 Calcarea carbonica LM1 was given twice a week for three months. Again on 22/7/94 it was repeated for two months.

While taking the drug, she conceived and continued to full term without any complications. The delivery was normal vaginal birth at full term after intake of this drug.

Comments

Calcarea carbonica is usually not thought of in cases of recurrent abortions. In this case drug could be selected only after repertorisation of all symptoms using BBR. The drug has acted well bringing good name to Homoeopathy.