

RARELY INDICATED REMEDIES

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We present in this paper three cases treated by rarely indicated remedies. What is interesting in them is that the remedies acted deeply in the patients and cured symptoms that are not as yet established as belonging to these remedies in the literature or in Kent's *Repertory*, which we use in Greece.

In these cases we were led by key symptoms to study the materia medica and to decide. Unfortunately we do not have at the moment enough data in the materia medica on these small remedies to decide on the whole symptom picture.

We may say that the symptoms that disappeared after the remedy belong to the pathogenesis of the drug. Many of these symptoms could be added to the materia medica and to the repertory if they are reconfirmed by other doctors. We earnestly ask all colleagues who use only one remedy at a time to report, not only in the congresses but also in the homœopathic journals, relevant cases from which we could learn about the pathogenesis of the small remedies of the materia medica.

1st Case: K.M., male, age 30, First seen: 19/12/74. Complains about repeated gastrorrhagias.

HISTORY: Since early childhood pain in stomach and water brash.

10 years old duodenal ulcer was confirmed by X-rays.

Crises of pains on and off, cannot remember details.

First bleeding from stomach 17 yrs. old.

Since then 9 gastrorrhagias.

1970, vagotomy, enteroanastomosis.

8 months later again profuse bleeding that continued appearing about once a year. Last one a month ago.

Since, nearly every day vomiting coffee-ground colored mucus.

FAMILY HISTORY: Father died from bleeding of esophagus, had varicose veins, the existence of which he ignored.

Mother had duodenal ulcer for years, extreme obesity.

SYMPTOMATOLOGY: Heaviness in stomach 4-5 hrs. after eating, followed by regurgitating of coffee-ground colored liquids and some remnants of food.

Tympanic distension with rumbling and pain in hypogastrium extending to lumbar region, >curling up and pressing, >flatus. This pain in the lumbar region, sometimes severe, is >by pressing and bending backwards, which brings profuse salivation.

Pain in stomach before a meal, preventing him from eating.

Distension in abdomen and pain in lumbar region when cold is felt in abdomen.

GENERALS AND FOOD DESIRES AND AVERSIONS: <cold, <wet weather.

Desires: mutton, sweets, cheese, sour things.

Aversions: milk, oysters, vegetables.

Salt normal. Thirstless.

He is an unhappy fellow, having been ill all his life and not able to study or do what he likes.

Irritable.

Easily tired.

Sleep good and long, prefers lying on the left.

He was given Millefolium 200/I.

Two months later he is much better.

Feels calmer.

Pain in abdomen gone.

Pain in lumbar region gone.

No flatus.

Sensitivity to cold gone.

Has gained 3 kgs in weight.

Five months later: slight stomach complaints after being in a very wet place.

Started drinking milk.

Eleven months later: he is without medicine for many months.

2 or 3 times water brash without coffee-ground colored remnants.

He gained another 2 kgs in weight.

He keeps no diet.

He is not sensitive to cold any more.

Till recently, when seen accompanying his mother, was well.

The frequency of hemorrhages and the absence of pain during hemorrhage, tympanitic distension, ill humor and irritability (Clarke) were the clues that guided us to Millefolium.

Millefolium acted in this case so deeply as to change the sensitivity of this person to cold and wet and milk, apart from removing the bleeding and all symptoms of his ulcer.

We therefore feel that these rubrics should be added to the Repertory after reconfirmation.

2nd Case: K.E., female, age 68. First seen: 10/6/75. Complains of allergic coryza and pains in spine.

HISTORY: 1920, malaria, many quinine injections.

1926, TB.

1940-44, eczema on hands and feet from autoblood vaccination.

1948, allergic coryza starts, with violent sneezing.

1968, operated for nodules left by quinine injections that formed abscesses.

After this operation coryza and sneezing subsided.

Last year it started again.

SYMPTOMATOLOGY: Violent sneezing followed by running watery discharge. May last from two hrs. to two days.

< slight draft, though she tolerates cold open air.

> lying warm in bed, with nose covered.

To prevent prolongation of crisis she has to lie down or sit half-lying, *motionless*, for some time. If crisis becomes severe, nose swells and she cannot breathe through it or touch it.

Since 25 years she suffers from pains in lumbar region extending down to left leg, recently also to right leg. Pain recently is worse in calves and ankles, constricting.

Cramps in left calf morning on stretching (Asparagus).

GENERALS: Bears heat and cold the same.

< sun.

Wakes frequently in the night, sometimes sleepless all night.

MENTALS: Anxiety, heaviness and constricted feeling in chest, bad mood, sadness. It comes like a crisis and goes by itself.

Irritable, if irritated remains silent.

In a hurry.

Nervous trembling, > by hand work.

FOOD DESIRES AND AVERSIONS: Desires: meat, fish, fat, lemon.

Aversions: salty things, almond juice, slimy food.

No thirst.

In this case we were guided by the key symptom "cramps in calf morning on stretching", for which only Asparagus is mentioned in Kent's *Repertory*, and we found that this remedy fitted quite well, because of the prominent effect it has on hay fever.

It was given with success.

We gave Asparagus 200 once and repeated it after 3 months, for there was a relapse.

There was an amelioration not only in her allergic symptoms but also in the anxiety state as well, and in her spine symptoms.

In the *Repertory*, under generalities, Asparagus is found under the aggravation from motion, but we did not find any great amelioration by lying still, which we offer as a rubric for reconfirmation.

3rd Case: C.M., female, age 22. First seen: 6/6/75. Complains of gastritis since 3 years.

SYMPTOMATOLOGY: Pains in stomach in the morning until 9 a.m.

< after grief.

Headaches after vexation.

Involuntary movements of eyelids.

Counts whatever is around her when she has to wait.

Sometimes she had delusions of lights or of colors or of voices. She feels they are unreal.

Avoids being alone in the dark.

Irritable, < noise, talking, < before menses, prefers being alone with somebody around.

Feels suppressed by her mother, continuous conflict that results in revolts and going away from home.

Faints at the sight of blood.

Fear of heights.

Sensitive to music and > from it.

In a hurry. Impatient.

< after long sleep, although she finds refuge in it to avoid conflict with family.

Prophetic dreams.

Craving for the smell of naphthaline, she gets a voluptuous feeling from smelling it.

< cold, cold extremities.

Late menses, > when calm.

Irritability before menses.

Desires: farinaceous foods, *soups, vegetables*.

Thirsty for small quantities.

Aversions to *slimy* food, to milk.

In the above case we saw many symptoms of *Arsenicum album* and some of *Calcareo carbonica*, but neither of the two was clearly indicated.

Yet the patient had a strong desire for liquid food, which we usually find in *Calcareo arsenicosa*.

There was also this peculiar symptom of a real craving for the smell of naphthaline, which we could not find in any remedy.

Because of the key symptom of strong desire for liquid food and the combination of symptoms of *Arsenicum album* and *Calcareo*, we gave *Calcareo arsenicosa* with the following results:

After a severe aggravation of headaches, which was not her main complaint at the time of consultation, she got well in regard to her stomach symptoms, her headaches, and much better in her psychological state.

Involuntary movements of eyelids stopped, and last—what is interesting in this case—the craving for the smell of naphthaline disappeared.

Symptoms offered for reconfirmation for *Calcareo arsenicosa*:

1. Craving for smell of naphthaline.
2. Fainting at the sight of blood.
3. Involuntary movements of eyelids.
4. Impulse to count things when waiting.

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