

# CLINICAL STUDY OF THE EFFECTS OF HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINES IN FILARIASIS

DR. CHATURBHUJA NAYAK, D.H.M.S. (Hons.) Utkal, Dip. N.I.H. (Hons.),  
Bhubaneswar

## TITLE OF THE STUDY

Scope of homoeopathic medicines in the treatment of filariasis—a clinical study in retrospection.

## LEVEL OF STUDY

Out-patient department of Dr. Abhin Chandra Homoeopathic Medical College Hospital, Bhubaneswar (Orissa).

## MATERIALS

1. Patients attending the O.P.D. of the hospital.
2. Medicines in different potencies.

## METHODOLOGY

1. *Screening of cases:* (a) The case-records of the patients suffering from filariasis who attended the out-patient department of Dr. Abhin Chandra Homoeopathic Medical College Hospital, Bhubaneswar, between April 1980 and March 1984 were screened.

(b) The follow-up of each case-record along with the result of treatment was studied and the case-records of the patients were grouped in the following manner:

- (i) Those who got complete relief,
- (ii) those who got 75% relief (approx.).
- (iii) those who got 50% relief (approx.).

(c) The patients who got less than 50% relief and the drop outs were not taken into consideration.

(d) Both the acute and chronic cases were included in the study.

(e) The effects of each medicine, its dose, potency and repetition schedule etc., were also meticulously studied.

## DESIGN OF STUDY

This has been done on the basis of:

1. Age and Sex distribution (Table 1).
2. Duration of Illness (Table 2).
3. Locality of affection (Table 3).
4. Percentage of relief (Table 4).
5. Results in relation to age (Table 5).
6. Results in relation to sex (Table 6).

7. Results in relation to chronicity (Table 7).

8. Medicines and potencies used (Table 8).

## OBSERVATIONS

TABLE 1

## AGE &amp; SEX OF PATIENTS

Sex	0-10 yrs.	11-20 yrs.	21-30 yrs.	31-40 yrs.	41-50 yrs.	51-60 yrs.	61 yrs. & above	Total
Male	4	30	81	28	12	5	4	164
Female	6	6	14	3	1	1	—	31
Total	10	36	95	31	13	6	4	195

TABLE 2

## DURATION OF ILLNESS PRIOR TO STARTING OF TREATMENT

Duration of illness	No. of patients
Less than 1 month	122
2 to 6 months	26
7 months to 1 year	13
2 to 3 years	14
4 to 5 years	12
6 to 7 years	1
8 to 9 years	3
10 years and above	4
	195

TABLE 3

## PARTS AFFECTED

Parts affected	Right	Left	Both
Hand	14	12	2
Forearm	3	2	—
Upper arm	21	10	—
Thigh	4	1	—
Leg	35	34	3
Ankle joint	1	3	—
Foot	3	4	—
Inguinal lymph nodes	1	—	—
Testicle	23	16	3
TOTAL	105	82	8

TABLE 4

RESULT OF TREATMENT OF THE CASES COMPLETED DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

Complete relief	75% relief	50% relief
40	65	90

TABLE 5

RELIEF IN RELATION TO AGE

Age	Complete relief	75% relief	50% relief
0-10 yrs.	5	1	8
11-20 yrs.	8	8	15
21-30 yrs.	11	40	34
31-40 yrs.	10	11	25
41-50 yrs.	5	3	3
51-60 yrs.	1	1	2
61 years and above	—	1	3

TABLE 6

RESULTS IN RELATION TO SEX

Sex	Complete relief	75% relief	50% relief
Male	30	54	80
Female	10	11	10

TABLE 7

RESULTS IN RELATION TO CHRONICITY

Chronicity of disease	RESULTS		
	Complete relief	75% relief	50% relief
Less than 1 month	23	45	51
2 to 6 months	3	10	16
7 months to 1 yr.	5	3	8
2 to 3 years	6	3	6
4 to 5 years	2	2	5
6 to 7 years	—	—	1
8 years & above	1	2	3

TABLE 8

## MEDICINES AND POTENCIES ADMINISTERED

Name of the medicines	Potencies
Apis mel.	6, 30, 200, 1M
Ara. mont.	200, 1M
Ars. alb.	30, 200, 1M
Belladonna	6, 30, 200
Bry. alb.	6, 30, 200
Calc. carb.	30, 200
Calc. fluor	3X, 6X, 12X, 30, 200, 1M, 10M, CM
Clematis	6, 30, 200, 1M
Graphites	30
Hepar sulph.	1X, 3X
Hydrocotyle as.	ϕ, 30, 200
Kali bich.	200
Lycopodium	6, 30, 200, 1M
Merc. sol.	30, 200
Nat. mur.	30, 200
Phosphorus	200
Pulsatilla	30, 200, 1M, 10M
Rhododendron	6, 30, 200, 1M
Rhus tox.	30, 200, 1M, 10M
Sabadilla	200
Silicea	6, 6X, 30, 200, 1M, 10M, CM
Sulphur	30, 200, 1M, 10M, CM
Syphilinum	10M
Thuja	200, 1M, 10M

## CONCLUSION

On a perspicacious study of the above cases, a gross idea about the following aspects of the disease and its homoeopathic management can be conceived:

(a) *Diagnosis of the disease*: The diagnosis of the patients was made on the basis of

- (i) symptomatology of the patients,
- (ii) clinical findings, and
- (iii) detection of microfilariae in patients' blood.

(b) *Selection of medicines*: The medicines were selected (i) on the basis of totality of symptoms, where there were conspicuous mental and physical generals as well as characteristic particulars, (ii) empirically in onesided cases, with only a few symptoms. In such cases, the medicines having the characteristic skin symptoms of lymphangitis, induration, glandular hypertrophy and solid oedema etc., were administered.

In a few cases, biochemic medicines like Silicea and Calc. fluor. were also prescribed intercurrently.

(c) *Selection of potency*: The potencies were selected on the merit of each case. All sorts of potencies, low, medium and high were employed.

(d) *Repetition schedule*: The medicines were repeated in accordance with the homoeopathic principles, after analysing the results of each medicine.

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