

## GUIDELINES FOR RESEARCH

### Some Possible Avenues

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The symptoms recorded in the materia medica have been derived from (i) proving on healthy individuals, (ii) verifications made in the clinic or at the bedside, and (iii) accidental proving.

Accidental proving may be by cases of poisoning or from overdosing of the crude drug prescribed by physicians of orthodox school. Proving in potency is better in preference to proving in material doses but the latter cannot altogether be ignored as it also has helped considerably in building up the materia medica after, of course, such symptoms are confirmed by verification in practice.

Researches being conducted these days in colleges and other institutions are mainly based on allopathic notion; only very rarely do we hear of proving healthy individuals whom, unfortunately, it is difficult to find now. It is a welcome sign that re-proving of some drugs in our climatic conditions has been included in the programme of the Research Council.

During the last five years accidental proving by unknowingly consuming adulterated foodgrains is being reported many times. Following is a case in illustration:

"So far 329 cases of lathyrism, paralysis of the lower limbs, caused by consumption of khesari dal have been reported in Bemetara and Rajnandgaon tehsils of Raipur district of Madhya Pradesh." *The Indian Express* 6.6.75, p. 3.

When such cases are reported a group of experts from homoeopathic research institutions should be dispatched immediately to observe, study and collect the symptoms, so that these substances may be considered for incorporation in the materia medica for possible employment in paralysis and allied affections. Will the authorities concerned take necessary steps?

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