HOMC111

Session 05a
Materia Medica
Homeopathy Department
Materia Medica

Comprised from:
- Provings
- Poisonings
- Clinical confirmation

May also contain information on:
- Source material
- Other uses
- Homeopathic differential diagnosis
- Relationships to other medicines
- Therapeutic usage
- Prescribing advice

(Obal Blog, n.d.)
Types of Materia Medica

- Comprehensive catalogues of symptoms
- Keynote materia medicas
- Discussions
- Psychological profiles

(CW Books, n.d.)
Structure

- Often follow a top-to-bottom structure, organised by locations

(Connexions, 2013)
Grading

- Text may be in different fonts to communicate quality in the source of information
- E.g. in Boericke’s Pocket Manual of Homeopathic Materia Medica
  - Regular font: less frequently verified
  - *Italics font: more frequently verified*
- Other texts have more sophisticated or detailed methods
  (Boericke, 2013)
Reference list


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Session 05b

Doctrine of Signatures

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Doctrine of Signatures

“the art of knowing from the outer appearance of a plant or its environment what its medicinal properties are” (Graves, 2012, p.3)

- Rooted in folklore tradition
- Often reflected in common names of medicinal plants, e.g. lungwort or eyebright
- May be seen reflected in mythology e.g. the nymph Anemone transformed into Pulsatilla by the jealous goddess/wife of Zephyr, the West Wind

(Graves, 2012)
The Example of Aloe

- Used for dry skin, in moisturisers and lotions
- Can learn from the aloe that stays moist even in the desert
- Cut plant looks like cross section of skin

(Graves, 2012)
Doctrine of Signatures in Homeopathy

- Hahnemann rejected Doctrine of Signatures as a primary source of information wanting his materia medica to come purely from his more scientific human pathogenetic trials. (Hahnemann, 1996)

“I am far from denying, however, the many important hints the natural system may afford to the philosophical student of the materia medica and to him who feels it his duty to discover new medicinal agents; but these hints can only help to confirm, and serve as a commentary to facts already known, or in the case of untried plants they may give rise to hypothetical conjectures which are however, far from approaching even to probability” (Hahnemann, 1796)
Doctrine of Signatures in Homeopathy

- Some contemporary homeopaths apply doctrine of signatures types of data
- The homeopaths use DOS in animal and mineral medicines as well as plants
- DOS is more frequently used when a practitioner is working with kingdoms, or group analysis methods
- This remains an area of strong controversy between the conservative and experimental homeopaths

(Gray, 2011)
Reference list


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Session 05c

Asteracea

Homeopathy Department
Asteracea Family

- Aster, Daisy or Sunflower family
- Also known as Compositae
- Second largest plant family

(Vermeulen, 2011)
Main Constituents

- Inulin: for carbohydrate storage
- Sesquiterpene lactones: bitter tasting, anti-inflammatory and anti-hyperalgesic
- Polyacetylenes: inhibit bacteria and fungi

(Vermeulen, 2011)
Injuries, wounds, beatings, accidents

(Legend Fighting Championship, 2012)


Source

- Leopard’s bane
- Wolf’s bane
- Fall herb
- Family: Asteraceae
- Order: Asterales (Vermeulen, 2012)

- “use the roots, flowers and leaves. Before using the flowers we should clean them of the eggs [musca arnicae] of a peculiar parasitic insect which infests this plant” (Vithoulkas, 1995, p.529)
Herbal Uses

- Topically for:
  - Injuries
  - Varicose veins
  - Bruises
  - Sprains
  - Pain
  - Inflammation
  - Insect bites

- Not used internally

(Thomsen & Gennat, 2009)

(Goodwin Jr., G., & Snark, 2004)
Human Pathogenetic Trial

- Introduced by Hahnemann, with 10 provers
- Jorg in 1823 with 10 males and 1 female using crude doses
- Von Szontagh self experimentation with tincture and 3x (Vermeulen, 2012)
Theme

“The main theme of Arnica symptomatology revolves around a deep traumatic experience upon the physical or emotional or mental body. A traumatic experience of the human organism resulting from injuries, falls, blows, concussions, fright, fear, financial loss, etc.

The experience leaves the person with a tremendous fear of coming into physical contact with anything which is hard or penetrating. The whole of the symptomatology develops around this basic fear: Do not touch me, do not come too close to me, physically or emotionally and most of all do not penetrate me, physically or metaphorically.” (Vithoulkas, 1995, p.529)
Symptoms

Case

“Rheumatism, aching and soreness in muscles and joints, compelling him to move after a few minutes and find a new place in which he seems more quiet. Rhus 1m. Next day no improvement and no change in symptoms, except growing worse generally. The pain in the ankle joint feels as if sprained, joints and muscles sore to touch. He says, "I move all the time; when I get into a new place I feel better but very soon the bed in the new place feels like iron and I must move. The moving I am compelled to do not from an innate restless pain but from the hardness of the bed as it seems to me." It must be observed that Rhus tox could not cure this case, yet at my visit the language was calculated to deceive. Arn. must be the most appropriate remedy. The soreness which gradually grows worse by the pressure of the bed and the peculiar soreness as of a sprain precluded any other remedy. Arn. 1 M. was given in water. The pain and soreness were gone at the end of three days. Sulph 6 M., one dose finished the cure. He was out of the house on the eighth day.” (Kent, 2007, p.583)
Reference list


References


Source

- Common daisy
- Bruisewort
- Bairnwort
- Family: Asteraceae
- Order: Asterales
  (Vermeulen, 2012)

- "Tincture of the whole fresh plant"  (Vithoulkas, 1997, p.912)
Herbal Uses

- Not commonly used in herbalism
  (Thomsen & Gennat, 2009)
Human Pathogenetic Trial

- Thomas self experimented with tincture & 3c in 1856-57
- Compton Burnett used tincture on himself and another man in 1880-81
- Hinsdale proved the tincture on 2 females and 4 males in 1915
- Mezger & Hael used tincture and low potencies on 21 provers in 1937
- Deacon and Ribot-smith proved 30c and 200c in 1995, with 9 female and 4 male provers

(Vermeulen, 2012)
Theme

“Bellis is an important remedy for deep traumas, whether they be of the physical body or of the psyche. It is a remedy that should be considered whenever a mistreatment or hurt has been suffered in deep parts: when the physical body has been cut up in an operation or hurt in an accident, or when the emotional body has been mistreated in an emotional conflict.

It is important for the student of homeopathy to understand that different constitutions have different predispositions. In this remedy there seems to be a predisposition for the tissues of the muscular system and the tendons to be in a precariously weak or tired state.” (Vithoulkas, 1997, p.912)
Symptoms

Case

“...lady suffering from a tendency to neuritis, only manifest when she became over-fatigued or exhausted from long hours, or undue exposure... The attack in question was a bit more general in location, in that it involved the hands and wrists, then the shoulder, and finally settled in the left knee. Here it remained and none of her accustomed remedies did any apparent good... The knee was stiff though she could walk, yet it was painful to climb the stairs or get in and out of a car. Pain and soreness were of only moderate degree... doctor again went over the case and discovered that the good woman has slipped on the ice, some months previous, had wrenched this knee but had not thought it worth while to speak of it. Clinical pathology, in the form of trauma to deep tissues, of long standing, pointed the way to a deep-acting remedy for bruised tissue, tincture of Bellis Perennis, as recommended by Dr. Burnett of England. This was prescribed and the patient took her trip and walked in comfort.” (Farr, 1930, para. 3)
Reference ist

https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/d/d5/Bellis_perennis_white_%28aka%29.jpg/616px-Bellis_perennis_white_%28aka%29.jpg


https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Bellis_perennis_full_plant.jpg


Reference list


Source

- Pot marigold
- Family: Asteraceae
- Order: Asterales
  (Vermeulen, 2012)

- “Tincture of leaves and flowers”  (Vithoulkas, 2008, p.1447)
Herbal Uses

- Wounds
- Mouth ulcers
- Skin infections
- Inflamed mucous membranes
- Vaginitis
- Haemorrhoids and varicose veins
- High cholesterol

(Thomsen & Gennat, 2009)
Human Pathogenetic Trial

- Franz and Price self-experimented with tincture
- Petroz, method unknown
- Clinical observations from Yingling, Lippe and Mangialavori

(Vermeulen, 2012)
“Calendula is to lacerated wounds what Arnica is to bruises. Both are considered specifics for injuries... When the skin or an organ is not torn and the external trauma only produces an extravasation of blood, then Arn. will be indicated. However, when there is laceration of the skin or of an organ and inflammation sets in, then the correct choice is Calendula... An important characteristic of Calendula is that, once there is an injury, inflammation or ulceration, the pain experienced may be very violent, often out of all proportion to the extent of the injury. Also the effect on the general condition of the patient is quite distressing” (Vithoulkas, 2008, p.1447)
Symptoms

Case

“Feb. 5, 1935, a boy of twelve was brought to my office after a sledding accident. Two sleds collided and this boy's left hand was ground into the ice and the dirt underneath it. The whole hand and wrist were covered with blood, hiding scratches and excoriated areas where bits of frozen earth had cut their way under the skin. It was a work of time to wash the hand anywhere nearly clean and stop the bleeding. Then the calendula solution came into use again with occasional soakings through the bandage as in the case of the torn finger. There was no suppuration; particles of dirt were thrown out and the hand looked nearly normal in two days.” (Green, 1936, para. 4)
Reference list


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Session 05g

Chamomilla

Homeopathy Department
Source

- *Matricaria recutita*
- *Matricaria chamomilla*
- German chamomile
- Scented chamomile
- Family: Asteraceae
- Order: Asterales

(Vermeulen, 2012)

- “Tincture of the whole fresh plant” (Vithoulkas, 2009, p.1716)
Herbal Uses

- Gastrointestinal uses:
  - Gum infections
  - Food sensitivities
  - Indigestion
  - Colic
  - Diarrhea
- Anxiety and restlessness
- Asthma
- Hayfever
- Menstrual pain

(Thomsen & Gennat, 2009)
Human Pathogenetic Trial

- Hahnemann, self experimentation and his wife and possibly some daughters
- Stapf observations in children, including reaction to the tea
- Austrian proving in 1844 with 5 provers
- Hencke self experimentation with tincture
- Hoppe proving with tincture and low potencies

(Vermeulen, 2012)
Theme

“..Chamomilla patients are oversensitive people, to an extreme degree, and oversensitivity and irritability run through the whole symptom picture” (Vithoulkas, 2009, p.1716)
Symptoms


(Gerding, 2006)
Case

“Master Kumar, aged 7 years, was admitted in the homoeopathic hospital with the following complaints:
For the last 3 months, he gets pain in the abdomen agg. after eating and agg. milk. During pain he becomes restless, irritable and even violent and beats his mother. Pain started after an attack of fever. Now, he has aversion for milk. Thirst: 2 glasses per day. Stool, urine, sleep, etc., normal. With pain there is sweat on the forehead.
Mother says that previously he used to get repeated attacks of cold but since the pain started he does not catch cold. Prev. Hist.: Milestones normal but had teething diarrhoea; dysentery at 6 months; whooping cough at 1 year; chicken pox at 2 years. Family History: Nil.
On examination: Tenderness in the right iliac fossa.”

(Sankaran, 2003, p.260)
Reference list


Reference list


Source

- Artemisia cina
- Levant wormseed
- Santonica wormseed
- Family: Asteraceae
- Order: Asterales

(Vermeulen, 2012)

- “the unexpanded flower heads (‘seeds’) of Artemisia Maritima” (Vithoulkas, 1997, p.1895)
Herbal Uses

- Not commonly used in herbalism
- Worm infestations

(Thomsen & Gennat, 2009)
Human Pathogenetic Trial

- Introduced by Hahnemann, on 6 male provers
- Poisoning cases included in symptoms

(Vermeulen, 2012)
Theme

“Since ancient times, Cina has been known as a worm remedy, especially in children affected by roundworm. Even its old name, ‘Wormseed’, suggests this... Although the symptom picture of Cina shows that the old indication for ‘worms’ has very good reason, it is hardly exact enough, because Cina is not helpful in all cases of roundworm in children, nor are all the cases where Cina acts ‘worm’ cases” (Vithoulkas, 1997, p.1895)
Symptoms

Case

“A child about four years of age:
(a) A cough, day and night, worse at night, of a peculiarly distressing character. The paroxysms occurred every two or three hours; during which the child would become exhausted; have difficulty in regaining the breath and often end in a "spasm." (This spasm was described by the nurse as a rigidity of a whole body, or a convulsive throwing of the body backward, so sudden as to force the child off her lap.)
(b) Ravenous appetite, never satisfied, eats heartily; has hard, disturbed abdomen; picks constantly at its nose, rubs its nose in its sleep; has stools of mucus and undigested food…
Two drops of the 200th were dropped into a half ounce vial of dilute alcohol.”

(Hale, 1994, para 1)
Reference list


Köhler, F. E. (1897). *Artemisia cina - Köhler–s medizinal-pflanzen-165* [Image]. Retrieved 20 February 2017, from https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/7/7f/Artemisia_cina_-_K%C3%B6hler%E2%80%93s_Medizinal-Pflanzen-165.jpg


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Session 05i

Compare and contrast

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# Common Acute Uses

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Joints. Skin</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Left side</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Acute usage</td>
<td>Superficial bruising.</td>
<td>Deep bruising, abdomen and pelvis</td>
<td>Pain open or torn cuts. Infected wounds</td>
<td>Pain; toothache, earache, menstrual pain.</td>
<td>Worms, or complaints concomitant to worms</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Pain as if beaten</td>
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<tr>
<td>Modalities</td>
<td>&lt; touch, night, heat</td>
<td>&lt; motion, cold.</td>
<td>&lt; loss of blood, damp, cold or open air</td>
<td>&lt; cold, menses, movement, touch</td>
<td>&gt; motion, lying on abdomen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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(Boericke, 2013; Vermeulen, 2012; Vithoulkas, 1997)
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