

Epilepsy and Homoeopathy

ABSTRACT: Case of a child having Grand Mal Epilepsy with mental retardation cured with a single dose of stramonium in water potency.



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INTRODUCTION

Case of a 12 years old male child, had Grand Mal Epilepsy with Mental retardation (Grade-2) diagnosed by Neurophysician came to me where he was having seven different fears and other complaints like bed wetting since birth, chronic constipation since 4 years, recurrent fever, aphthous stomatitis, salivation during sleep etc. The child was premature with Low Birth Weight, had Asphyxia during labor with delayed cry etc. As it was an obstructed labor. He had delayed mental as well as physical milestones. He had haemangioma at 3 years of age, which was surgically operated and then Epilepsy developed within six months and then he had been on Anti Epileptic drugs (1-1) till he came to me with his mother. He had three cycles of Anti Epileptic drugs as he was developing epilepsy repeatedly after the completion of cycle, so had to be on the drugs again and again as there was no alternative.

The child, after the detail case taking had been given single remedy '*Stramonium*' in water potency and then there is a development of Hering's Law of Cure, which was followed by Kent's observation 'Old suppressed symptoms reappear'. The case has more than 45 follows ups to show the single remedy effect over a period of 12 months. During the treatment - his Anti Epileptic drugs had been stopped and he was under observation for four months before the case was declared 'Cured'.

The case was worked out in the Synthesis repertory in Radar software with totality through flat repertorization, with Vithoukas Expert System as well as with an Eliminating method of repertorization, to confirm the remedy. This case is also expressing the group symptoms of Solaneace family. The child was advised to consult the same Neurophysician where he had undergone EEG following the completion of treatment where it was under normal limits, in order to document as well as to compare as previous EEG was suggestive of Epilepsy.

KEY WORDS: Epilepsy with Mental Retardation, Hering's Law of Cure, Kent's observation, single remedy '*Stramonium*' in water potency with more than 45 follow ups.

DETAIL CASE TAKING WITH FOLLOW UPS

Epilepsy first started at 6 months of age with fever, where he was treated with antiepileptic drugs - then he developed epilepsy at the age of 2^{1/2} years. As per his mother - it was after the operation of haemangioma. Both the times epilepsy started after fever². Once epilepsy was also preceded by exposure to sun. Then he was put on the antiepileptic drugs for 3 years and after the completion of the cycle - he again developed epilepsy. So he was put on antiepileptic drugs and after the completion of the course - he again developed epilepsy. Then in the third cycle, almost after one year, he was brought to me.

He was having complaint of Involuntary Urination², which has almost never gone since birth. Urine stains yellow; he almost has urination whenever he goes to sleep.

Then his mother explained that he has much fear of Dark² where he does not sleep with the lights off, he even does not go in to dark room. He almost always has to be in the desire for company and most of the time – his mother is accompanying her. He always has desire for company³. He never stays alone.

His mother is on Homoeopathic treatment and knew the importance of Homoeopathic case taking? She revealed he has anger³ and whenever he is angry – he always expresses it by hands and face grimaces², on his family members, almost never on his friends.

He also has fear of water¹ where he feels as if he will be drowned¹. He did not go in to the river at Vera Khadi where his family members went there to enjoy Holi. Fear of closed places¹. He is unable to go upstairs, which is outside his house, which is having a close gallery to pass through in order to go upstairs....

He never stayed alone. In absence of others, he becomes insecure².

Complaint of constipation where he has to strain a lot. Hard stool, once in 2-3 days. He also has flatulence where there were no fixed characteristics.

His mother told me that he is fond of playing with trains, has childish behavior. He always has fever from change of weather.

He also has black ecchymosed patch present on the skin, which is painful on pressure. O/E Nothing specific found, it seems as if from a blunt injury.

While the personal history was been taken, his mother suddenly pointed out regarding his fear of violence², even seeing it in the movies!! He was very scared when they were trapped in the communal riots, of 2004 in Gujarat. Whenever he has this fear-he always complains that please do not hit/attack me...

At the time when I was trying to make the diagnosis of the case, as I was not convinced with the Grand Mal Pattern of Epilepsy – his mother suddenly pointed out that he had never been unconscious during the whole attack of epilepsy¹.

PERSONAL HISTORY

APPETITE: Good. Cannot tolerate hunger².

ADDICTIONS: No specifics found.

THIRST: Normal. URINE: Normal.

STOOL: Constipated, as explained earlier.

THERMAL STATE: H2 C1.

SLEEP: Salivation².

PERSPIRATION: Profuse², No specifics found.

MILE STONES: Normal.

DESIRES: Salt¹, Lemon¹, Cold Drinks², Ice creams², spicy³, Fruits³.

MENTALS: Hyperactive, likes new things, hypersensitive, can explode into anger if his will is not fulfilled. In such instances, he always tells that I will die if you do not do this for me. He likes that others should praise him. He has jealousy. As per his mother – he has a very bad habit of postponing things³.

FAMILY HISTORY

Father is a chronic alcoholic, K/C/O Delirium Tremens. He beat his son almost daily and is the cause of many quarrels at home.

Mother has Migraine. She is handling everything in house.

Sister suffering from Menstrual Irregularities. She is only 19 years old.

PAST HISTORY: No other data found.

GENERAL EXAMINATION: BUILT: Good. NUTRITION: Good. NAILS: NAD.

TONGUE: Thickly coated. MOUTH: Aphthous (Repeatedly occurring). Increase salivation.

SYSTEMIC EXAMINATION: RS: CVS: P/A: CNS: NAD. SIGNS OF MR +.

DEVELOPMENTAL HISTORY: H/O Premature delivery at the age of 7^{1/2} months of pregnancy. Asphyxiated child. Late moaning. Delayed cry. Had diarrhoea.

NOTE:

I had observed that child was very silent during the whole process of case taking, his mother has given maximum information. As I always write the whole case in the words of the patient – I have quoted almost all the symptoms. According to me, Underlining or intensification of the symptoms are made with much care and with cross-

examination. Symptoms written with no intensity are of no value.

This case was taken in the Borsad Rural OPD, run by Dr V H Dave Homeopathic Medical College, Anand, in presence of 2 MD Students, 3 Internees and our Incharge. Address of the patient can be provided on requirement.

DATE	FOLLOW UP	RX
19-1-05	<i>Ed: There are more than 45 follow ups. All the follow ups not given.</i>	Stramonium 200C. BDS for a week.
26-1-05	Clinically much better. He has gradually become very organized in his work. Speaks very fast.	SL BDS for a week.
02 -2-05	Fear: Dark, Water, Drowned in the water, Closed places decreased. Facial grimaces decreased. Desire: Company decreased. Constipation and gas problem decreased. Anger much decreased. Self Confidence improved. Increase frequency of urination, developing Hering's Law of cure. Increased frequency of urination.	SL BDS for a week. .
16-2-05	Constipation and gas decreased. All fears have practically gone.	SL BDS for a week.
02-3-05	Salivation during sleep decreased. Desire: Cold drinks. Lemons, Salt decreased. I got the history of recurrent diarrhea in the past; patient is not having now. <i>Hering's Law applicable here.</i>	SL BDS for a week.
16-3-05	Constipation and gas decreased. All the fears gone. Anger and grimaces decreased. ? Thermal state changing – from hot +2 to Hot +3. Urine frequency decreased.	SL BDS for a week.
23-3-06	No C/C present now. Urination in sleep + but decreased. Observation: Restless. ? Thermal state changing.	SL BDS for a week.
06-4-05	Clinically much improved. Bed wetting much decreased. Valparin 1 (BDS) has been started reducing with a day gap in between. Advised to take Valparin evening dose (which was ODS) at every alternate day.	SL BDS for a week.
20-4-05	Bed wetting +. All the C/C gone. Valparin is further reduced and takes morning daily but ½ in the evening every alternate day.	SL BDS for a week.
04-5 -05	Bed wetting+. Advised to take Valparin ½ at every alternate day (Morning dose is reduced).	SL BDS for a week.
18-5-05	Bed wetting present. Valparin ½ — two days gap - ½.	SL BDS for a week.
01-6-05	Bed wetting +, but reduced. Headache +. Valparin ½ tab three days gap ½ tab. Headache with burning pain on vertex. c/o mild fever. Has thrown the covers off while sleeping. Redness in eyes and headache is aggravated on closure of the eyes.	SL BDS for a week.

	Bodyache +. Bed wetting +. Quantity has decreased (50%). Frequency Has decreased (90%). ? <i>Old suppressed symptoms reappear wait!! Do not stop anti Epileptic drugs.</i>	
15-6-05	Reappearance of black spots, on same areas of hands, legs and shoulder - painful on pressure. <i>Old suppressed symptoms are re-appearing. Clinically >>>. Desire for lemon water, oranges, coconut water. Black spots which re- appeared, gone on own without any remedy.</i>	SL BDS for a week.
22-6-05	C/O Bed wetting + but much decreased.	SL BDS for a week.
13-7- 05	Clinically >>>.C/O Fever since 2 days.No fixed pattern observed. Temp 100 F. Never increased above it. Cough +. Fever since 9 days. MP -ve. Widal -ve. <i>Acute viral fever. Old suppressed Symptoms re-appearing as fever was at every change of weather.</i>	SL BDS for a week.
27-7- 05	Fever gone on own. Cough much decreased. Bed wetting + but it is 10% only.Treatment has been stopped as now no symptoms were there, the child is now under the observation for several months without treatment.	SL BDS for a week.
03-8-05	No symptoms. No Remedy given.	SL BDS for a week.
24-8-05	Come for follow up after one month. Patient is advised to consult the same Neurophysician who diagnosed him. He said that the child is absolutely normal now!!	No remedy given.
26-10- 05	No symptoms. No Remedy given.	No remedy given.
30-11- 05	Came for follow up after one month. The child advised to stop treatment and he is declared cured from Epilepsy and Mental retardation.	No remedy given.

