



Homoeopathic National Conference

2014



Organised by :

Dakshin Bharat Hindi Prachar Sabha's
Dr. B.D. Jatti Homoeopathic Medical College,
Hospital and Post Graduate Research Centre
D.C. Compound, DHARWAD - 580 001, (Karnataka)

Souvenir

HOMOEOPATHIC APPROACH TO PAEDIATRIC CASES, WITH AN UNDERSTANDING OF PAEDIATRIC PSYCHOLOGY

PROF. (Dr). L.K.NANDA, M.D(Hom)
H.O.D Materia medica

Dr. A.C.Hom. medical college and hospital
Bhubaneswar.



INTRODUCTION

The collection of symptoms required for a successful prescription is not only tedious and cumbersome but requires combined effort of both the physician and the patient and is more tedious in cases of children.

The child is like an animal .You never have to ask a horse or a dog where he feels pain because he will always tell by emotion so does the infant...J.T Kent. It is difficult to get symptoms in cases of children and only a shrewd and skilful observer can elicit the symptoms by keenly observing the emotions of children.

The parents and especially the mothers, due to their ignorance of the mental symptoms in homoeopathy present it casually which misleads the doctor in selecting the similimum. As for e.g. a mother, during the interview replied that my child is sober. But through observation it was found that the child is hyperactive, and when a cross-question was asked regarding the attitude of the child towards the pet, mother replied "Oh! though he is mild but brutal to the pet so much so that he pulls the tail, bits the dog mercilessly". This is one of the examples that can be seen in day to day practice.

Thus parents misguidance, misinterpretation and misconception and least knowledge towards the importance of mental symptoms in homoeopathy and profound affection towards their child give a red alert to every physician to base their prescription on astute observation which is highly essential for successful prescription.

The observation should rightly start from the waiting room , consultation room, his response during interview , his body language , appearance , dress etc. and it should be systematic lest important points may remain unobserved which will lead to a fruitless result.

To make this task simplified different authors attempted in different ways to typify the personality of children. To quote a few Douglas M. Borland's "children types include five varieties fat, fair type, skin type, nervy type, backward type, and warm blooded type", Bill Gray and J.Shore's pediatric types, Paul Herscuc's paediatric constitutional types, and some Indian authors "different axis" concept etc.

The attempts are no doubt very much helpful for reaching but doesn't correspond with classical personal typing of standard psychological books. In this study an attempt is made to study some polychrest fitting into classical classification of personality typings of Kaplan and to prescribe depending upon this personality typing.

As defined by Gordan Alport "Personality is the dynamic organization within the individual consisting of his psychophysiological systems which determines his/her unique adjustment to the environment".



Personality is both complex and unique in each individual and differs greatly from one another in multiple compartments or behaviour and each expresses only one of many potential life style. Personality develops through interaction of hereditary disposition and environmental influences to determine the particular behavior.

Genetic difference accounts for about half of the variance of personality trait. Of the remaining 50% of the variance 25-30% are due to nonshared environmental effect i.e. experienced unique to the individuals and 15-20% by measurement error. It has been observed that environmental factors shared by siblings reared together have little or no effect on basic temperament traits but do influence other aspects of personality.

Personality consists of temperament, character and learning attitude. Temperament reflects biological contribution, character reflects social and cultural contribution to personality whereas learning attitude is the reflection of inherited temperament and acquired character derived from social and cultural surrounding.

Temperament as described by Alexander, modern concept of temperament emphasizes its emotional, motivational and adaptive aspects of human being. Temperament is conceptualized as heritable basis in emotionality and learning that under lies the acquisition of emotion based automatic behavior traits and habits observable in life and relatively stable over one's life span.

Temperaments are heritable, observable in childhood relatively stable in time moderately predictive of adolescent and adult behaviour. The 4 temperaments described below shown to be universal across different cultures, ethnic groups and political systems in five continents

The ancient 4 temperaments are known in modern terms by Kaplan are: -

FORMER	NOW	ASSOCIATED WITH BASIC EMOTIONS
Choleric	Novelty seeking	Anger-Behavioral activation
Melancholic	Harm avoidance	Fearless- Behavioral inhibition
Sanguine	Reward dependence	Social attachment
Phlegmatic	Underachieving	Spirit- Partial reinforcement

Each temperament includes certain characteristics as described by Kaplan. Each of these individual characters under one type of temperament are repertorised and five highest ranking drugs pertains to each type of temperament is determined:

Novelty seeking: - Comprises of Impulsive, hyperactive, irritable characters. The five high ranking drugs covering the above characters - Tub., Tarentula, Hyosyamus, Stramonium, Medo

Tuberculinum is hyperactive due to his mischievous temperament and with inner desire to tease others.

Verat.alb hyperactiveness is purposeless without any bad motive.

Tarentula is hyperactive but due to his foxy nature he escapes others attention, Medorrhinum is bipolar, sometime restless and sometimes sluggish. Stramonium hyperactive is accompanied with seriousness and to damage others.

Hyos is hyperactive but has some foolish and comic gestures.



Harm avoidance :- - Comprises of fearful; shy; fatigable characters.

The five high ranking drugs covering the above characters - Nat.mur, Ign, Aur.met, Puls

Reward dependence: - Comprises of Sentimental, open, warm, affectionate characters.

The five high ranking drugs covering the above characters - Phos, sulph, Nux.vom, Lyco, Carc

Persistence: - Comprises of Lazy, underachieving.

The high ranking drugs covering the above characters - (Calc., Silicea, Bar.c, Bufo)

Character

In contrast to temperament, which is mostly inherited, character is less heritable and is moderately influenced by social learning, culture and random life events unique to the individual. Character in the conceptual core of personality involves higher perceiving functions regulated by hippocampus and neocortex, The major character traits have been distinguished as Self-directedness, Cooperative, And Self transcendence.the outline of three characters are as follows-

Self directedness

Responsible, purposeful; resourceful, self acting, disciplined

Drugs for them - Puls, Carc., Kali.carb, Nat.mur, Aur.met

Cooperative

Tenderhearted, Helpful, compassionate, principled

Drugs for them - Ign., Puls., Nat.carb, nat.mur., Carc., Nux.vom

Self transcendental

Intuitive, Spiritual, idealistic

Drugs for them - Lach., Sep., Plat., Lyco., Caust

Learning Attitude:

The third aspect of personality is **learning attitude**, develops with the background of inherited temperament and childhood experience of culture of family, parents attitude, social background. They are described as follows

Artistic: Introspective, imaginative, and expressive Drugs for them - Puls., China, Ign, Stram, Can.indica, Cocculus

Investigative: Intellectual, curious, and energetic. Drugs for them - Lach, Choco., Aur.met, Lyco., Carc., Sepia, Sulph

Conventional: Mechanical, asocial, careful. Drugs for them - Bar.carb, Iodum, Ars.alb., Puls, Bufo

Material & methods

50 cases with different paediatric complaints were selected of which 30 cases were prescribed giving emphasis upon their temperament, character and learning attitude. When drugs selected upon personality typing, don't corroborate with the other physical general or particular symptoms of the drug, these two later categories of symptoms were ignored and drugs were prescribed completely based on the personality typing.

The second group constitutes of rest 20 patients where prescription based on strong physical general and peculiar symptoms ignoring the physician's observation on personality trait.

Observation

It was observed that prescription based on Physician's observation on personality trait were more effective than prescription based upon strong physical general.



Example : A case named Satyasis Mohanty diagnosed to be Glomerular nephritis taking steroids consulted me with urine report is with Albumin - +
RBC- 40- 50
Puscells-5-6 cast granular

Prominent symptoms

Constitution – obese
Sweat – profuse from head
Desire- Salt, sour, eggs
Aversion – milk
Chilly patient

Mental symptoms

Temperament – Reward dependence
Character- cooperative
Learning attitude- Investigative

Though constitution and physical general indicates Calc.carb but considering temperament, character, learning attitude, it corresponds to Phos.

Phos in millesimal could cure the case.

CASE 2

A case of idiopathic thrombocytic purpura named Sandeep Swain complained of petechiae all over the body. The platelet count in the first consultation was 24.5 thousand. His constitution was Obese, Aversion to sweet, constipative and chilly which indicates Graphites but considering the personality trait it is phlegmatic temperament and conventional learning attitude and tendency towards masturbation, Bufo was prescribed in various potencies, which could bring his platelet count to normal.

Inference and conclusion

Kent in his evaluation of symptoms gives more weightage to mental general symptoms where as Boenninghausen is of the view to consider mental symptoms for final selection of the drug. Whatever the fact may be while dealing with the pediatric cases the crux of pediatric case taking is to observe the behavior of the child which includes temperament, character, and learning attitude (Kaplan), is more authentic source then mother's information. But what is to be observed in the child is to be kept in mind so that nothing can be missed to reach the simillimum

So in this work Kaplan's personality study was taken as the criteria to observe different temperament, character, attitude, of the child to elicit the mental symptom. Medicine prescribed basing on these characters is found to be effective. As the child grows very fast from his infancy to school going age, the personality of the child varies in a greater or lesser extent with growing age, family culture, social surrounding etc. But by and large out of many personality characters described in above study some of them will definitely be suitable to any age and paves the way to select the correct remedy.

