

End Stage Disease and Homoeopathy

I am writing on this topic for the first time in my life, by end stage disease what I mean is that they are worst condition of an organ or disease state. At this point the organ is barely functioning. Examples: End stage kidney disease means the kidneys have shut down and the patient needs dialysis; End stage heart disease means the heart is functioning very poorly and may need mechanical support or transplantation in order for the patient to survive. End stage lung disease means that lungs are hardly functioning on its own and need a ventilator support and other extra care to treat respiratory failure.

I am one of the lucky ones who had tremendous experience to treat such condition purely due to my reputation of working in large allopathic hospitals like Bombay hospital, K.E.M. hospital and Ruby hall in Poona. It is beyond the reach of any homoeopath to get such a case as patients with this serious ailment always think of allopathy.

First warning to the reader is do not accept a case like this if you do not have enough experience, second advice is always symptoms of the patients are the guiding factors to select the remedy and not the name of the disease, next is very sound knowledge of human physiology and medicine.

Let me share with you few cases from each system mentioned below.

The first case I distinctively remember when I was working with Late Dr. Arun Samsi who was a director of surgery in K.E.M. hospital and a very big well wisher of homoeopathy. It was a case of a boy who was one of the victims of building collapse; a heavy object fell down on boy's chest producing multiple communicated fractures of ribs and spine thereby producing severe respiratory distress. The boy was rushed to the hospital and he was diagnosed to be suffering from severe respiratory failure with internal hemorrhage. Lot of medication was given to him for this condition but his respiratory failure was not improving at all and hence Dr. Arum Samsi asked me to see the child.

When I examined the child I saw that the respiration was accelerated, the child was semi comatose, there was total paralysis of the lung, the child will just take intermittent few respirations on his own; everything started after severe injury to the chest. There was excessive secretion in the lungs and upper respiratory tract that was suctioned regularly every few minutes on an average 40-50 times day, also I could see lots of injury marks in the form of laceration and contusion due to trauma.

Now in such cases we should not immediately jump to Arnica just because it is routinely prescribed for any injury but we should remember other remedies like Apis and Ruta which are very useful for in cases of injury to the chest and lungs, Hence it is very essential that we refer the repertory; the second important thing is that we should know that what is the pathophysiology in this case. The most important pathophysiology was the paralysis of the diaphragm and the paralysis of the respiratory muscles due to severe injury to chest and head leading to asphyxia.

Now in such a case Margret Tyler has many years back mentioned a very important remedy known as Conium maculatum.

Conium maculatum also covers increased respiratory rate, arrest of respiration and total paralysis of the lung. Based on this totality I prescribed Conium maculatum to the boy. I asked the parents to give the medicine by inhalation technique and not orally as there were many tubes inside the mouth and let the child inhale this particular medicine or if this is not possible then rub the medicine on the skin of the hand every few minutes and I asked them to continue it for few days. Of course the respirator and the other medicines were consecutively given to the boy.

After a period of 15 days I could see that the child could breathe somewhat better than before, the respirator were slowly-slowly reduced over a period of few weeks, later I increased the potency to 200 and after two months the child was totally off ventilator as well as any artificial support and had started breathing normally.

So remember conium is an extremely important remedy when you see a paralysis of a diaphragm or the respiratory muscles that leads to asphyxia.

Another case I remember is of a middle aged man who was admitted in Bombay Hospital with a severe cardiac failure. The cause of cardiac failure was severe cardiomyopathy. He was suffering from congestive variety of cardiomyopathy. He was on digitalis and other cardiac drugs for years together but recurrently his congestive cardiac failure was causing him severe

distress. This time he was not responding to the medicines given to him by the cardiologist for his congestive cardiac failure, he could not breathe properly, his respiration was accelerated and there was severe congestive load on his heart, the pumping was very weak, the ejection fraction was almost below 20, there was a cardiac murmur, lower limbs were totally edematous, the pulse was almost imperceptible and very weak. The patient could not talk further; just after few words the person will be exhausted. With this symptomatology I prescribed the remedy *Crotalus horridus*.

Crotalus horridus is a very important cardiac remedy. The most important indication of *Crotalus horridus* is the heart failure especially due to septicemia or infection or inheritance weakness of the muscle, inflammation of the heart conditions, severe palpitation, and difficulty in breathing with constriction in the respiratory passage. The pulse is usually very imperceptible, intermittent, slow or soft in *Crotalus horridus*.

I gave *Crotalus horridus* 12C every few hourly and the later on to 30C and 200C, within one month with the use of allopathic medicines which was simultaneously continued the patient could easily come out from cardiac failure and the ejection fraction which was below 20 came up to 36 with the help of *Crotalus horridus*.

Thank you!