

## EDITORIAL FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY 2011

### HOMOEOPATHY IN CANCER

Cancer is very vast topic and it is very difficult to write everything about cancer in one editorial hence I have decided to write about some cancer remedies which I have used clinically, quite successfully giving a long term palliation to the patient.

First remedy will be **Carbo animalis**, it is an excellent remedy in homoeopathy for cancer, the common cancers treated by me with this remedy are of the eyes, canthi, lachrymal duct, lips, cervical gland, tongue, stomach, rectum, scrotum, testes, ovaries, uterus, and breast. I have also used for certain type of sarcoma, amongst all the cancers the cancers where I have used this remedy the most is the cancer of the cervix and of the mammary gland.

For the cancer of the cervix the most important symptom is the discharge from vagina. The discharge is bloody, copious, very rarely greenish but offensive and purulent.

The usual history is that there is cervical erosion leading to formation of cancer. The U.S.G. shows the enlarged uterus and gynec examination shows ulceration and erosion of the cervix.

There is a severe pain which extends all the way up to anus or it may extend all the way downwards to the thighs. The pain is burning as if the coals are on fire. This type of discharge and the burning pain brings Carbo animalis extremely close to Kreosotum.

The another difference between Carbo-animalis and Kreosotum is that Carbo animalis patients are very weak, debilitated, old having no energy throughout their life, but Kreosotum patients are basically very fairly well nourished originally but only because of the cancer that they have started losing flesh.

Many times looking at Carbo animalis patient as old looking and emaciated one may also think of Sepia because Carbo animalis and Sepia both have brownish discoloration on the face and but Sepia does not help in that kind of malignant state.

Other indication of Carbo animalis is cancer the lymph nodes, they are enlarged and hard but with this there is severe debility. The weakness is so much that slightest exertion produces sprain or the cramp in the different parts of the body. When the cervical cancer metastasizes to lung then the patient will have severe suffocative hoarse cough with offensive sputa, difficulty to raise the expectoration, excessive dyspnoea and an offensive perspiration. The patient is almost always worse in cold air or in open air.

**Kreosotum** is another remedy which I use frequently with my cancer patients especially for the cancer of the face, nose, gums, stomach, intestine, colon, rectum, ovaries, uterus, vagina, breasts and glands.

The keynote feature of this remedy if I can describe in one word is **corrosiveness**, it affects the mucous membrane of all the above

organs which I have just mentioned thereby producing severe inflammation accompanied by acrid, corrosive, putrid, offensive and excoriating discharge. I have never seen such an excoriating discharge in any other remedy except Kreosotum. Everything goes into decomposition very fast.

Another important thing is the destruction of the tissues; cancerous tissues are highly prone to destructive changes like necrosis and gangrene. To begin with you get ulcerations and later on these ulcerations are extremely sensitive to touch, slightest touch produces severe bleeding, the ulcers are deep and discharges are yellowish, greenish, corrosive, offensive and fluid like, they are highly prone to develop gangrenous or malignant changes.

Another very important aspect of Kreosotum is in cases of vomiting due to cancer of stomach; there is severe and a constant nausea, worse fasting and this is accompanied by burning pain in the stomach worse eating after. The burning pain may extend all the way to the ankle; there is severe vomiting accompanied by coldness of the feet, vomiting is worse after eating or drinking. It's very violent; any odor from anywhere can induce a severe vomiting; vomiting is frothy, mucus and stringy.

Emotionally they are people who have got strong tendency to weep easily with weakness of the memory. The face is pale, the lips are cracked with offensive odor that comes from the mouth, the tongue is pale. Any sort of uncovering or rubbing aggravates the patient. The skin is dry and there is great desire to sleep constantly.

Another remedy I use in my practice is **Hydrastis canadensis**. I use this remedy for the cancer of eyes, ears, nose, face, mouth especially gums, palate, tongue, oesophagus, stomach, colon, liver, pancreas, rectum, bladder, uterus, cervix, larynx, bronchus, mammae, skin and also in cases of terminally advance cancer patients.

Hydrastis canadensis is usually indicated for people who are extremely debilitated and cachetic and who have a broken down constitution by excessive use of alcohol; and that is why it has become a very important remedy in my practice for the cancer of the liver or the cancer of the pancreas. The lymph glands which are enlarged with this cancer are very hard, quite adherent to the skin, accompanied by puckering the skin the pain in the glands are sharp cutting like a knife. In the cancer of the breast the nipples are usually retracted; if there is cancer of the cervix then the leucorrhoea is thick, ropy, viscid and yellow, hanging from the uterine os in long strings like Kali bichromicum with excessive pruritus. If it is in the cancer of the nose then you get thick, yellowish stringy mucus from the nasal passage and the person keeps on hawking very thick viscid mucus from the posterior nares with excessive ulceration in the cancerous wound.

In fact almost all complaints of Hydrastis canadensis are attended with weakness and great physical prostration. Many times troublesome palpitation is a very important concomitant in cases of Hydrastis canadensis cancer. Whenever liver or colon or intestines

or pancreas are affected you will see that the liver is hard or can be shrunken or if cirrhosis is accompanied. The spleen is enlarged. There is a past history of gallstones.

The liver pains are always travelling backwards towards the right side, the patient feels better by lying on the back and patient feels worse after lying on the right side. The pain in the liver is usually cramping, cutting and sharp like a knife. Pains are better by passing flatus or flexing the limbs towards the abdomen. The pain of the liver may extend to scapula; there is rumbling and gurgling in the abdomen; accompanied by severe constipation accompanied by hemorrhoids ,there is dryness in the rectum and the constipation is extremely painful even giving purgatives or enema many times does not help the patient , I have seen many times patients complaining of early morning diarrhoea driving off the patient from the bed. The pain in the rectum is always worse after stool or during the stool; there can be severe stricture in the rectum.

The tongue is coated yellow and slimy; the stools are pale and scanty. Vomiting is in the morning with lot of mucus. There is a stomatitis or aphthous ulcer in the mouth. A patient usually gives the history of chronic constipation and chronic gastric dyspepsia which was years preceding the development of the cancer.