

DIFFERENT MODE OF MEDICINAL APPLICATION IN HOMOEOPATHIC TREATMENT

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Abstract:

Here, the most basic thing of Homoeopathic system of medicine is Tincture and it is privilege to discuss about tincture and their uses in Homoeopathy. In Homeopathy, mother tinctures are used as the foundational material for preparing Homeopathic remedies.

Key words: Homoeopathy, Mother tinctures, Tincture uses, Topicals, Direct use, Internal use.

Introduction:

A mother tincture is a liquid preparation resulting from the extraction of a suitable source, namely plant or animal substance material with alcohol or water mixture within a specific ratio. Many techniques have been used to determine the quality of mother tinctures, including most commonly thin layer chromatography (TLC) and mass spectroscopy, while high performance liquid chromatography allows for both the quantitative and qualitative analysis of substances.

Methodology:

Here's how tinctures are utilized in homeopathic treatments:

1. Preparation of Remedies:

- Mother Tincture: This is the first step in homeopathic remedy preparation. It is a concentrated extract made by soaking raw materials such as plants, minerals, or animal products in alcohol or water. This mother tincture serves as the basis for further dilutions.
- Potentization: Homeopathic remedies are prepared by serially diluting the mother tincture with water or alcohol and succussing (vigorous shaking) the mixture at each step. This process is believed to enhance the therapeutic properties of the remedy while minimizing any potential toxicity.

2. Direct Use:

- In some cases, homeopaths may use the mother tincture directly in very small doses to treat certain conditions. This is more common in phytotherapy (herbal medicine) rather than classical homeopathy, where the tincture is used without extensive dilution.
- For example, tinctures from plants like *Arnica montana* or *Calendula officinalis* are sometimes used topically for their healing and anti-inflammatory properties.

3. Customization of Treatments:

- Homeopaths tailor remedies to the individual patient based on a holistic assessment that includes physical, emotional, and mental symptoms. The mother tincture provides a customizable starting point for creating specific remedies suited to the patient's unique needs.

4. Wide Range of Sources:

- Tinctures can be made from a diverse array of sources including plants (e.g., *Belladonna*, *Aconite*), minerals (e.g., *Natrum muriaticum*, *Silica*), and animal substances (e.g., *Apis mellifica*, *Sepia*).
- Each source material is chosen based on its historical and empirical use in treating specific symptoms or conditions.

5. Ease of Administration:

- Tinctures can be easily administered and absorbed. They are typically given in drop form and can be mixed with water for consumption.
- They are often preferred for their longer shelf life compared to other forms of herbal extracts.

6. Versatility:

- Tinctures are versatile and can be used to create various potencies and forms, such as pellets, tablets, or liquid dilutions, depending on the treatment requirements.
- But prior most of all above things the direct use of tinctures in acute diseases or episodes is the almighty one for further management.

Discussion:

- **Direct Uses of Tinctures in different diseases condition:**

1. Digestive Issues:

- *Gentiana lutea* (Gentian): Used to stimulate appetite and improve digestion. The tincture can be taken before meals to aid in digestive processes.
- *Taraxacum officinale* (Dandelion): Known for its benefits in supporting liver and gallbladder function. It can help in detoxification and improve bile flow.

2. Immune Support:

- *Echinacea*: Often used to boost the immune system and help ward off infections such as the common cold. The tincture is taken orally during the onset of symptoms.
- *Astragalus*: Another immune-boosting herb used to enhance the body's resistance to illness. The tincture is taken regularly to maintain immune health.

3. Stress and Anxiety:

- *Valeriana officinalis* (Valerian): Used for its calming and sedative effects. It helps alleviate anxiety and promotes restful sleep.
- *Passiflora incarnata* (Passionflower): Used to treat anxiety and insomnia. It is believed to have a calming effect on the nervous system.

4. Pain and Inflammation:

- *Hypericum perforatum* (St. John's Wort): Used for nerve pain and to promote healing of wounds and burns. It also has antidepressant properties.
- *Salix alba* (White Willow): Contains salicin, a precursor to aspirin, and is used for its analgesic and anti-inflammatory properties.

5. Cardiovascular Health:

- *Crataegus* (Hawthorn): Tincture is used to support heart health, improve circulation, and treat mild heart conditions.
- *Ginkgo biloba*: Used to improve blood flow and cognitive function. It may help with memory and concentration issues.

There are water doses of 10 – 12 drops of tincture mixed with ½ cup of water with required repetition. Tinctures are also used for preparation of ointment, liniment, gel, etc. other specific purposes. Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of homeopathy, did acknowledge the use of external applications, though his primary focus was on internal treatments. In his foundational work, "Organon of Medicine," Master Hahnemann discussed the principles and practices of Homoeopathy, including the use of external applications in section 282 of 5th edition of Organon of Medicine under certain conditions.

Here are some key points related to the use of external application with inter medication. In Sec. 196-Sec. 197: Administration of truly Homoeopathic medicine both internally and externally, simultaneously it may be argued that in such topical lesions (so called local diseases), local application of drug, which is curable along with internal application, may be more beneficial. The greatest advantage of this local application is that; the local symptoms will disappear sooner than the internal symptoms. This was often thought that complete cure has been done. Due to this premature disappearance of the local symptoms, it is difficult and impossible to determine whether the internal disease has also been cured by internal medicine or not.

In Sec. 198: Administration of suitable Homoeopathic medicine only externally only topical application in these local diseases are also in admissible because of the above reasons, moreover, after removal of the local symptoms, by a

topical application. We will have to deal with less characteristic, less striking and more fluctuating indistinct internal symptoms to select our remedy which will no doubt be very difficult.

Thus it will be confirmed that both together external topical application – most usefully mother tincture and the same medication internally is beneficial for the patient.

The mother tinctures are particularly beneficial in treating various cosmetic health problems such as:-

1. Excess Weight: - Mother tincture prepared from *Phytolacca Decandra* is very effective in weight management. It is seen to accelerate the metabolic rate of the body. This helps in burning excess body fat.
2. Dandruff: - Mother tincture prepared from *Badiaga*, *Cochleria Armoracia* help to relieve the dryness and soreness of the scalp. Hence, they are found to be effective in the treatment of dandruff. Both these tinctures are used as external applicants for dandruff-prone scalps.
3. High Blood Pressure: - The mother tincture prepared from *Rauwolfia serpentina* and *Crataegus oxyacantha* is effective in the management of blood pressure. They are found effective to maintain normal blood pressure levels when taken in a glassful of water twice daily after meals.
4. Acne: - Mother tinctures prepared from *Berberis aquifolium*, *Chrysarobinum* and *Echinacea angustifolia* are effective in the treatment of acne. They are beneficial in soothing irritated skin. They are used as topical applicants for acne-prone skin.
5. Alopecia or Baldness: - Mother tincture prepared from *Jaborandi* is found to be effective in reversing baldness. It is commonly mixed with hair oils and applied to the scalp.
6. Scalds and Burns: - Mother tinctures prepared from *Apis Mellifica*, *Cantharis* and *Momordica Balsamina* are effective to treat scalds and burns. They help to provide relief to the stinging and burning sensation in the affected skin. These mother tinctures are used as external applications on scalded and burnt skin.

Mother tinctures are useful in various disease conditions and act wonderfully in certain acute conditions. Following are few conditions regarding mother tincture given for internal and external use.

- *Berberis Aquifolium*: Clears the complexion. It is useful in acne, small pimples, the roughness of skin of face etc.
- *Bellis Perennis*: Boils all over the body. Ecchymosis, swelling, very sensitive to touch.
- *Dioscorea Villosa*: Relieves gall stone colic but here, a patient is better by bending backward.
- *Terminalia Chebula*: Due to gum affections.
- *Piscidia*: Cause of insomnia is mental worries. 5 to 10 drops can be taken with half a cup of plain water.
- *Thlaspi Bursa Pastoris*: It is best to control uterine haemorrhage in menorrhagia or metrorrhagia like conditions.
- *Collinsonia*: Bleeding piles. 5 drops, mixed with plain water should be given, twice a day. When this medicine fails to try *Millefolium*.
- *Sarsaparilla*: Right-sided renal colic. Marked pain at the end of micturition.
- *Bryonia Alba*: Shooting pain in the thigh from buttock to ankle, with insupportable pain on being touched, during movement, as well as with sweat.
- *Hypericum*: Painful corns. It should be applied 2 to 3 times per day. It can be applied on painful acne also.
- *Staphysagria*: Lice infestation on head.
- *Phytolacca*: As a mouthwash for pyorrhoea alveolaris and for offensive breath.
- *Calendula Officinalis*: Burns, sores, fissures and abrasions. Promotes granulation and prevents scars.

There are following points in favour of use for mother tinctures:

- Tincture is not a crude dose, but the initial potency made from the crude drug substance.
- Even though the mother tinctures contain material doses of active principles, they are having a power, higher than the crude extract.
- The potency is selected on patient's similarity, sensitivity, susceptibility, pathology, stage of disease, etc. So, let the case decide the potency, not our fixed ideas.
- Similarity also applicable to potency, hence case only decides the potency.
- When judiciously applied, mother tinctures will not spoil the cases.
- The first medicine in Homeopathy was also a tincture of *Cinchona*!

Results:

In modern Homoeopathy, external applications are more widely accepted and used alongside internal treatments.

While Master Samuel Hahnemann laid the foundation for the use of external applications in Homoeopathy, he maintained that they should be used judiciously and in conjunction with internal remedies to address the root cause of the symptoms. His cautious approach highlights the importance of a holistic treatment strategy that considers both local and systemic aspects of a patient's condition.

Tinctures offer a convenient and potent form, their use should be approached with care and professional guidance to ensure safety and efficacy.

Future scope:

As there are more and more medicinal substances are getting discovered, with increasing number of medicinal substances – their mother tinctures will be proved on Healthy Humans and Homoeopathically utilised.

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