



GENMS

Textbook of

**HOMOEOPATHIC
MATERIA MEDICA**

Dr J.D. Patil



Contents

i.	<i>Dedication</i>	v
ii.	<i>Foreword</i>	vii
iii.	<i>Prologue</i>	ix
iv.	<i>Acknowledgements</i>	xi
v.	<i>Publisher's Note</i>	xiii

SECTION-I INTRODUCTION

1.	What is Homeopathy	3
2.	What is Homeopathic Materia Medica.....	8
3.	History and Evolution of Materia Medica.....	9
4.	Sources of Homeopathic Drugs.....	12
5.	Different Sources of Homeopathic Materia Medica.....	13
6.	Source Books of Homeopathic Materia Medica.....	16
7.	Construction and Building of Homeopathic Materia Medica	19
8.	Types of Homeopathic Materia Medica	23
9.	Different Approaches to Study Materia Medica.....	27
10.	Technique of Comprehending Homeopathic Materia Medica	33
11.	Relationship of Materia Medica with Organon and Philosophy	36
12.	Utility and Relation of Homeopathic Pharmacy with Materia Medica ..	38
13.	Relation of Materia Medica with Repertory.....	41
14.	Scope and Limitations of Homeopathic Materia Medica.....	42
15.	Drug Action	44
16.	Principles and Routes of Drug Administration.....	46
17.	Constitutions and Physiognomy	49
18.	Miasms.....	54
19.	Temperaments.....	58
20.	Diathesis	60
21.	Diathesis and Miasms.....	62
22.	Doctrine of Signature.....	64
23.	Selection of Potency	69
24.	Indications for Different Potencies.....	71
25.	Word of Caution!	73
26.	Grouping of Homeopathic Remedies	74
27.	Some Important Definitions.....	78
28.	Drug Relationships	83
29.	Trios of Homeopathic Remedies	85

30.	Sensations, as If.....	90
31.	Discharges	95
32.	Desires	106
33.	Aversion	109
34.	Fears.....	115
35.	Dreams.....	133
36.	Tongue	158
37.	Time Modalities.....	168
38.	Thermal Relationship of Some Medicines	170
39.	Side Affinity of Some Remedies	172
40.	How to Study a Remedy.....	174
41.	Bio-Chemic System of Medicine	176

SECTION-II

MATERIA MEDICA OF SELECTED HOMEOPATHIC REMEDIES

1.	Abrotanum.....	187
2.	Abies canadensis.....	189
3.	Abies nigra.....	191
4.	Acalypha indica.....	192
5.	Aceticum acidum.....	193
6.	Aconitum napellus.....	196
7.	Actaea racemosa (Cimicifuga).....	201
8.	Actaea spicata.....	203
9.	Aesculus hippocastanum	204
10.	Aethusa cynapium	205
11.	Agaricus muscarius.....	208
12.	Agnus castus	211
13.	Allium cepa.....	213
14.	Aloe socotrina.....	216
15.	Alumina or argilla.....	220
16.	Ambra grisea.....	223
17.	Anacardium orientale	225
18.	Antimonium crudum.....	228
19.	Antimonium tartaricum	231
20.	Apis mellifica.....	235
21.	Argentum metallicum	239
22.	Argentum nitricum	241
23.	Arnica montana.....	246
24.	Arsenicum album.....	250
25.	Arsenicum iodatum	256

26.	<i>Arum triphyllum</i>	258
27.	<i>Asa foetida</i>	260
28.	<i>Aurum metallicum</i>	262
29.	<i>Bacillinum burnett</i>	264
30.	<i>Baptisia tinctoria</i>	266
31.	<i>Baryta carbonica</i>	270
32.	<i>Baryta muriatica</i>	273
33.	<i>Belladonna</i>	275
34.	<i>Bellis perennis</i>	281
35.	<i>Benzoicum acidum</i>	283
36.	<i>Berberis vulgaris</i>	285
37.	<i>Bismuthum metallicum</i>	288
38.	<i>Blatta orientalis</i>	290
39.	<i>Borax veneta</i>	291
40.	<i>Bromium</i>	294
41.	<i>Bryonia alba</i>	295
42.	<i>Bufo rana</i>	300
43.	<i>Cactus grandiflorus</i>	303
44.	<i>Cadmium sulphuricum</i>	306
45.	<i>Caladium seguinum</i>	308
46.	<i>Calcarea carbonica</i>	311
47.	<i>Calcarea fluorica</i>	316
48.	<i>Calcarea phosphorica</i>	319
49.	<i>Calcarea sulphurica</i>	323
50.	<i>Calendula officinalis</i>	326
51.	<i>Camphora officinalis</i>	329
52.	<i>Cannabis indica</i>	334
53.	<i>Cannabis sativa</i>	336
54.	<i>Cantharides</i>	339
55.	<i>Capsicum annum</i>	342
56.	<i>Carbo animalis</i>	346
57.	<i>Carbo vegetabilis</i>	349
58.	<i>Carcinocinum</i>	353
59.	<i>Carduus marianus</i>	355
60.	<i>Caulophyllum thalictroides</i>	357
61.	<i>Causticum</i>	360
62.	<i>Chamomilla</i>	364
63.	<i>Chelidonium majus</i>	368
64.	<i>Chininum arsenicosum</i>	371
65.	<i>Cicuta virosa</i>	373
66.	<i>Cina maritima</i>	377
67.	<i>Cinchona officinalis (china)</i>	380
68.	<i>Coca erythroxyton</i>	385

69.	<i>Cocculus indicus</i>	387
70.	<i>Coffea cruda</i>	390
71.	<i>Colchicum autumnale</i>	392
72.	<i>Colocynthis</i>	394
73.	<i>Conium maculatum</i>	397
74.	<i>Crataegus oxyacantha</i>	400
75.	<i>Crotalus horridus</i>	402
76.	<i>Croton tiglium</i>	404
77.	<i>Cuprum metallicum</i>	406
78.	<i>Cyclamen europaeum</i>	409
79.	<i>Digitalis purpurea</i>	412
80.	<i>Dioscorea villosa</i>	415
81.	<i>Diphtherinum</i>	417
82.	<i>Drosera rotundifolia</i>	418
83.	<i>Dulcamara</i>	421
84.	<i>Eupatorium perfoliatum</i>	424
85.	<i>Euphrasia officinalis</i>	426
86.	<i>Ferrum metallicum</i>	429
87.	<i>Ferrum phosphoricum</i>	432
88.	<i>Fluoricum acidum</i>	436
89.	<i>Gelsemium sempervirens</i>	439
90.	<i>Glonoinum</i>	444
91.	<i>Graphites</i>	447
92.	<i>Hamamelis virginica</i>	452
93.	<i>Helleborus niger</i>	455
94.	<i>Hepar sulphuris</i>	458
95.	<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i>	462
96.	<i>Hyoscyamus niger</i>	464
97.	<i>Hypericum perforatum</i>	468
98.	<i>Ignatia amara</i>	471
99.	<i>Iodium</i>	476
100.	<i>Ipecacuanha</i>	481
101.	<i>Kalium bichromicum</i>	485
102.	<i>Kalium carbonicum</i>	489
103.	<i>Kalium muriaticum</i>	492
104.	<i>Kalium phosphoricum</i>	496
105.	<i>Kalium sulphuricum</i>	500
106.	<i>Kalmia latifolia</i>	503
107.	<i>Kreosotum</i>	506
108.	<i>Lac caninum</i>	509
109.	<i>Lachesis mutus</i>	513
110.	<i>Ledum palustre</i>	521
111.	<i>Lilium tigrinum</i>	523

112.	Lithium carbonicum	525
113.	Lobelia inflata	527
114.	Lycopodium clavatum	529
115.	Lyssinum.....	535
116.	Magnesia carbonica.....	537
117.	Magnesia muriatica.....	539
118.	Magnesia phosphorica	542
119.	Medorrhinum.....	546
120.	Mercurius corrosivus	549
121.	Mercurius solubilis	550
122.	Mezereum	555
123.	Millefolium.....	558
124.	Moschus moschiferus	560
125.	Murex purpurea	562
126.	Muriaticum acidum.....	563
127.	Naja tripudians.....	566
128.	Natrium carbonicum	568
129.	Natrium muriaticum	571
130.	Natrium phosphoricum.....	577
131.	Natrium sulphuricum.....	581
132.	Nitricum acidum.....	586
133.	Nux moschata	590
134.	Nux vomica.....	594
135.	Opium	600
136.	Oxalicum acidum.....	604
137.	Petroleum.....	607
138.	Phosphoricum acidum	610
139.	Phosphorus.....	613
140.	Phytolacca decandra	619
141.	Platinum metallicum.....	621
142.	Plumbum metallicum.....	625
143.	Podophyllum peltatum.....	627
144.	Psorinum.....	631
145.	Pulsatilla nigricans.....	635
146.	Pyrogenium.....	643
147.	Ranunculus bulbosus	646
148.	Rheum palmatum.....	648
149.	Rhododendron chrysanthum.....	650
150.	Rhus toxicodendron.....	652
151.	Rumex crispus	658
152.	Ruta graveolens	660
153.	Sabina	663
154.	Sambucus nigra.....	666

155.	<i>Sanguinaria canadensis</i>	668
156.	<i>Sanicula aqua</i>	670
157.	<i>Sarsaparilla officinalis</i>	672
158.	<i>Secale cornutum</i>	675
159.	<i>Selenium metallicum</i>	679
160.	<i>Sepia officinalis</i>	681
161.	<i>Silicea terra</i>	688
162.	<i>Spigelia anthelmia</i>	693
163.	<i>Spongia tosta</i>	696
164.	<i>Stannum metallicum</i>	699
165.	<i>Staphysagria</i>	702
166.	<i>Stramonium</i>	705
167.	<i>Sulphur</i>	708
168.	<i>Symphytum officinale</i>	714
169.	<i>Syphilinum</i>	715
170.	<i>Tarentula hispanica</i>	718
171.	<i>Theridion curassavicum</i>	720
172.	<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>	722
173.	<i>Thyreoidinum</i>	727
174.	<i>Tuberculinum bovinum kent</i>	728
175.	<i>Urtica urens</i>	731
176.	<i>Ustilago maydis</i>	733
177.	<i>Variolinum</i>	734
178.	<i>Veratrum album</i>	736
179.	<i>Veratrum viride</i>	740
180.	<i>Zincum metallicum</i>	743

SECTION-III APPENDIX

1.	Therapeutic Index.....	749
2.	Glossary.....	754
3.	Flow Chart of Remedies - At a Glance.....	767
4.	Bibliography	786

WHAT IS HOMEOPATHY

Definition

Homeopathy is a specialised system of medicine for treating human beings and animals, discovered by Dr Samuel Hahnemann on the basis of the simple principle – **Similia Similibus Curantur**.

The word 'homeopathy' is derived from the Greek word '**homoeos**' meaning 'like' or 'similar' and '**pathos**' meaning 'suffering.'

Dr Samuel Hahnemann discovered it in 1790 in Germany.

According to Haffen and Julian, homeopathy is a medicine based exclusively on the principle of similarity or analogy. Homeopathy consists of giving a sick person a minimum dose of the medication that produces the respective symptoms in a healthy person.

Homeopathy is a medicine based on the similia principle. This formulates a parallelism between toxicological and pharmacological forces of a medicine on a healthy sensitive person and its therapeutic power on a sick person, who shows a similar set of symptoms.

Homeopathy is based on **seven cardinal principles** or doctrines:

1. Law of Similia.
2. Law of Simplex.
3. Law of Minimum.
4. Doctrine of Vital force.
5. Doctrine of Drug proving.
6. Doctrine of Drug dynamization.
7. Doctrine of Chronic diseases.

The Rise, Fall and Rise of Homeopathy

The Rise of Homeopathy

Dr Samuel Hahnemann discovered homeopathy in 1790 in Germany and officially declared it in 1796. After that homeopathy spread throughout Europe, America and Asia. Despite significant oppression from the orthodox medical profession, homeopathy survived and even thrived in the 1800's and early 1900's. By 1900 there were twenty two homeopathic medical schools, more than a hundred homeopathic hospitals and over a thousand homeopathic pharmacies in the US. These impressive numbers alone do not provide an accurate perspective on the significant impact that homeopathy had on American life.

Homeopathy attracted support from many of the most respected members of society. Its advocates included William James, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Daniel Webster, William Seward, Horace Greeley and Louisa May Alcott. William Cullen Bryant, the famous journalist, was President of the New York Homeopathic Society. John D. Rockefeller referred to homeopathy as, 'a progressive and aggressive step in medicine.'

Homeopathy's popularity amongst the respected classes was also evident in Europe. Besides its patronage by Britain's Royal family dating from the 1830's, homeopathy could count among its supporters Charles Dickens, W.B. Yeats, William Thackeray, Benjamin Disraeli, Johann Wolfgang Goethe and Pope Pius X.

Statistics indicate that the number of homeopaths in New York doubled every five years from 1829 to 1869.

Homeopathy was also disproportionately popular amongst women, not only as patients, but as its practitioners. The first women's medical college in the world was The Homeopathic Boston Female Medical College, founded in 1848. Four years later it became New England Female Medical College, and in 1873, it was merged with Boston University, another homeopathic college. Homeopaths also admitted women physicians into their national organization considerably before orthodox physicians did. Homeopaths admitted women into the American Institute of Homeopathy in 1871.

The press was often very supportive of homeopathy, as the *Journal of the American Medical Association* regretfully acknowledged.

It is no wonder that Henry James, another advocate of homeopathy, portrayed this medical science in such a positive light in his novel *The Bostonians*.

Although homeopathy was particularly popular among the educated and upper classes, it also had a good reputation amongst the poor. Some of this support, no doubt resulted from the free homeopathic dispensaries in many cities.

However, probably the most important reason that homeopathy developed such immense popularity was its success in treating of various infectious epidemic diseases that raged throughout America and Europe during the 1800's.

The training of nineteenth century homeopaths compared favourably to that of their orthodox physician colleagues. Many homeopaths attended orthodox medical schools. Eventually, homeopaths developed their own medical schools or maintained departments of homeopathy within other medical schools. Boston University, University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, Hahnemann Medical College and University of Iowa were but some of the schools teaching homeopathy. Historians today consider the education offered at the homeopathic medical colleges at par with the orthodox medical schools of the day.

It is impressive to note that a higher percentage of graduates from homeopathic medical schools passed the medical board examinations than their counter parts from the orthodox medical colleges.

Homeopaths showed impressive scholarships, both in books and journals. According to a US Commission on Education in 1898, three of the four medical schools with the largest libraries were homeopathic colleges. And at the turn of the century, there were as many as twenty nine different homeopathic journals.

Homeopathy's popularity in United States was obvious and deep seated.

The Fall of Homeopathy

It is quite remarkable in itself that homeopathy survived the incessant and harsh attempts to destroy it. After the turn of the century, however, the AMA became increasingly effective in suppressing homeopathy. The AMA chose to 'allow' graduates of homeopathic medical schools to join the AMA as long as they denounced homeopathy or at least didn't practice it.

In 1910, The Carnegie Foundation issued the famous/infamous Flexner Report. The Flexner Report was an evaluation of American medical schools chaired by Abraham Flexner. The report placed the highest value on those medical schools that had a full time teaching faculty and those schools that taught a pathological and physio-chemical analysis of the human body. Homeopathic colleges were faulted because of their preference for employing professors who were not simply teachers or researchers but also in clinical practice, although homeopathic schools included many basic science courses.

As one might easily predict, homeopathic colleges on the whole were given poor ratings by the Flexner Report. As a result of the report, only graduates of those schools which received a high rating were allowed to take medical licensing exams. There were twenty two homeopathic colleges in 1900, but only two remained in 1923.

These schools were not the only ones hurt by the Flexner Report. Of the seven black medical schools, only two survived.

Although they offered better education on these subjects, their homeopathic training suffered greatly. As a result, graduates from these homeopathic colleges were not able to practice homeopathy well. Instead of individualizing medicines to a person's totality of symptoms, many homeopaths began prescribing medicines according to disease categories. Consequences from this type of care were predictably poor results. Many homeopaths gave up homeopathic practice.

There were other reasons for the sharp decline of homeopathy after the turn of the century. Orthodox medicine was no longer as barbaric as it was in the 1800's, and because of this, it didn't drive as many patients away. Orthodox physicians also began incorporating several homeopathic medicines into their practice. Although they didn't prescribe the same small doses as the homeopaths,

their use of certain homeopathic medicines confused the public, who were having increasing difficulty in distinguishing orthodox physicians from homeopathic physicians.

Another factor in the decline of homeopathy was its economic viability. Good homeopathic practice required individualization of the patient which demanded more time than most orthodox physicians gave to their patients. Since economics governs the way medicine is practiced more than is commonly recognized, the fact that physicians in the twentieth century could make more money practicing orthodox medicine is a significant factor that led to homeopathy's decline.

The drug companies' antagonism to homeopathy continued significantly to the collective efforts to suppress this form of medicine. Because the drug companies published medical journals, they could use them as mouthpieces against homeopathy and in support of orthodox medicine.

Along with the various external factors that hindered homeopathy's growth, there were problems amongst homeopaths themselves. Disagreement within homeopathy has a long tradition.

The most famous homeopaths in the US were primarily Hahnemannians. However, the majority of homeopaths practicing in this country did not prescribe their medicines on the basis of the totality of symptoms, but primarily according to the chief complaint. These homeopaths prescribed medicines for specific diseases, and sometimes they prescribed one medicine for the person's headache, another for the digestive disorder and another for the skin problem. Hahnemann and his followers were particularly adamant about the use of only one medicine at a time, and Hahnemann referred to those practitioners who used more than a single medicine as 'pseudo-homeopaths' and other less kind things.

After Hahnemann's death, a vast majority of Hahnemannian homeopaths adopted higher potencies. Low potency homeopaths, however, were not converted, and the stage was set for yet another disagreement between homeopaths. The high and low potency schools of thought developed separate organisations, hospitals and journals. In 1901, because of the various disagreements amongst homeopaths, Chicago had four different homeopathic medical societies.

The poor training that the homeopathic schools offered after the turn of the century ultimately discouraged the rigorous approach that the Hahnemannian method required.

By 1950, all the homeopathic colleges in the US were either closed or no longer teaching homeopathy. There were only 50-150 practicing homeopathic physicians, and most of these practitioners were over 50 years old.

And yet, it is hard to suppress the truth. Homeopathy has risen again, and this time, history will be rewritten.

The Present Status of Homeopathy

Homeopaths throughout the world experienced varying degrees of opposition from orthodox physicians, but not anywhere near the systematic or intense attacks as those beset upon them by American doctors. When homeopaths have been given a relatively free environment to practice, homeopathy has been able to grow and flourish.

At present, in India the number of homeopathic medical colleges and number of homeopathic practitioners are highest in the world. Now-a-days, homeopathy is flourishing significantly throughout the world.

WHAT IS HOMEOPATHIC MATERIA MEDICA

The word '**materia medica**' literally means medical matter. The ordinary medical dictionary defines it as that branch of medical science that teaches the origin and preparation of drugs, their doses and their mode of administration. Homeopathic materia medica is differently constructed as compared to other materia medicas.

Essential and complete knowledge of drug action as a whole can be supplied only by qualitative synoptic drug experiments on healthy persons and this alone can make it possible to view all the scattered data in relation to the psychosomatic whole of a person.

The homeopathic materia medica consists of a schematic arrangement of symptoms produced by each drug. It should be studied synthetically, analytically and comparatively.

So, a homeopathic materia medica can be defined as a record book of the effects of drugs on human beings. This is a store house of every action and reaction of the drug that it incites in human beings, especially healthy ones. Homeopathic materia medica is the unit of the knowledge of actions of drugs in any quantity.

Homeopathic materia medica is a study of drugs, medicinal materials for the cure of the sick. It is a book, which contains collected facts from different experimentations, clinical experiences, including their pharmacodynamic effects and method of application and doses.

Or

It is a book containing the systematic record of drugs which have been proved on healthy human beings of both sexes and of different ages.

The Principle

It is known to all that the principle behind the formation or application of homeopathic materia medica is drug proving that is, recording of those symptoms, which were observed on healthy human beings by the (prolonged) administration of drugs in sub-physiological doses.

Also those symptoms which were cured in sick persons by the use of the drugs were also included in the materia medica although they were not found during drug proving for one reason or the other. These symptoms are called **clinical symptoms**.

HISTORY AND EVOLUTION OF MATERIA MEDICA

History of Materia Medica

The Pre-history

Dr Hahnemann has accepted in his codex of homeopathy – **Organon of Medicine** that it was Abrecht Von Haller (1708-77) who suggested that medicine should be proved on human beings and the symptoms thus obtained will form the basis of a real materia medica, useful in the treatment of human beings. Haller's suggestions were of no use; probably it was not known to Hahnemann that in 1829, Johannes Evangelista Purkinje (1787-1869) of Bohemia, a renowned physiologist of Purkinje's fibres fame experimented upon himself the action of camphor, belladonna, stramonium and turpentine.

However, it was Hahnemann who started this new line of materia medica by testing the drugs on himself, his friends and family members. He called this process by the name of **drug proving** which literally means proving the (curative) properties lying in drugs.

The History

After coming across that remark of William Cullen about Cinchona bark, which he was translating in 1790, Dr Hahnemann tested drugs one after another and this process of drug proving became the basis of his '*Materia Medica Pura*', the first part of which containing drugs was published in 1811. In his *Organon of Medicine*, he describes the process in detail in regard to selection of the provers, their mode of life, food, regimen and the recording of symptoms in paragraphs 105-145.

Dr Hahnemann called his materia medica – *Materia Medica Pura* – because it contains the pure effects of the drugs as observed on healthy human beings of different ages and both the sexes. It did not contain any information collected from any other sources. After him, many individuals, like Dr Hering and several others started proving drugs. Thus, a vast materia medica for homeopathy was created. Later on, symptoms other than those found during the proving were also incorporated.

Evolution of Materia Medica

Evolution of materia medica starts from the writings of Dr Hahnemann.

1. **Fragmenta De Viribus (1805)**

Dr Hahnemann has given pathogenesis of twenty seven drugs in this materia medica.

2. **Materia Medica Pura (1811 – 1821)**

In this Dr Hahnemann has recorded purely the proven symptoms of the drug, which were proved by Dr Hahnemann on himself, friends, disciples, colleagues and relatives. He recorded all these symptoms in a systematic manner and according to anatomical schematic representation. As the book contains pure proved symptoms of the drugs in the language of the patient, this book is named *Materia Medica Pura*.

Initially *Materia Medica Pura* was published in six volumes (1811-1821) but for the sake of convenience it has now been published in two volumes. The first volume was published in 1830 and the second in 1833.

3. **Chronic Diseases (1828- 1830)**

After a long practice of thirty years, Dr Hahnemann observed the obstacles on the way of treatment and recovery. He found the obstacles on the dynamic level obstructing the path of cure. He considered that something like a fundamental cause played the biggest role in complication of diseases.

He classified this fundamental main cause behind the chronic diseases as psora, syphilis and sycosis. Thus, he discovered the doctrine of miasm as a concept and placed it in his book *Chronic Diseases*.

4. **Proving by the Austrian Society (1842-1846)**

Members of the Austrian society had started proving and re-proving drugs in their own way in (1842-1846). These valuable provings were in a journal.

5. **Encyclopaedia of Pure Materia Medica (1874-1880)**

The provings carried out by Dr Hahnemann were verified by Dr T. F. Allen. He also added some new symptoms from poisoning and overdosing available in the prevalent literature in the post Hahnemannian era.

6. **The Guiding Symptoms of Our Materia Medica (1879-1891)**

Hering collected verifications and confirmations from all the reliable sources. He presented the world a voluminous book, containing only the verified symptoms through cure in the form of characteristics which he made from all available resources and this work of Dr Hering is a great contribution in the evolution of materia medica.

7. Cyclopaedia of Drug Pathogenesis (1886)

In the year 1883, the British society organized a meeting to revise and represent the existing material. The result of this conference was to recommend the formation of '*A Cyclopaedia of Drug Pathogenesis*' with the following instructions:

They have narrated all the provings stating the symptoms in the order of their appearance. The drugs were headed under scientific names, synonyms and natural order; experiments were done on lower animals, and no drug that has not shown any pathogenetic power in two or more than two persons. They included the symptoms only coming from the proving of 12x potency.

8. Dictionary of Practical Materia Medica (1900)

Dr J. H. Clarke has arranged all the drugs in this book in the Hahnemannian schema. Each remedy is given in such a fashion that it may be at once distinguished and recognized from other medicines. He also included indications of some medicines according to nosological diagnosis. He has tried his level best to give the keynotes and predominating symptoms of the medicine.