

Centre for Integrative Medical Training
In Association with London Integrated Medical Health Education



Pre-membership Course in Medical Homeopathy

A Blended Course in Homeopathic Medicine for Healthcare Professionals

Unit 46-47

P&P Studies (Organon) Weeks 2-3

Organon Studies for Semester 1, Units 46 & 47

WEEKS 2-3

- 1 §72-81: understanding diseases, ie definition of acute and chronic disease
- 2 §81-104: case-taking

Organon Studies: Weeks 2-3

Before you begin let's recap what you have covered of the *Organon* so far.

You have looked at the first seventy-one paragraphs of the *Organon*. Dr Ann Clover has summarised below the principles that Hahnemann laid down in the next part of the *Organon*, and she has collated some short notes on the most important precepts which are outlined as follows:

Knowledge of Diseases (paragraphs 72–104)

Acute Diseases (paragraphs 72–73)

The main points:

Acute diseases are short lasting disturbances in the 'vital force'. They are usually readily correctable. Hahnemann interpreted them as 'transient explosions of 'latent psora'

Acute conditions are precipitated by:

- physical or emotional stress
- deprivation
- contagious epidemics

or represent individual sporadic or epidemic diseases.

Chronic Diseases (paragraphs 72, 74–82)

Chronic diseases are:

- long lasting
- not correctable by unaided vital force
- due to progressive weakening of vital force, its inadequate resistance
- and further weakening (paragraph 72)
- may be incurable (paragraphs 72, 75)

Hahnemann cites the following 'artificial' causes of chronic ill-health (paragraph 74):

- drugs
- purgings
- venesections
- leeches



Other non-infectious causes of chronic ill-health are potentially correctable by changes in the environmental circumstances of the patient (paragraph 77), for example: inappropriate diet, exercise or housing

- physical or mental stress
- deprivation

Hahnemann postulates 'miasmatic' causes of 'true' chronic disease (paragraphs 78–82):

- syphilis (venereal chancre, firm tumours)
- sycosis (figwort or condylomatous disease, soft tumours) *psora* (itch - ? scabies)

Hahnemann's abstract concept of *psora* (paragraphs 80–81)

Psora as the basis of most chronic diseases (paragraph 80)

Transmitted through many generations (paragraph 81)

The nature of *psora* is questioned: is it contracted, hereditary or both? When present it is liable to be activated by current physical or emotional stresses.

Psora appeared to Hahnemann to be common to many people but expressed very differently by each individual. This idea supported Hahnemann's argument regarding the need for very detailed history-taking in order to identify the individual expression of miasmatic traits.

Case Taking (paragraphs 83–104)

Hahnemann is specific in which details require to be recorded:

- history (paragraphs 86, 89)
- observations and examination data (paragraph 90)
- history before and after any treatment (paragraph 91)
- social and public health aspects (paragraphs 93, 94)



Hahnemann also alludes to the importance of the attitude of the history-taker. He advocates:

- caution and patience (paragraphs 96–98)
- watching for individuality even in epidemics (paragraphs 102–104)
- summate individual reports for epidemic profile (paragraph 102)

From lecture support materials Dr Ann Clover, former consultant at the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital, Edited by Dr R Malcolm.