

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

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Unit 62

Supplemental Texts - Reading Week

At this halfway point through the final semester, we focus the discussion on modeling for Fibromyalgia and, after your reading week, we will progress to an overview of fatigue states.

The reading week itself provides an opportunity to tie up loose ends, complete your essay assignment and catch up on any parallel reading that you feel is of particular interest.

We are taking this opportunity to provide you with copies of three very contrasting texts. The two most important of these: The British Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia and Vithoulkas' Lectures are written around 100 years apart, in the 1880s and 1980s respectively.

They focus on homeopathic materia medica from two entirely different standpoints. In the case of the pharmacopoeia the focus is on the source materials and their preparation for medicinal use. In contrast, Vithoulkas attempts to identify the core indications for prescribing a number of our most established medicines.

### **The British Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia** (with American additions)

The *British Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia* evolved closely with the *American Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia* throughout the nineteenth century. However, while its American counterpart was revised and updated into the twentieth century, British homeopathic pharmacies largely created their own monographs as they ran up new remedies. The basic preparation 'recipes' were reapplied, sometimes with minor variations, in accordance with the type of material being prepared. The only major diversion from the techniques described in the 1880s came with the preparation of the nosodes.

In the world today the most important collected monographs, that are updated regularly, are the **French, German and Indian Homeopathic Pharmacopoeias** (the latter owes its original monographs substantially to the British Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia).

The copy provided among your materials was photocopied and scanned from a very worn and rare copy held in the Pharmacy of the Royal London Hospital for Integrated Medicine.

For today's homeopathic pharmacist, the use of Imperial measurements in all the preparatory chapters of this work, makes it appear very archaic. The fundamental methods of preparation are unchanged, however, and you should either refer to the continental European Pharmacopoeias for precise measures, or use conversion tables, if you wish to apply any of the preparation methods here.

Notwithstanding the outdated nature of the text that we have reproduced here, many of the individual monographs provide a delightful insight into the materials themselves, including the history of their use and early clinical investigation, together with their collection and handling. We recommend you use this as an additional reference source whenever you are examining remedies in your clinical materia medicas.

We have undertaken an initial digital restoration of the BHP which can be downloaded here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/gdgioc6go93hcz/British%20Pharmacopoeia.pdf?dl=0>

### **Vithoulkas' Lecture Notes**

This text provides a pathographical perspective on some important homeopathic remedies. Largely based on Vithoulkas' experience and readings in the early 1980s, these opinions are necessarily based on relatively small sample numbers. Although very influential at that time, these remedy pictures now need to be balanced with more recent observations in many cases. These remedy 'Essences' are nevertheless still helpful to today's student of homeopathy, as they provide core ideas to hang each constitutional picture on.

## **Bio-resonance and Allied Concepts**

Finally this week we present a loose collection of papers on one of the most controversial topics in homeopathy: bioresonance / radionics / psionic medicine.

Dismissed by many as pseudo-science, these attempts to objectify 'resonant energies' between remedies and living things have involved many experimenters over the past 100 years.

Today, some clinicians seek a shortcut to the 'similimum' which removes all the complexities of interpretation that are inevitable in classical homeopathic practice. Some believe that the process of remedy choice can be guided by means of 'measurement' devices.

At this time, there is no really convincing validation of any of these methods, ie evidence that is demonstrably free of availability bias and the selective use of outcome data.

Nevertheless, it is important for every homeopath to familiarise themselves with the issues raised by these practices. We are all faced with challenges of quackery, the exploitation of placebo effects and charges of research bias. The only way to counter this is to engage critically with the history of these arguments and know something of the background models that have supported these investigations.

This collection of papers has been assembled by Dr Adrian Receanu.

His reference to the 'incontrovertible evidence' provided by William Boyd and his Emanometer research fails to mention the problems of reproducibility which bedeviled the experiments and led to their final rejection by the scientific community.

These materials are provided entirely for interest and do not form any part of the accreditation and examination curriculum for the course or the Faculty.

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/7zym9u65b04ncr6/Biophysical%20Medicine%20Research.pdf?dl=0>

(Please download these files, they do not open properly in dropbox viewer or browser software)

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