

Intermediate Course in Medical Homeopathy

A Blended Course in Homeopathic Medicine for Healthcare Professionals

Unit 38

Supplemental Text for Week 6

Tuberculinism

(Clinical expression of Tuberculinic Miasm)

Following on from our discussion of Hahnemann's theory of miasms we will discuss the concept of Tuberculinism.

Tuberculinism seems to be something of a hybrid miasm which is encountered in the descendants and families of TB sufferers.

Although Tuberculinism is inextricably linked with a predisposition to asthma, there are many variations in the expression of this miasm behaviourally, physiologically and pathologically.

The tubercular miasm is traditionally regarded as a multimiasmatic entity, combining the qualities of psora and syphilis (see the notes on miasms). Thus there is the liveliness of psora, characterised by changability and a diverse array of associated conditions, in combination with the destructive qualities of the syphilitic miasm.

Psora + syphilis = tuberculinism

In keeping with the various vectors and reservoirs of tuberculosis there are several different nosodes that have been applied in the treatment of patients in whom tuberculinism is evident.

Nosodes:

Tuberculinum Koch or *Tuberculinum crudum* Culture of Mycobacterium tuberculosis on liquid bovine bouillon.

Tuberculinum bovinum

Mycobacterium tuberculosis from bovine strain on bovine bouillon

Tuberculinum residuum

Glycerine extract of pure cultivation of tubercle bacilli on bovine bouillon

Helios pharmacy dispenses *Tuberculinum Koch* when Tuberculinum is ordered, it will dispense *Tuberculinum bovinum* when explicitly requested.

Clarke describes the picture of *Tuberculinum Koch* in his Materia Medica.

I could not find any differentiation of *Tuberculinum bovinum/ Tuberculinum Koch* in Boericke, Clarke, Mezger.

Kent describes the picture of Tuberculinum bovinum in his Materia Medica, he (continued over/)





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had the remedy made up for him by Boericke and Tafel from infected tubercular glands from slaughtered cattle.

No satisfactory proving only fragmentary provings by Swan.

Tuberculinum aviare

(Obtained from Mycobacterium tuberculosis from birds) more gentle action than Tuberculinum bovinum particularly suited to weak children

Bacillinum

(prepared from tuberculous sputum containing tubercle bacilli, lung tissue other bacteria and toxic products, first described by Burnett for whom it was especially prepared) very active preparation particularly useful with profuse expectoration, chronic bronchitis





Tuberculinum bovinum

(prototype nosode of *tuberculinic miasm*)

Keywords

- desire for change, changeability
- recurrent respiratory troubles/tonsillitis
- craves open air, profuse perspiration at night

Typology

Thin, weak, catches chills easily. Often the body is covered in fine downy hair. Delicate features, 'transparent' skin. Narrow chest, emaciation despite of good appetite and food intake. Desire for fresh air. Women often have long heavy periods too early.

Tissue Affinity

- respiratory tract
- glands

Mind

- unfulfilled, desire for change, need to travel, grass always greener on the other side
- maliciousness (especially children tantrums)
- compulsive, ritualistic
- irritable when sick
- · easy to anger, but quickly exhausted by anger
- very impressionable
- fear of dogs

Generals

Desire: smoked food, cold milk Agg: close room, changing weather, seaside, before storm Amel: open air, motion

Clinical Indication

- · family history of TB
- · recurrent tonsillitis/chest infections
- multiple allergies
- ravenous hunger
- profuse night sweats
- · grinds teeth during sleep

Application of tubercular Nosodes

- 1. Personal or family history of TB.
- 2. As the similimum since the tubercular nosodes especially *Tuberculinum bovinum* and *Bacillinum* have been well proven.
- 3. As an intercurrent remedy where a well indicated remedy does not act and the reaction patterns correspond to tuberculinism.
- 4. *Tuberculinum residuum* fibrous or sclerous formations esp joints, Dupuytren, prostatic hypertrophy, acne esp of shoulders, keloid scars (Thuj, Graph)
- 5. *Tuberculinum aviare* more gentle than *Tuberculinum bovinum* for acute obits in children, recurring bronchial disorders ESP in weak children.





Activity

Without referring to the text please answer the following questions.

Describe the reaction pattern of the tubercular miasm. With which miasms can you link this?

What are the key features of the remedy tuberculinum?

What is the remedy Tuberculinum bovinum made of?

What is the remedy Bacillinum made of?

How can you clinically apply the concept of tuberculinism?

Bibliography

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