

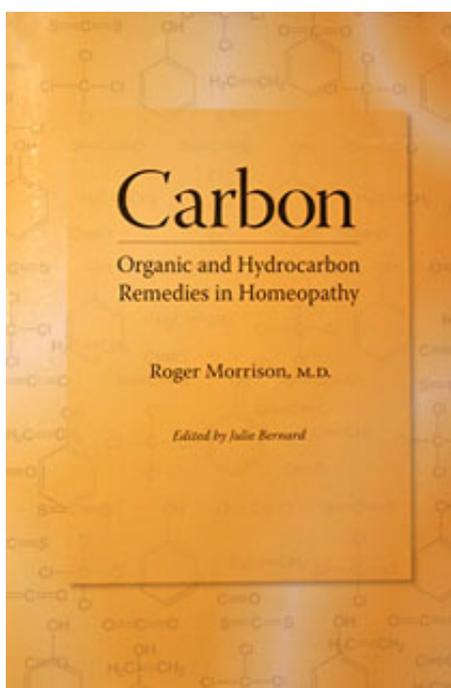
Roger Morrison Carbon

Reading excerpt

[Carbon](#)

of [Roger Morrison](#)

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The Major Themes of the Organic Compounds

Almost every case I have encountered that required one of the organic compound remedies has had at least two of the major themes outlined below. No case has had every theme. I have roughly listed these according to the frequency that they occurred in the cases I have observed. I do not suggest that these are the only group characteristics, rather the main ones that I have personally identified.

CONFUSION

The most striking characteristic of the organic compounds is their ability to produce confusion and disorientation. This confusion is found in virtually every remedy within the group. The gaze becomes unfocused and the thoughts wander; the mind is dull and intentions easily lost. It is often described as a type of intoxication by provers or patients. If the confusion is particularly advanced we find common symptoms of becoming lost in places he should know well, or even the inability to recognize people or loved ones. There may be a sense of disorientation with confusion about directions - the patient may repeatedly arrive late for appointments or simply give up and return home.

The confusion is often expressed by the patient as if he were "far away." It is as if the patient were not entirely in the room; as if he was speaking from far away or through a weak telephone connection. Furthermore, even the patient's sense of identity is weak. He does not know who he is or may in extreme cases say that he lacks any identity at all. Many hazy and confused patients have received remedies like Baptisia, Helleborus and Alumina without results when an organic chemical remedy was needed.

It is striking how exactly this type of confusion mimics the descriptions of patients who suffer from chemical hypersensitivity syndrome. The clinical buzzword, "cognitive dysfunction" expresses this symptom. Such patients are often inadvertent provers of various organic compounds. We must not expect every patient who needs an organic compound remedy to be confused. Rather, we may expect this especially in the failed state of the remedy. Many remedies show confusion in their failed state. The difference is that the confusion occurs more prominently and earlier in patients belonging to this group.

Confusion As if Intoxicated

Acet-Ac: The patient, a girl, appeared to be intoxicated.... (Poisoning)
 Acetan: Felt almost intoxicated and very giddy.
 Aether: Intoxicating properties, produces visions frequently pleasurable, hallucination, and in some instances, a persistent maniacal condition.
 Alco: He became thoroughly intoxicated.... Aml-N: Giddy, intoxicated feeling. Ant-T: Appeared like a man in a state of intoxication. Benz-N: Gait tottering and uncertain, as if intoxicated. *Camph*: A pleasant sense of intoxication.... Carb-Ac: Delusion he has taken opium.
 Chin-Sal: Intoxicated sensation, though his mental powers were perfect.
 Chlol: Similar to a slight champagne intoxication, whereby the prover felt pleasant, smiled and danced. Cupr-Acet: In the brain a form of intoxication is produced closely resembling mania. Glon: Pitched about like one intoxicated, incapable of controlling muscles of locomotion.
 Graph: Vertigo with cloudiness, a sort of intoxication.
 Indol: There was a sense of intoxication.
 Keroso: Kerosolenum causes a pleasurable kind of intoxication. Kreos: She returned to the house as if intoxicated. Menthol: Sensations: bewildered, confused, stupid, intoxicated feeling. Sulfa: Sensation similar to alcoholic intoxication. Sulfon: He had the appearance of a man intoxicated with alcohol.

Remedies listed for Intoxication:

Antipyrin. Benz-Ac. Benz-P. Carb-Ac. Carb-An. Carb-V. Carbn-H. Carbn-O. Carb-S. Chlf. *Eucal*. Eupi. Ferr-Acet. Hip-Ac. Hydr-Ac. Iodof. Kali-Cy. Kres. Naphtin. Nit-S-D. Ol-An. Ox-Ac. Petr. Pic-Ac. Sac-Alb. Sal-Ac. Succ. Ter. Urea.

Recognition

Acet-Ac: Does not recognize his own children.
 Adam: Dream of not recognizing old friends.

Aether: The greatest variety of the effects [are] upon self-consciousness, and of the degree in which the recognition of surrounding objects is retained.

Alco: Thinks he recognizes an absent friend in a stranger who is present.

Carb-Ac: Does not recognize anyone during hydrocephalus.

Carb-An: He could not distinctly recognize any object held near him.

Chlf: Complete loss of sensibility and recognition.

Glon: Recognizes no one; repulses her husband and children,

Iodof: The child was perfectly indifferent, and did not recognize those about him.

Kali-Fey: "She no longer recognized me." *Reichenberg-Ullman*

Lec: Began to address a friend thinking she was someone else, with a general confused feeling in the head.

Petr: Does not recognize his relatives.

Polyst: Dreams, movie actress, recognize, failing to.

Sulphon: She would doze for a few minutes, then open her eyes, but did not recognize anyone.

Lost

Adam: I lost direction in a store. "I'm at a crossroad. I need to find out where it is that I'm going." *Jackson*

Benz-P: I decided to take a stroll in the hotel lobby. I lost my bearings.

Calc-Acet: He was obliged to stop while reading and did not know where he was.

Calc-Pic: "Noticed that the girl had lost her mother...." *Scholten*

Camph-Br: My first impression was that I had boarded the wrong train: I was completely "turned round" and could not disabuse myself of the idea that the train was going south instead of north. (Poisoning)

Carb-V: Confusion: loses his way in well-known streets.

Glon: Confusion: Lost in well-known streets.

Hydr-Ac: Confusion of mind, loses his way in well-known streets.

Keroso: Thought loss; lost himself. Nat-Ox: Dazed and confused. Just feeling lost.

Petr: Confusion, Lost in well-known streets.

Sac-L: As if it is only by a great effort one is kept together.

Sac-L: Loses her way in well-known streets; gets completely bewildered; walked from Fifth to Tenth Avenue while intending to go to Second Avenue; wondered how the avenue had got on the wrong side of the city.

Succ: I feel totally lost and cannot relate to where I am. Suddenly, I find I'm in a laneway and don't recognize where I am.

Vacant

In many cases the best word to describe the patient is "vacant." His look, his personality, his mental state may be like looking into a void. As if (in the vernacular of American teenagers) "nobody's home." This is in a rather advanced state. Prior to this the patient may have only periods of fatigue and simply sitting and staring at the walls or ceiling. There is often a strong feeling of emptiness in the mind or inside the head. Frequent vanishing of thoughts. This may arise in a patient who has been of the habit to think excessively as a type of breakdown state.

Aether: The patient raised himself to a sitting posture and looked about him with a vacant stare.

Aml-N: Her eyes glassy and vacantly rolling in their sockets.

Ant-T: Vanishing of thoughts.

Benz-Ac: Vacuity, feeling of.

Benz-N: "Eyes open but vacant and unresponsive." *Guess*

Camph: A most vacant expression of continence, eyes wandering about the room speechless and powerless.

Carb-An: Vanishing of thoughts.

Carbn-H: Intellectual faculties a blank.

Carbn-S: Stared at her hands and fingers with a vacant look.

Chin-Sal: Perception of quantities impaired. Vacancy of ideas.

Chlf: Expression vacant.

Chlol: Thoughts; vacancy of.

Cupr-Acet: Eyes staring, look vacantly fixed upon some object.

Glou: Expression; vacant, sunstroke, in.

Glyc: Vanishing of thoughts.

Graph: Desolate, empty feeling in head.

Hydr-Ac: Frequently sits up in bed, gazes vacantly about him for a minute.

Kali-Cy: Vanishing of thoughts.

Keto-Ac: Mind: Thoughts, vacancy of.
 Kreos: Stupid feeling in head, with vacant gaze.
 Mang-Acet: There is an obvious expression of vacancy in countenance.
 Merc-Meth: Expression very vacant.
 Petr: Emptiness; with stupefaction in head.
 Pic-Ac: Heaviness of the head, alternating with a sensation of emptiness.
 Polyst: Dullness of mind, unable to appreciate things, lack precision.
 Everything seems too hazy. Sulfa: Thoughts; disconnected. Ter:
 Vanishing of thoughts. Tere-L: I was removed from reality. My husband
 was talking but I
 couldn't focus on what he was saying.

IDENTITY

The carbon-based remedies often suffer with a disturbing absence of identity. The patient may describe this as an emptiness (or vacancy) inside the head or as a lack of a clear sense of self. The feeling of existence is there but nothing distinct and personal. This lack of identity is often tied into feelings of low self-worth or at other times it may be connected with the disorientation and mental confusion. Carbon compounds are extremely flexible - they can change conformation with slight chemical stimulus. This mutability seems almost to be reflected internally. Associated with this identity issue is often a sense of duality or being double. When the main issue the patient is dealing with revolves around weak or unclear identity, we may consider an organic remedy.

Allox: Confusion as to his identity, as if head was being lifted off, as if head were separated from body.

Benz-P: Confusion of mind, identity, as to his, duality, sense of.

Camph: Confusion: identity, as to his.

Carb-Ac: I lost all the realization that I possessed a body, and that my head seemed to float in the air.

Chlf: "She wanted to go far away, to her mother's land, to seek her identity." *Fayeton*

Glou: Delusion, double, he is.

Graph: "Her sense of identity seems quite *weak*" *Jacobs*

Keto-Ac: Feeling unconnected to who I am. Everything except poetry seems futile.

Lac-Ac: Imagines he wears someone's nose.

Menth: Confusion: identity, as to his: duality, sense of.

OI-J: Confusion of identity. Talks about himself in the third person.

Petr: Confusion: identity, as to his.

Blandness

The main impression given by many patients requiring organic compound remedies is blandness (this is especially true of the aliphatic remedies). Vithoulkas first spoke of this characteristic in his description of Graphites: "The main idea which comes to mind in Graphites is blandness - a dullness and heaviness on all levels." This blandness is true of many of the patients in the organic groups - not only Graphites. Though very difficult to put into words, the personality of these patients is mild, flat, featureless, smooth, in-offensive, self-effacing and often unnoticed. This bland quality relates to the invisibility mentioned in the introduction. The patient may state that he feels undeserving to express himself more. He may complain of feeling unappreciated (*see below, Value*) or unnoticed. More often the blandness is not noticed by the patient himself or at least not identified as a problem. This characteristic also relates to the vacancy and to the weakness of identity described above. Naturally, the polar opposite also occurs and many patients needing organic compound remedies are found to be harsh, assertive or astringent in temperament. Unfortunately, because of the vague nature of this characteristic, it is rarely reported in provings or cases and I can give few quotations from the literature in support of this observation.

Adam: "My husband ...has... a shining personality. When I met him, I realized that I was less than I expected I was" *Jackson*

Allox: "Timid and introverted, she sits down at quite a distance from the desk..." *Mangialavori*

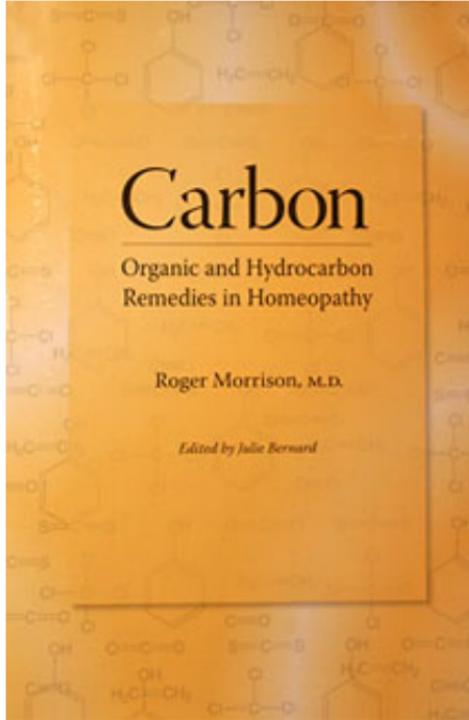
Camph: Mildness.

Carb-An: Mildness.

Cupr: Contacts: mild, friendly, aversion people, aversion talking....

Graph: These people have a very stable personality. They experience everything as a matter of course....

Graph: The Graphites patient is an overgrown Pulsatilla subject, with a well-developed motive temperament, large bones and high forehead, slower in movement, but just as mild as Pulsatilla....



Roger Morrison

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