

# Anima Chakravarty

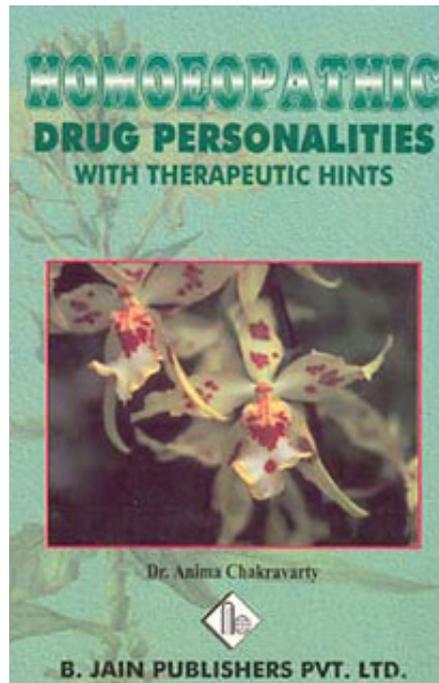
## Homoeopathic Drug Personalities with Therapeutic Hints

Reading excerpt

[Homoeopathic Drug Personalities with Therapeutic Hints](#)

of [Anima Chakravarty](#)

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**Catarrhal Conditions**

The catarrha<sup>1</sup> state runs through the remedy. There is accumulation of mucus in the nose, throat, larynx and trachea. With the change of weather and exposure to cold, there is coarse rattling in the chest all the time in an old person. In summer there is comparatively less trouble. Sometimes there is a paralytic weakness in the larynx; there is hoarseness or huskiness, or the voice is entirely lost. This aphonia may be due to constitutional weakness or from paralysis! The cough is excited by an irritation in the larynx and trachea and the patient goes on coughing and coughing and gets no relief, until he lies on the abdomen; as long as he lies on the abdomen, he is free from cough. This must be noticed as a very peculiar characteristic of *Baryta carb.* Cough sometimes on a slight exposure to cold brings on headache, backache and diarrhoea. The ears may also be involved with crackling on swallowing and reverberations in the ear on blowing the nose and sneezing.

*Baryta carb.* may also be useful in the fatty tumours occasionally appearing here and there in the body. These may be surgically removed; but in that case they may again grow in future; it is much better to cure them by constitutional remedies.

**Modalities**

**Aggravations-While** thinking of the complaints, washing affected parts, lying on painful side, after meals.

**Ameliorations-Walking** in open air.

**Relations**

**Complementary-ylfIJ.** *tart., Dulc., Psorinum, Silicea.*

**Inimical-After** *Calc. ost.*

**Antidotal-ylnr.** *cmd., Ant. tart., Bell, Camphor., Dulc., Merc. sol., Teucrium.*

**BELLADONNA**

*Belladonna* suits diseases that are sudden in their appearance, rapid in progress and violent in action. It is a short-acting remedy, not a constitutional, deep-acting anti-psoric. There is some similarity

between *Aconite* and *Belladonna*-but this similarity is limited to the sudden appearance, rapid course and short action of both the remedies. As we proceed on in our study of *Belladonna*, we shall grasp the essential difference in the personality of the two remedies. The complaints of *Belladonna* appear suddenly, run a more or less regular course and disappear as suddenly as they came. It suits specially children and people of robust health, and plethoric and vigorous constitution, fleshy and phlegmatic persons who are subject specially to congestion of the head. These persons are pleasant, sociable and jovial when well, but becomes terribly irritable and violent, when ill. The pleasant sociability is converted into the very opposite conditions during sickness.

The chief characteristic of *Belladonna* is inflammation of various tissues and organs, such as, brain, lungs, liver, intestines and also the muscles and skin. Naturally, *it possesses all the characteristics of inflammations, such as, heat, redness, swelling, throbbing and burning pains*. These inflammatory characteristics will also be clear and distinct, as we go on discussing the action of *Belladonna* on the different tissues and organs. Before going into details let us try to grasp the special features of *Belladonna* personality. *Belladonna* pams characteristically appear very suddenly, remain for a shorter or longer period of time, and they disappear as suddenly as they came.

#### **Modalities**

All troubles are aggravated from motion, light, jar and cold. Every motion of the eyes, such as, turning the eye-balls, every step he takes, such as in going up or down the stairs or rising from a seat or sitting down, slightest jar of the bed increases the troubles to an intense degree. In children *Belladonna* demands the presence of cerebral symptoms. The irritation of the brain is shown by the jerking of the limbs, sudden startling and screaming out during sleep. The aggravations of *Belladonna* usually take place after 3 P.M. or after mid-night, from cold and draft of air and from uncovering, relieved by covering, keeping head high and perfect rest (*Bry.*) There is great liability to take

cold and sensitiveness to drafts of air, specially when uncovering the head and having the hair cut.

The mouth and throat are dry, red and hot, the throat sometimes being greatly swollen, and so are all the mucous surfaces. The tongue is red and dry, with red edges and white coating in the middle and papillae prominent.

#### **Mind and Delirium**

The mental characteristics and features of delirium occupy a prominent place in Belladonna personality. As Dr. Kent very aptly says, the mental symptoms of *Belladonna* are delightful to study, but dreadful to look upon. These symptoms come out most prominently in intense febrile conditions. There is no mildness in *Belladonna* complaints. The mental symptoms are all active and violent. Passive delirium is unknown to *Belladonna*. The patient jumps out of bed, strikes, bites and tears things and does unexpected and unusual things. He is full of excitement and imaginations. He is entirely oblivious of his surrounding realities, and lives in a world of his own engrossed in visual hallucinations, such as those of monsters and hideous faces. All senses are extremely acute. He starts in sleep as if from an electric shock, starts in fright at the approach of others, as if afraid of imaginary things and wants to run away from them. There is violent excitement of the sensorium and excessive nervous irritability.

#### **Belladonna Fever**

*Belladonna* has acquired fame in its action on fever. As we have already pointed out inflammations of *Belladonna* are accompanied by intense heat. This intensity of heat is peculiar to *Belladonna* and is more marked than in other remedies. The skin becomes so hot in fever that it almost burns the hand that touches it, and sometimes by raising the bed-cover a hot steam seems visible coming from the patient, this is due to the sweat in covered parts. But we shall remember in this connection that in a continued type of fever like Typhoid, even with this kind of heat, *Belladonna* is not the remedy, because it has no continued fever in it. It has not the gradual rise and fall of a continued fever. Sometimes beads of hot, pearly sweat are seen on the forehead.

The feet are icy-cold, and thirst is absent in Belladonna fever. There is sometimes distention of superficial blood vessels. The mental features and delirium of *Belladonna* have already been described. Medicinal reaction is very quick in *Belladonna*. The appropriate selection of the remedy is almost immediately followed by a response in acute troubles as in fevers. The temperature usually rises after 3 P.M. or after mid-night.

#### **Belladonna Headache**

The headaches and vertigo of *Belladonna* are nervous and congestive. The pains are of a stabbing, shooting character, driving the patient almost mad. The nervous headaches are usually right-sided, aggravated from 4 P.M. to 3 A.M., and worse lying down, light, noise or any kind of jar, when the whole head is affected, the patient sits up supporting the head, because he is worse lying and worse bending forward. The face is generally red and the carotid arteries throb violently. The head is heavy and it feels like a weight. Sometimes the head is drawn back, as drawing the head back relieves the intensity of the violent headaches. This relief remains as the head is kept drawn back. Stooping and bending forward aggravate the pains. Sudden touch or pressure increases the headache, while the soft, gradual pressure relieves it. Exposure of the head and motion increase the headache, while covering the rest give relief. The congestions of *Belladonna* have an upward tendency, so there is rush of blood to the head with cold extremities. Vomiting may accompany. The head is hot, and the extremities are cold.

#### **The Mucous Membranes: Dryness- Common Feature**

The common feature of the mucous membranes of the nose, mouth, throat, larynx and chest is dryness. The very dryness of mucous membranes is sometimes the cause of pain, because the natural flow is dried up. Checked secretions cause fever and other complaints. *This dryness is found in Belladonna-coryza, Belladonna-cough and in the throat complaints of Belladonna. The suppression of the nasal flow brings on awful, maddening, throbbing headaches. But Belladonna is useless in thick, yellow or yellowish-green discharges where Mercurius, Sulphur or Pulsatilla may be indicated.*

**Throat**

The throat is a favourite point of attack by *Belladonna*. The fauces are inflamed and bright red; the tonsils, specially the right one is enlarged with a tendency of the disease to extend to the left. These conditions proceed on very rapidly. It seems more difficult to swallow the liquids than the solids. The pharynx and the larynx are in a state of spasm, partly due to dryness and partly due to the sensitiveness of the nerves of the part, and there is spasmodic constriction of the throat. *Belladonna* also inflames the parotid glands, specially that on the right side. The stitches extend into the ears; the gland is swollen, hot and red, and the saliva thick, gluey, yellowish and tenacious; the tongue is white and fissured.

**Stomach and Bowels (G.I. Tract)**

The mouth and the tongue are dry. The dry, swollen, hard tongue when protruded, feels like leather. There is loss of sensation, taste and power of speech. The tongue is red with papillae raised - a strawberry tongue.

In stomach troubles *Belladonna* has great thirst. Sometimes the patient may want only a little water sufficient to wet the parched tongue, mouth and throat. The desire for lemons and lemon-juice is very strong in *Belladonna*. In acute diseases the lemon is good for the patient (and *Belladonna* is only a remedy for acute conditions). The inflammatory conditions of the stomach and the bowels cause pain, burning, distress, distension, sensitiveness to jar and slightest motion. Usually the colicky pains are relieved by bending forward.

**Respiratory Symptoms (Cough)**

*Belladonna* causes cough from tickling in larynx, with red face, sparkling eyes, dry hacking cough coming in very violent attacks. The cough is dry with tightness in the upper part of the chest, aggravated just after lying down in the evening and at night. The larynx is sore and hot internally, worse from pressure. There is burning in chest. The pains are worse under the right clavicle. In pleurisy and other acute conditions there is much tightness, soreness and painfulness in the chest. *Belladonna* with

congestion, red face and burning can cure pleurisy, specially when it is right-sided. There is great pain and extreme soreness, aggravated from lying on the painful side and from the jar of the bed. In pleurisy *Belladonna* can be easily distinguished from *Bryonia* which also prefers the right side. In *Bryonia* the patient is relieved by lying on the painful side; *Bryonia* is relieved by pressure, and is not so sensitive to the jar. The heat is less intense, and there are not much throbbing and burning. Right side, disinclination to move and aggravation by movement are common to *Belladonna* and *Bryonia*. Most of the *Belladonna* complaints are relieved by keeping still. The suddenness and rapidity of the onset of the trouble - these are common to *Aconite* and *Belladonna*; *Bryonia*, as we shall see, is slow in pace; its symptoms appear gradually. In this way we can distinguish the short acting, acute remedies like *Aconite*, *Belladonna* and *Bryonia*.

### **Inflammatory Rheumatism**

When the joints, some or all of them, are swollen, red, shining and hot with burning pains, sensitiveness to the jar of the bed, *Belladonna* is indicated. It suits specially those who cannot bear the least uncovering, cannot bear a draft, very sensitive to the touch of the moving covers, and ameliorated by heat and rest. There is pain also in the nape of the neck, shoulders and upper arms. In inflammatory rheumatism if there is fever and the temperature runs high, there is delirium characteristic of *Belladonna*. It is a very useful remedy in rheumatic stiff neck, caused by cutting the hair, getting the head wet, and sitting with the head and neck exposed to a draft. In the inflammatory conditions the patient has a desire for perfect rest, and he is aggravated by motion. In fact, the desire for rest and aversion to motion are common symptoms of *Belladonna* and *Bryonia*. And jar is an aggravated form of motion, bringing out that sensitiveness.

### **Skin**

The general characteristics of inflammation - redness, heat and burning are equally shared by *Belladonna*. It causes at first an erythema - bright scarlet redness of the skin, with great

sensitiveness to touch. Sometimes there is an erysipelatous appearance, the bright red colour coming in streaks from a central point and radiating in all directions with rapid swelling and early involvement of cellular tissue beneath the skin and in some cases, with rapid formation of pus burrowing deeply into the cellular tissue. This is a true picture of phlegmonous erysipelas. The pains are violent and sharp, of a lancinating and stinging character, usually associated with a good deal of throbbing.

*Belladonna* produces boils and abscesses. In mastitis or inflammation of the mammae, *Bell*, is indicated by the violence of symptoms-radiating redness, throbbing and tendency to suppuration. The same symptoms are present in abscesses of any kind in any situation.

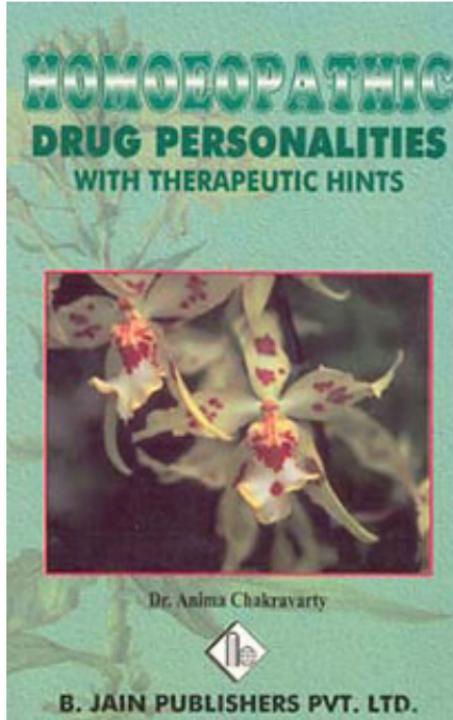
**Modalities-**Have been discussed in detail.

**Relations**

**Complementary-***Calc. ost., Hepar, Merc, sol., Nat. mur., Variolinum.*

**Inimical-***Acetic acid, Dale.*

**Antidotal-***Aconite, Camphor, Coffea, Conium, Hepar, Hyos. Merc, sol., Nux vom.. Opium: Puls., Stramonium.*



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