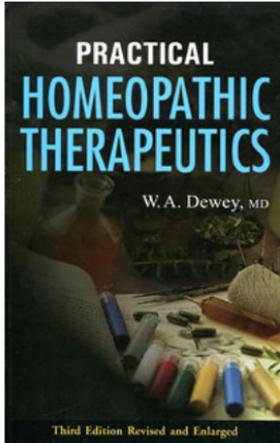


Willis Alonzo Dewey Practical Homoeopathic Therapeutics

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Practical Homoeopathic Therapeutics.

ABSCESS.

(Including Infections, Suppurations, Cellulitis, etc.)

Belladonna is the remedy most often indicated for the initiatory symptoms of abscess. The parts swell rapidly, become bright red, there is intense throbbing which is painful, pus develops speedily, the swelling increases and the redness radiates; here *Belladonna* is in close relation with *Hepar* and *Mercurius*. It comes in earlier than either of these remedies and corresponds more closely to the active, sthenic variety of abscess before pus is matured. In abscesses about the alveolar processes, the so-called gum boils, *Belladonna* is often the first remedy and *Mercurius* follows here in most cases. In acute glandular abscesses *Belladonna* is often indicated and is a beginning remedy.

Chamomilla is not a remedy to suggest itself in abscess, yet has proved valuable in promoting the formation of pus in chronic abscesses where *Hepar* has failed to act promptly, and in making the pains more bearable.

Hepar sulphur, is the great homoeopathic remedy for suppurations where the pus is not decomposed. It suits especially lymphatic, phlegmatic individuals. Excessive sensitiveness of the parts is a leading indication. It is further indicated by these symptoms: chilly sensations, throbbing in the parts, or sharp, sticking pains which are worse at night and from cold. If given low in threatening suppuration it will favor the formation of pus. The suppurative process will often be aborted by *Hepar* if given in the higher potencies. Such abscesses as felon or whitlow generally do well under *Hepar*. If there be a bruised pain present, sometimes *Arnica* may do good. There

are two other preparations similar to *Hepar*; *Calcium sulphide*, which is the chemically pure article, has never been proved, hence we must regard it only as a makeshift for *Hepar*, and *Calcarea sulphurica*. This last remedy has been found useful in cases of abscess where the suppuration seems to continue indefinitely. The presence of pus with a *vent* has been considered a good indication; it comes in after *Silicea*, and suits painful abscesses about the anus, and is a most useful remedy in gum boils. Dr. W. E. Leonard claims that in the 12x it will abort felons and furuncles.

Silicea is the remedy where the suppuration continues and the wound refuses to heal, no matter where the suppurative process is located; the pus is apt to be thin, watery, and the process is a sluggish and indolent one. Under *Silicea* the suppurative process takes on a healthy action, the pus becomes benign, granulations appear. It is then time to stop the remedy, for if it be continued it may undo the good it has done, and another remedy, probably *Fluoric acid*, will have to be given. This remedy antidotes the overuse of *Silicea*. *Silicea* is usually prescribed after an abscess has been lanced or opened by means of a poultice. Warmth is very grateful to the *Silicea* patient. *Fluoric acid* has relief from cold. Abscesses having much **cellular infiltration** in their vicinity call for *Silicea*. It, too, is a remedy for all fistulous burrowings. In rectal fistula it is very often the remedy; great nervous erethism, if present, is an additional indication. There is often considerable foetor to the discharge of *Silicea* cases. Scrofulous and tubercular abscesses especially call for *Silicea*.

Mercurius. Differing from *Belladonna*, from *Hepar*, and especially from *Silicea* is *Mercurius*, which is one of our good remedies in abscess. It comes in after *Belladonna*, when pus has formed. It favors the formation of pus especially in the lower potencies, and is especially indicated in **glandular** abscesses; the pus is greenish in tint and quite thin and fluid.

ANGINA PECTORIS.

Amyl nitrite. In acute attacks of this disease *Amyl nitrite* is usually the remedy given, and it is given by olfaction of the crude substance. Its action is to produce a speedy dilation of the capillaries in the upper part of the body, the face becomes flushed, the heart's action is rapid and tumultuous, there is a feeling as of a band around the head, constriction about the heart and oppressed breathing. It is very useful in relieving the paroxysm, and if the symptoms correspond, it will be found useful at other times.

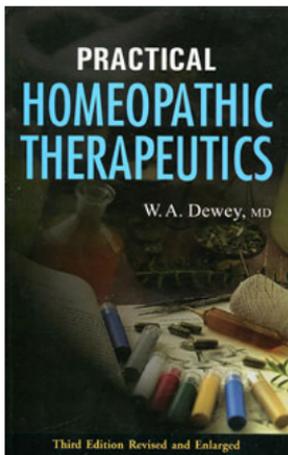
Aconite is especially useful during an attack of vaso-motor angina from exposure to cold, with intense anxiety. Coldness, pain radiating from head in all directions, with numbness, tingling, paraesthesia.

Glonoine or *Nitro glycerine* is a very similar remedy. It has been proved and its action is fairly well known. Its grand characteristic is throbbing all over the body in every vessel, a feeling of fulness in region of heart, and perhaps sharp pains radiating in all directions from heart, labored breathing, and fluttering of the heart, it feels contracted.

Arsenicum has also proved useful, especially in preventing the paroxysms.

Crataegus. Sudden, terrible pain in the left breast, radiating over the heart and down left arm, despondent and fearful of death. Use tincture in water, frequent doses.

Cimicifuga has pains radiating all over the chest and a sensation as if the left arm were bound to the side. The patient may become unconscious, the heart's action suddenly ceases, there is a sense of impending suffocation, and the pulse is weak and feeble.



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