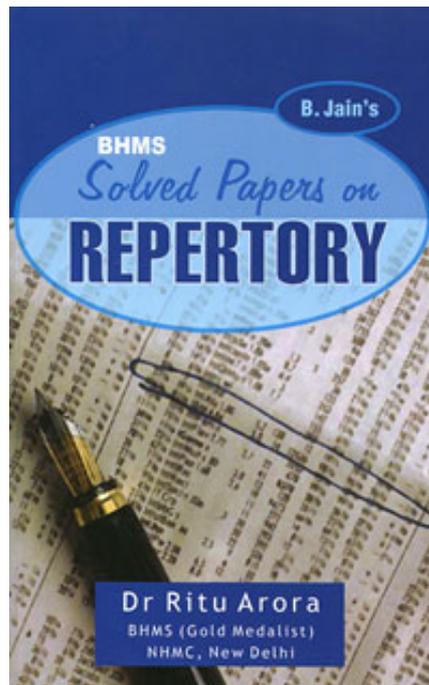


# Ritu Arora

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## CHAPTER-4

# EVALUATION OF SYMPTOMS

After painstaking enquiry the physician has accumulated a mass of data which threatens to engulf him. He has to classify and grade them in order to give it a form.

This form will have to depict truly the patient as a whole which at the same time will readily reveal its counterpart in the *materia medica*.

**Evaluation of symptoms** means the principle of grading or ranking of different symptoms in order of value which are to be matched with the drug symptoms in order to superimpose a similar drug disease on the characteristic totality of the natural disease.

As a result of years of clinical experience pooled together, a system of evaluation has been evolved which finds ready acceptance in the field of repertorisation.

Proper evaluation of symptoms is the most important step next to case-taking in homoeopathy. In analysis of a case, the value of symptoms must be taken into consideration on several points. First, the personality, the individuality of the patient must stand out in the picture.

Secondly, they should be categorised under subjective, objective, general, common and uncommon symptoms. In fact, the similimum is practically never found amongst the disease symptoms.

In considering the disease symptoms in the selection of remedy, its only practical value is in excluding those remedies from consideration which do not correspond to the genius of the I disease, but act chiefly on other parts of the organism.

There are different methods of evaluation of symptoms devised and formulated by various pillars of homoeopathy.

**1. Kentian method:** According to this, highest emphasis is given to the mental generals reflecting the innermost of the patient.

**2. Hahnemann's method:** It categorises the symptoms into general and uncommon types out of which the uncommon ones get a higher value.

**3. Garth Boericke's method:** It classifies the symptoms as basic or absolute and determinative types.

**4. Boenninghausen's method:** It consists of the following.

- a. **Quis:** It includes the personality of the patient which deals with age, sex, body build, constitution and temperament.
- b. **Quid:** It deals with the nature of disease.
- c. **UBI:** It means seat of disease.
- d. **Quibus auxiliis:** It means the associate symptoms with the main complaint.
- e. **Cur:** It deals with the cause of disease.
- f. **Quomodi:** The modifying factors which increase \*»

decrease the intensity of complaints such as weather changes, time of the day, eating habits, etc.

**g. Quando:** It mainly deals with the evolution of disease.

**Q-1.** Give the scheme of evaluation and gradation of symptoms according to Kent. (1988,1990)

**A-1.** Dr. James Tyler Kent was the first to introduce the scheme of analysis, evaluation and gradation of symptoms to reach the similimum.

**Evaluation:** It implies the principle of ranking of different symptoms in order of value which are to be matched with the drug symptoms.

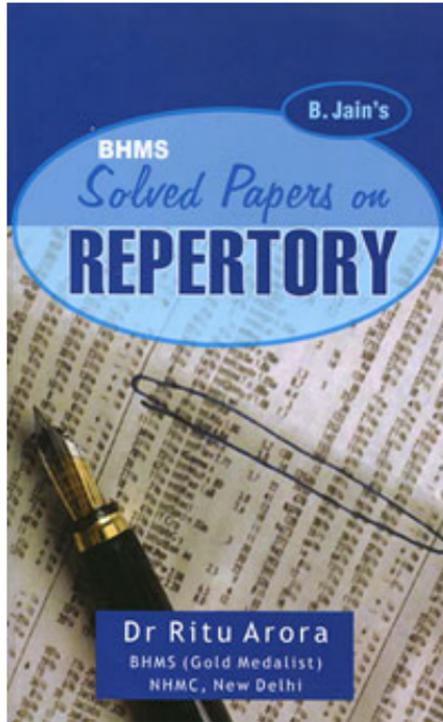
As a result of painstaking enquiry the physician has accumulated a mass of data which threatens to engulf him. He has to classify them in order to give it a form. This form will have to depict truly the patient as a person, which at the same time will readily reveal its counterpart in materia medica. This classification is accepted as the evaluation of the case.

#### **KENTIAN FEATURES OF EVALUATION:**

1. Prime importance to the mental state.
2. Limited generalisation.
3. Physical generals including modalities.
4. Characteristic particulars considered at "the final stage of differentiation.

**Scheme of evaluation:** The symptoms have been classified as:

1. General symptoms.
2. Common symptoms.
3. Particular symptoms.



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