Shrikant Kulkarni
Surgery and Homoeopathic Therapeutics

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CHAPTER 3.

APPENDICITIS

1. PHOSPHORUS

Inflammatory conditions of all the elementary canal, inflammation of small bowels, caecum, rectum, and appendix, peritonitis. Intense tenderness over Mcburney's point. Great burning in the stomach. Craves for cold water, cold food. Abdomen is sensitive to touch. Violent shooting pain in Right Iliac Fossa. Regurgitation and grumbling in the abdomen. Nausea. Excessive salivation. The food & cold water, on becoming warm in stomach, is vomited out. Patient is exhausted, colicky type of pain in whole of the abdomen; ameliorated by rubbing or by cold water for the time being.

Thin narrow chested patients. Marked burning everywhere. Haemorrhagic diathesis. The patient is prostrated.

Over-sensitivity to external impressions is seen. Desires for cold food, drinks, likes to be magnetised. High grade of ever with vomiting as soon as ingesta reaches the stomach. The cold settles in the chest with bloody expectoration. Mentally the patient is asthenic, quick in perception, apathetic, sanguine temperament.

MODALITIES:

< By hot food, chilly, empty stomach, evening.
> Cold water, cold drinks, Cold food, pressure or rubbing of abdomen, over sensitiveness marks the remedy.
2. BELLADONNA --

This is the remedy of choice of the Homoeopathic Physician when patient conies in acute stage. Appendix is in inflammatory condition, patient presents in violent pains in right iliac fossa, doesn’t allow the physician to touch the abdomen, pulse fast, red-flushed face, eyes are red, colicky pain in abdomen, better by bending forward, burning and intense heat in abdomen. Abdomen distended, this distension is relieved by vomiting, which contains indigested food particles.

There is also congestion of the tonsillar glands & congestive headache. Throbbing type of pain in brain matter.

Red-flushed face, red eyes, sensitive and intense pain in abdomen mark the remedy.


Congestive-throbbing headache. Great dryness of the skin and mucus membranes.

Mentally violent delirium in toxic states. Attacks, barks, tears the clothes, frightful hallucinations.

**MODALITIES:**

< Touch, slightest movement, at bed time, draft of air, uncovering.

> Rest, sitting in one position without movement, warmth.

3. ARSENICUM ALBUM -

Inflammation of the appendix is due to bad spoiled food and meat, raw vegetables, ice-cold water, spasmodic pains in stomach and oesophagus, burning of the elementary canal, which is relieved by cold water. Intense thirst for cold water but unable to retain the same. Long lasting eructations which gives sense of heart-bum by which patient becomes anxious.
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Vomiting of bile and some times blood. Stomach is very irritable. Patient is anxious and restless. Marked dyspepsia, patient feels better temporarily by taking milk.

Prostrations with rapid sinking of vital force. Cold sweat with toxaemia. Burning pains relieved by heat but head symptoms are relieved by cold. Anasarca with waxy, earthy skin. All the symptoms are aggravated at midday and midnight.

Mentally the patient is restless, fastidious temperament, frightful, fearful, anxious, fears death, predicts the day and gathers the relatives.

**MODALITIES:**
- After mid-night, from cold drinks spoiled and over-ripened fruits,
- By warm drinks , head-up position.

4. CARBO VEGETABILIS

Intense heaviness of the abdomen, tense from flatulence. Due to retro-coecal condition of the appendix patient complaints of discomfort in epigastric region, thus the pains of the appendix mimics the gastric trouble . Tense abdomen temporarily relieved by eructations- which are sour and rancid. Nausea and excessive salivation usually in the morning . Pain in right iliac fossa extends upwards or to the spine as per the position of the appendix. Pains are sharp and like that of cramps, which makes the patient to bend double. Food which is taken by the patient is vomited out. Vomits are putrid and offensive. Patient feels every way better after eructations.

Haemorrhagic diathesis. Patient craves the things which make him sick. He wants to be fanned. Flatulent dyspepsia, cachetic personality, hippocratic face, collapsed condition. Last stages of the disease are copious cold sweat, cold breath, cold tongue. Sensation as if stomach will burst. Involuntary cadaverous stools.

**MODALITIES:**
- After taking fatty food, in the evening hours, oily food, warm damp weather, alcoholic drinks,
5. CINCHONA OFFICINALIS --

This is the most important remedy for almost all types of colics of abdomen, appendicular pains, arising from right iliac fossa to right hypochondriac region. Abdomen is tender to touch, especially in RIF and in HYPOCHONDRIAC region. Vomiting of indigested food particles. Heaviness in the pit of stomach due to flatulence. Patient feels that, abdomen would burst due to flatulence. Nausea and vomiting with sour taste in the mouth. Weakness and debility is marked in the remedy. Flushed face in attack. Some times associated with high degree of fever. China suits to debilitated patients due to loss of vital fluids. Periodicity is marked. Great sensitivity to draught of air. Throbbing type of headache with flushes in vertex, pressure in eyes, flatulence with bitter regurgitation. Catarrhal conditions of the chest after meals.

Sudden crying & tossing. Apathetic, indifferent taciturn, despondence. Ideas crowd in the mind, so sleepless.

**MODALITIES** -  
< Cold food, cold drinks, slightest touch loss of vital fluids, at night.  
> Bending forwards, hard pressure, open air.

6. GRATIOLA

This is one of the remedy which comes into play when patient gets the recurrent attacks of appendicitis, especially in female candidates. Thick white coated tongue with nausea & vertigo after meals, after taking few mouthfuls. Loss of appetite, patient hesitates to take the food, as there is distension of the abdomen and stomach after taking meals. There are severe cramps in the abdomen after and during meals. Colic in RIF especially at night times. The mark of this wonderful remedy is dysphagia for liquids. Distension of the abdomen after taking food followed by insomnia.

Mainly acts on G.I.T. Rushes of blood to head with vanishing of sight. Vertigo during and after meals.

**MODALITIES**
- After taking food, after sitting.
- Rest, lying down.

**7. KALI BICHROMICUM --**

Catarrhal condition of the appendix, stomach, large and small intestines, inflammation of appendix with nausea and vomiting followed by diarrhoea due to bad effects of alcohol. Weak digestion and assimilation, mal-absorption, thus patient vomits out undigested food particles and stringy mucous. Scaphoid type of abdomen with enlarged inguinal lymph nodes, which are tender to touch. Cutting and stinging pains in abdomen. Sometimes the patient complains dull aching pains. Tongue is smooth, shiny or thickly white coated, cracks are present, sensation of hair on tongue. Punched out deep ulcers are found in this remedy. Dryness of the mouth with discharge of stringy mucous.

Fat and light haired patients. Increased secretions of the mucus membranes, thick stringy ropy discharges which can be drawn into strings. Complaints by taking cold. Flatulent dyspepsia. Uvula is swollen. Photophobia, pseudo membraneous diphtheria. Heaviness one hour after eating.

**MODALITIES:**
- Heat of room, warm application, in the evening, covering.
- In the morning, uncovering, after meals.

**8. LACHESIS --**

Congestion and tenderness in Right iliac fossa, by bad assimilation of the food material, cold drinks, cold food. Abdomen is tender to touch with distension. Tympanic note, all over the abdomen. Abdomen is so tense and sensitive that the patient doesn’t allow to touch or examine, even he doesn’t

Thin emaciated patients with great sensitivity to touch. Principally left sided remedy. He sleeps into aggravation and wakes into aggravation. All discharges relieve him greatly. Bursting and pressing headache as if lead is poured. Liquids are more difficult for swallowing than solids.

Mentally the patient is suspicious and jealous. Central idea is repression. Mental labour best performed at night and aggravated in the morning.

**MODALITIES:**

< Lachesis patient aggravates after sleep, summer season, heat of any hot food or drink, hot weather.

> By cold in general, cold drinks, cold food, empty stomach.

**9. PULSATILLA**

Abdominal discomfort due to fatty and undigested rich food. Heaviness of the abdomen due to flatulence. Suitable to the retro- coecal appendix where the pains are in the right hypochondriac region. Pains worse after taking food.

Water brash with offensive taste and smell in the mouth. Pains traverse in the direction of the sternum. Patient is extremely thirstless. Rumbling sound in the abdomen. Chronic constipation with urge of passing the stools. No two stools are alike. Patient sleeps easily. He fears to be alone and wants company. Patient is very emotional. Dry mouth without thirst is the most characteristic symptom of the pulsatilla.

Sheep-like constitution. Changeability of the symptoms. Secretions are thick, bland, yellowish green. Thirstlessness
with all complaints. All-gone sensation in stomach, in tea drinkers. Ailments of puberty.

Mild, gentle yielding disposition. Weeping tendency. Weeps while telling symptoms. Fear of dark and ghost.

MODALITIES - < Warmth, warm food, day time, after taking food, when alone.
> By fresh natural condition of air, cold applications, cold drink.
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