

Part 2 - Literature Update & Schwabe News

Section-1: Recent Provings & Updated Materia Medica

Acidum formicum

Synonym: Formicicum acidum

Chemically known as CH_2O_2 , Formic acid can be obtained from insects like red ants (*Formica rufa*), hairs of a caterpillar (*Bombyx processionea*), in pine needles, in stinging nettles, in old turpentine, in minute amounts in sweat and urine and others. It can also be prepared by oxidising a variety of organic substances. But, heating oxalic acid with glycerin is the finest method of preparation.

Central Council for Research in Homeopathy, India, has documented a proving of this remedy. The details of the proving are available in the book "Homeopathic Drug Provings", published by the council in 2005. The proving was carried out in 1980–1981 at the Drug Proving Research Unit (H), Kolkata (W.B.). It was done using 6 and 200 centesimal potencies on 14 provers between the ages of 16 and 37. Out of the total 14 provers, 5 were women.

The drug has earlier been reported by E. P. Anshutz, W. Boericke, O. Leaser, J. O'Connor and others. Below is a combined materia medica drawn from the proving and the literature that is currently available.

Preparation

Mother solution is prepared with purified water, from which 1x to 3x are prepared with purified water, and 4x and higher are prepared with dispensing alcohol.

Clinical uses

Gout and arthritis, tremors, polyps, varicose veins, impaired vision and others.

Head

Head feels heavy which is worse in morning from 6:30-8:00 a.m. Often accompanied with chilliness.

Mouth

Tongue coated yellow.

Nose

Chronic catarrh of nose, polyps and fibrous matter of nose.

Stomach

Decreased appetite with absence of thirst. Desire for onions.

Abdomen

Abdomen feels heavy. Dull pain in right hypochondrium. Pain aggravated by motion and ameliorated lying down.



Male

Seminal emissions at night without dreams, followed by fatigue.

Female

Menses profuse. Cramps before menstruation in lower abdomen, better after flow appears. Heaviness of mammae before menstruation.

Back

Tender and inflamed lymph glands of the cervical area.

Extremities

Pain in left leg, as if sprained. Burning pain aggravated from washing, renewed burning from cold washing. Chronic arthritis after attack of acute rheumatic fever. Gout and rheumatism which appears suddenly. Varicose veins predominantly in left leg. Chronicity of pains and soreness of muscles. Tremors. Pains aggravated on right side, motion and ameliorated by pressure.

Relations

Compare: *Apis mellifica*, *Formica rufa*, *Urtica urens*.

Bibliography

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