

Polarity Analysis

Module 6:

Children Aged 4 - 7


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Special Features of this Phase of Life

- ▶ When starting school children have to find their place in a larger social group. Sensitive children react with health disturbances.
- ▶ We discuss here problems associated with schooling and maturation:
 - Separation anxiety, school stress
 - Enuresis diurna and nocturna
 - Constipation and encopresis



▶ Infectious disease are still common in this phase of life. We therefore look at:

→ ENT infections

→ Influenza and generalised viral infections

→ Childhood disease

1. Problems with *Maturation* and Starting School

Causes

- ▶ Separation anxiety
- ▶ Lack of self-confidence
- ▶ Perceptual disturbances
- ▶ High demands from school
- ▶ Family changes:
Birth of siblings, Marital conflict,
Parental difficulties of letting children go

Case 1: Excessive Demands

- ▶ Six-year-old Deborah is a dreamy, very sensitive child who has difficulties with changes and trouble starting school.
- ▶ Since the second year of kindergarten, she is complaining of headaches and abdominal pain, and she is scarcely able to let go of her mother.
- ▶ On some days the pains are so severe that she is allowed to remain at home.

Clinical State

- ▶ Deborah is pale, hypotonous, and slightly overweight.
- ▶ The only physical finding is slight meteorism.

Checklist

Abdominal pain

- ▶ < Cold – P
- ▶ > Wrapping up – P
- ▶ < Movement – P
- ▶ < Exercise physical – P
- ▶ > Rest – P
- ▶ > Lying – P
- ▶ < Before breakfast – P
- ▶ > Warm food – P

Additional

Many “symptoms” that turn out to be *particularities* of the healthy child.

Checklist cont.

Headache

- ▶ < Cold – P
- ▶ > Wrapping up – P
- ▶ Dislike open air – P
- ▶ Dislike movement – P
- ▶ < Exercise physical – P
- ▶ > Rest – P
- ▶ > Lying – P
- ▶ < Stepping hard – P
- ▶ < Bending – P
- ▶ < Shaking head – P
- ▶ > Pressure external – P

Additional

many particularities of
the healthy state

D. A.

Difficult School Start

			Nux-v.	Graph.	Bry.	Ars.	Ign.	Nat-c.	Sep.	Calc.	Canth.	Merc.	Nat-m.	Caust.
Hits			11	11	11	11	11	11	11	10	10	10	10	10
Sums			37	22	30	26	21	19	22	25	17	21	23	18
Polarity Difference			28	17	15	10	8	5	2	13	12	11	9	6
90	< cold in general [worse]	P	4	2	2	4	3	2	2	1	2	1	1	4
56	> warmly, from wrapping up [better]	P	3	2	1	3	1	2	2		2	2	2	
108	< bending over, while [worse]	P	1	3	4	1	1	2	4	4	2	3	2	1
126	< movement, during [worse]	P	4	3	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	3
70	< physical effort [worse]	P	3	1	4	4	1	2	2	3		2	3	1
117	> resting (not moving) [better]	P	4	3	4	1	1	1	1	2	2	3	3	1
106	> lying position [better]	P	4	2	4	1	1	1	1	3	3	2	3	2
57	< stomach, empty, before breakfast [worse]	P	2	1	1	1	3	1	3	4	1	1		1
42	> food and drink, warm things [better]	P	4	3	1	4	2	1	1	1	1		2	1
86	air, aversion to open air	P	4	1	3	2	4	4	3	4	1	2	1	3
68	movement, aversion to	P	4	1	2	4	3	2	2	1	1	2	3	1
73	> cold in general [better]		1	1	1		1	1	1	1		1	2	1
37	< warmly, from wrapping up [worse]		1		1		2		1	3/CI		1		
44	> bending over, while [better]		2			1	1						1	1
102	> movement, during [better]				1	2	1	4/CI	3/CI	1		3	1	1
6	> physical effort [better]						3/CI		4/CI		1		1	
102	< resting, while [worse]				1	2	1	2	3/CI	1		1	1	1
125	< lying position [worse]		1	1	1	4/CI	2	3/CI	3/CI	1	1	1	1	1
65	> stomach, empty, before breakfast [better]		2	2	3/CI	2	1	2	1	1			4/CI	3/CI
52	< food and drink, warm things [worse]		1		4/CI	1			2	2	1	2	1	2
76	air, desire for open air			1	1	2		1	1	1			2	2
58	movement, desire for		1		2	2	1	1	1	1	2	1		

Materia Medica Comparison (GS)

Nux vomica

- ▶ *Defective memory; shy and awkward.*
- ▶ *Ailments after continued mental exertion.*
- ▶ *Suits very particular, careful, zealous persons.*

Graphites

- ▶ *Slow in thought; absent minded.*
- ▶ *Extreme apprehensiveness.*
- ▶ *She is unable to make up her mind about anything; timidity.*

Interpretation

Nux vomica: Deborah wants to do everything very well and therefore puts herself under stress.

Graphites: The child is not able to meet the demands placed on her . She needs more time to develop, preferring to stay at home with her mother ...

The mother favours the second interpretation and I agree because Graphites is also a good fit to the child's disposition (pale, hypotonous, overweight).

Prescription and Progress

- ▶ Deborah receives *Graphites 200 C*. This has no effect at all so a month later we try *Nux vomica 200 C*.
- ▶ *Nux vomica* brings about a rapid improvement, her mother says 80% after four weeks. With further doses of *Nux vomica (M, XM, LM, CM)* the problem completely disappears.



Syzygium cumu

Thunberg

Comment

- ▶ The size of the polarity difference pointed to the correct interpretation: Deborah was facing excessive demands due to her conscientiousness and ambition, and was not suffering from separation anxiety, as her mother supposed ...
- ▶ The patient's disposition is not a symptom ...

2. Enuresis Diurna and Nocturna

Definitions

Lack of bladder control after the third or fourth year:

Enuresis diurna: wetting during the day

Enuresis nocturna: wetting during the night

primary: Bladder control never achieved → **exclude malformation**

secondary: Renewed wetting after bladder control has already been achieved → **psyche?**

Frequency

▶ 5 years old	16%
▶ 7.5 years old	7%
▶ 18 years old	2%
Enuresis nocturna	80%
Enuresis nocturna and diurna	15%
Enuresis diurna	5%

More commonly affected:

Children from lower social classes, disturbed families and children placed outside family

Aetiology

- ▶ Genetically determined slow maturation in bladder control, familial.
- ▶ Organic causes in in 1-10%
- ▶ Psychological conflicts *not* verified

Assessment

Always:

- ▶ Casetaking
- ▶ Physical examination
- ▶ Urine test / culture, blood test, ESR, creatinine

If malformation is suspected:

Sonography, possibly MCUG, IVP

If treatment-resistant: bladder manometry

Treatment

1. Conditioning of bladder control

with devices designed to wake child at night in event of wetting

2. Homeopathy

if the above devices fail – only 10% of cases

3. ADH - only as a short-term emergency measure

4. Urological assessment

in treatment-resistant cases

5. Psychotherapy (rarely)

Fall 2: Somatised Depression

- ▶ Seven-year-old **Niklaus** is suffering from enuresis nocturna, which has worsened following his parent's separation. He also stutters and has allergic asthma.
- ▶ Conditioning of the bladder control has not been tried yet due to his comatose deep sleep.
- ▶ External treatment attempts with ADH and homeopathy were unsuccessful.
- ▶ No urological findings.

Checklist

Urology

Enuresis nocturna

- ▶ Urination frequent – P
- ▶ < Cold – P
- ▶ < When getting cold – P
- ▶ < After drinking – P
- ▶ Irritability – P
- ▶ Sleep deep
- ▶ Sleepwalking

Additional

Stammering

- ▶ < Effort mental – P
- ▶ < Reading – P
- ▶ < Talking – P

Coryza fluid

Sneezing

Asthma

- ▶ < Breathing out – P

N. B.

Enuresis nocturna

			Ars.	Nat-m.	Ign.	Bell.	Cocc.	Chin.	Sep.	Arn.
Hits			8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8
Sums			20	22	22	21	23	20	19	20
Polarity Difference			19	18	17	17	16	16	16	15
90	urination, frequent	P	1	2	3	2	2	1	1	2
90	< cold in general [worse]	P	4	1	3	3	3	2	2	2
78	< cold, when getting cold [worse]	P	4	1	2	2	3	2	3	3
71	< drinking, after [worse]	P	4	3	2	2	4	4	2	3
65	< mental effort [worse]	P	2	4	4	3	3	2	4	3
69	< reading [worse]	P	1	4	2	3	3	3	1	2
77	< talking, speaking [worse]	P	2	4	2	3	4	4	3	3
64	irritability (anger, aggression)	P	2	3	4	3	1	2	3	2
68	urination, infrequent		1			2		2	1	3/CI
73	> cold in general [better]			2	1	1	1	1	1	1
74	> cold, when getting cold [better]			1	1	1	2	1	1	1
13	> drinking, after [better]									
3	> mental effort [better]									
2	> reading [better]									
1	> talking, speaking [better]									
37	mildness			1	3		4/CI			

Interpretation

- ▶ The symptom **stammering** is missing in Boenninghausens Pocketbook. We include it from Kents Repertory: *Arsenicum album*, *Belladonna* and *Sepia* remain without contraindications.
- ▶ The patient is far from perfectionist (Ars) and also not prone to withdrawal (Sep) so that these two remedies are unconvincing. **Belladonna** is therefore our first choice.
- ▶ On the other hand, his mind symptoms could suggest **Ignatia**, but this remedy does not cover stammering...

Materia Medica Comparison (GS)

Belladonna

- ▶ *Enuresis with profuse perspiration*
- ▶ *Great drowsiness and somnolency*
- ▶ *Weeping, shuns company, melancholy; hypochondriasis; hopelessness, dejection*
- ▶ *Asthmatic complaints, with suffocative spells.*
- ▶ *Speech rapid and hasty*

Ignatia

- ▶ *Involuntary discharge of urine*
- ▶ *Somnambulism (sleepwalking)*
- ▶ *Melancholia after great grief and much domestic trouble*
- ▶ *Anger followed by quiet grief or sorrow*
- ▶ *Oppression of chest at night, < after midnight*
- ▶ *Does not like to talk*

Prescription and Progress

- ▶ Due to the high grade coverage of stammering I give Niklaus **Belladonna 200 C**, with no effect.
- ▶ Five weeks later he receives **Ignatia 200 C**. This leads to a 90% improvement in bedwetting but he continues to stammer. With **Ignatia M** stammering also improves. Critical remarks by the teachers become rarer.
- ▶ With **Ignatia XM, LM and CM** enuresis, stammering and asthma completely disappear.
- ▶ Period of observation: 4 years



Comment

- ▶ We conclude that **stammering** is not a reliable symptom, and neither is it's grading. We already gained that insight in the optimizing process of ADHD-treatment.

3. Constipation

- ▶ **Definition:** Decreasing stool frequency in comparison to previous habits.
- ▶ **Causes:**
 - Nutrition
 - Mechanical impediment, stenosis
 - Disruption of intestinal motility (Hirschsprung)
 - Congenital megacolon
 - Hypothyroidism
 - Medication (e.g. iron)
 - Disturbed defecation

Encopresis

- ▶ **Definition:**

Repeated voluntary or involuntary soiling from the age of four, at least once per month, for a period of three months. In 80-95% of cases there is also constipation.

- ▶ **Frequency:** approx. 1.5% of children, peak at 7-9 years, 75% are boys.

- ▶ Other illnesses such as spina bifida, Hirschsprung disease or congenital megacolon must be excluded.

Assessment

- ▶ Careful casketaking
- ▶ Physical examination incl. neurology
- ▶ Abdominal ultrasound
- ▶ Stool examination for traces of blood

Treatment

If functional:

- ▶ Nutritional changes
- ▶ Stool training
- ▶ Homeopathy

Case 3: Shyness and its Consequences

- ▶ Seven-year-old David is a sensitive child who comes to our practice for abdominal pains and constipation. His suffering began with school start one year ago – because he did not have the confidence to go to the toilet at school.
- ▶ Stool once a week with a hard, impacted faeces, preceded by pain in lower abdomen. Abdominal pain also when agitated or under stress.
- ▶ Treatment to date: change of nutrition and Movicol (an iso-osmotic laxative).

Checklist

GIT

Hardening of stool, Colics

Lack of appetite-P, Thirst-P

< Lying on back – P

< Sitting up – P

< Movement – P

< Walking – P

> Sitting bent – P

> Rest – P

> After stool – P

Additional Complaints

Coryza, blocked nose

< Warmth of room – P

< Touch (nose) – P

< During sleep – P

Warts on finger

D. C.

Painful Constipation

			Colch.	Nux-v.	Bell.	Merc.	Bry.	Spong.	Sulph.	Bar-c.
Hits			14	14	14	14	14	14	14	14
Sums			34	46	42	34	42	23	34	23
Polarity Difference			28	25	22	15	14	11	9	7
115	appetite, absent	P	2	4	3	3	3	1	3	3
99	thirst	P	3	3	3	4	4	2	4	2
48	< lying, on back [worse]	P	1	4	1	2	1	1	2	1
46	> lying, on side [better]	P	1	4	2	1	2	1	1	1
126	< movement, during [worse]	P	4	4	4	3	4	2	2	2
126	< walking, while [worse]	P	4	4	4	4	4	2	1	2
117	> resting (not moving) [better]	P	4	4	4	3	4	2	1	2
54	< warmth, of room or stove [worse]	P	2	1	1	1	1	2	2	1
121	< touch [worse]	P	4	4	4	2	3	2	4	1
113	< sleep, during [worse]	P	1	2	4	3	4	2	4	3
99	constipation from hardness of faeces		1	3	2	3	4	1	3	2
93	cramps, spasms, convulsions, in internal pa		2	4	3	1	3	1	2	1
68	< straightening up [worse]	P	2	4	4	1	4	2	4	1
43	> sitting, bent over [better]	P	3	1	3	3	1	2	1	1

Interpretation

- ▶ Twelve remedies cover all symptoms, eight of which have contraindications.
- ▶ Due to the high polarity difference, Colchicum and Belladonna are the most likely remedies.
- ▶ Belladonna also covers the coryza with blocked nose and the warts but Colchicum does not.

Materia Medica Comparison

Colchicum

- ▶ *Very painful urging to stool.*
- ▶ *Feels feces in rectum but cannot expel them.*
- ▶ *Stools scanty, discharged only by hard straining.*
- ▶ *After stool: remission of intestinal pains.*

Belladonna

- ▶ *Straining and colic.*
- ▶ *Frequent urging to stool without result, or with a very scanty and hard evacuation.*
- ▶ *Generally constipated.*
- ▶ *Sensitiveness of abdomen to slightest touch.*



Prescription and Progress

- ▶ In this case there is a dilemma between the size of the polarity difference (PD), which indicates Colchicum, and the materia medica comparison, which favours Belladonna.
- ▶ I decide on **Colchicum 200 C** because I assign more weight to the PD.
- ▶ Four weeks later constipation and abdominal pains are 95% better. Yet there is still slight pulling in the rectum before stool. This plus coryza and warts disappear with **Colchicum M, XM, LM and CM**.

Comment

- ▶ Colchicum is a completely unexpected remedy for constipation, and does not cover coryza with blocked nose and warts. Yet it cures all the problems.

Consequence:

- ▶ The completeness of symptom coverage is not a primary selection criterion.

4. ENT Infections

Diagnoses from Tonsillitis Study (n=200)

▶ Non-suppurating tonsillitis	71.0 %
▶ Scarlet fever	11.0 %
▶ Suppurating tonsillitis	9.5 %
▶ Herpangina	3.5 %
▶ Stomatitis aphthosa	3.5 %

Pathogens

▶ Viruses	70%
▶ Bacteria	30%

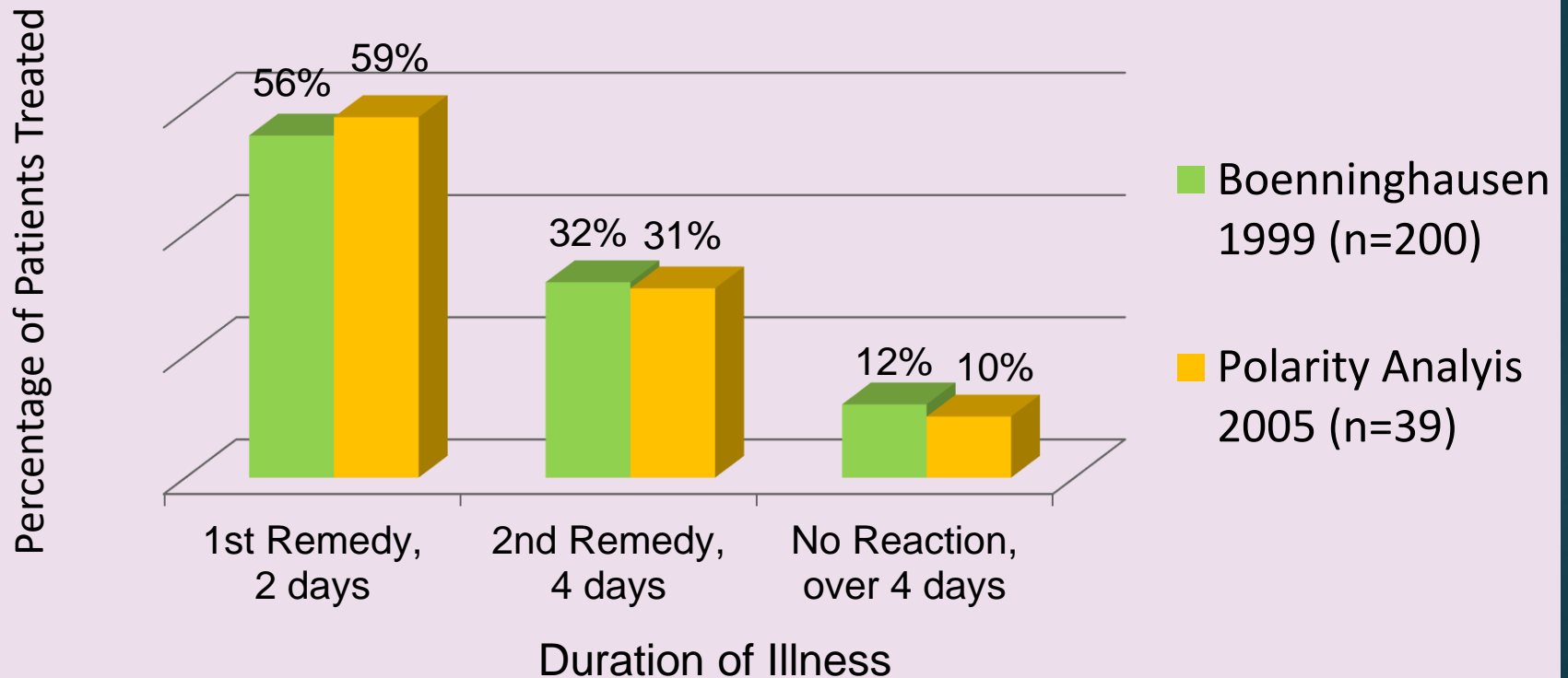
Antibiotics for Bacterial Tonsillitis?

- ▶ 90% of tonsillitis patients are symptom-free after seven days, with or without treatment.
- ▶ Antibiotics are of only limited value for bacterial tonsillitis.

Del Mar CB, Glasziou PP, Spinks AB, Antibiotics for sore throat. Cochrane Database Syst Rev 2004, (2): CD000023.

Results of Tonsillitis Study

Homeopathic Treatment of Tonsillitis: Boenninghausen vs. Polarity Analysis



Case 4: Infection of the Upper Respiratory Tract

Seven-year-old Johanna has been suffering for two weeks from throat and joint pain, headache and fever (up to 38.5° C). When standing up she often has blackouts.

On examination I find reddened tonsils, swelling of the cervical lymph nodes and a tenderness on percussion of the right sinus maxillaris and frontalis. And when bending she has pain in the sinuses.

Checklist

- ▶ < Swallowing – P
- ▶ < Talking – P
- ▶ < Bending – P
- ▶ < Exercise physical – P
- ▶ < Cold – P
- ▶ < Open air – P
- ▶ < Standing – P
- ▶ < Before falling asleep – P
- ▶ > Rest – P
- ▶ > Lying – P
- ▶ > Sitting – P
- ▶ > Cold water – P
- ▶ Dislikes movement – P

J. D.

Infection of Upper Airways

			Bry.	Calc.	Phos.	Caust.	Ars.	Cocc.	Nux-v.	Nat-m
Hits			13	13	13	13	13	12	12	12
Sums			42	31	29	23	27	32	36	27
Polarity Difference			32	19	16	14	10	25	20	16
93	< swallowing [worse]	P	4	2	3	1	2	3	3	2
77	< talking, speaking [worse]	P	3	4	3	2	2	4	2	4
108	< bending over, while [worse]	P	4	4	1	1	1	3	1	2
70	< physical effort [worse]	P	4	3	2	1	4	3	3	3
90	< cold in general [worse]	P	2	1	2	4	4	3	4	1
110	< open air [worse]	P	1	2	1	1	1	4	4	1
107	< standing [worse]	P	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1
99	< sleep, before; while falling asleep [w	P	5	5	4	2	4	2	2	2
117	> resting (not moving) [better]	P	4	2	3	1	1	3	4	3
106	> lying position [better]	P	4	3	1	2	1	2	4	3
101	> sitting [better]	P	4	2	2	1	1	1	4	2
21	> food and drink, cold water [better]	P	3	1	4	4	1			
68	movement, aversion to	P	2	1	2	1	4	3	4	3

Interpretation

- ▶ Six remedies cover everything. *Bryonia* has a very high polarity difference and no contraindications.
- ▶ Second choice is *Cocculus* but it lacks the symptom > *after drinking cold water*.

Materia Medica Comparison for Bryonia

- ▶ *Pain in throat; throat is dry and raw on empty swallowing; on drinking this sensation disappears for a short time, but soon returns. ... desire for large quantities of cold water.*
- ▶ *Pain in small spot on forehead.*
- ▶ *Pressing pain under right cheek bone.*



Prescription and Progress

- ▶ Due to the high polarity difference and the close fit of the materia medica, Johanna is given **Bryonia 200 C**.
- ▶ Within 24 hours there is a 90% improvement . No initial aggravation.

At check-up after ten days everything is normal.

Comment

- ▶ Contrary to the previous case, we often notice with polarity analysis that a repertorisation **with polar symptoms only** lead to remedies, in which the materia medica accurately represents also the patient's non repertorised symptoms.

5. Flu-Like Illness, Influenza and Generalised Viral Infections

Definitions

- ▶ **Flu-like illnesses** are viral infections of ENT and airways.
- ▶ **Influenza** affects the entire organism, is caused by influenza viruses, and is generally more severe.
- ▶ **Generalised viral infections** also affect the entire organism but are caused by other viruses such as EBV (infectious mononucleosis) or Coxsackie viruses (foot and mouth disease).

Symptoms

- ▶ General feeling of illness
- ▶ Pain with feeling of being shattered
- ▶ Fever
- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Coryza
- ▶ Sore throat
- ▶ Cough

Case 5: Mononucleosis Infectiosa

Four-year-old Valerie was given antibiotics for suppurating angina by the emergency doctor three days ago. Nevertheless she still has a fever of 39° C, pain when swallowing and in the abdomen, and watery diarrhoea.

On examination I find a significantly reduced general state, a white coating on the tonsils and severely swollen cervical lymph nodes. In her abdomen the dome of the spleen is palpable.

The blood examination shows elevated IgM levels for Epstein Barr Viruses.

Checklist

Salivation increased – P

< Swallowing

Lack of thirst – P

< Drinking – P

< Pressure – P

< Touch – P

< Uncovering – P

< Movement – P

< While waking up – P

< Standing – P

< Being alone – P

Additional Observations

Apathy

Sleeps constantly

Swelling of glands

Enlargement of spleen

Want to be carried

V. E.

Mononucleosis Infectiosa (Glandular Fever)

			Hep.	Sil.	Carb-a.	Rhus.	Bry.	Bell.	Merc.	Puls.	Acon.	Ars.
Hits			9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9	9
Sums			28	21	19	24	21	21	22	20	14	19
Polarity Difference			20	15	12	9	8	8	7	5	5	4
93	<swallowing [worse]	P	4	1	1	3	4	2	3	3	2	2
93	<pressure, external [worse]	P	4	4	2	1	1	1	2	1	1	1
121	<touch [worse]	P	4	3	2	3	3	4	2	3	3	2
56	<uncovering [worse]	P	4	4	1	4	1	2	1	1	1	3
126	<movement, during [worse]	P	3	1	3	1	4	4	3	1	1	1
111	<sleep, after waking up [worse]	P	4	3	5	4	2	3	4	5	1	5
107	<standing [worse]	P	1	1	1	3	2	1	1	3	1	1
32	glands, swelling inflammatory		3	2	3	3	3	3	4	2	3	2
91	internal abdomen, spleen		1	2	1	2	1	1	2	1	1	2
47	>swallowing [better]					1		1	2	3		
74	>pressure, external [better]			1		3/CI	2	2	1	1	1	2
42	>touch [better]		1				2	1				1
37	>uncovering [better]					1	1		1	2	3/CI	1
102	>movement, during [better]		1	1	1	4/CI	1	1	3	4/CI	1	2
28	>sleep, after; while waking up [better]						1			2		3
71	>standing [better]		2		2	1	2	4/CI	2			2

Interpretation

- ▶ If we only repertorise the polar symptoms, the result is 28 remedies, 12 of which have no contraindications.
- ▶ We therefore add the clinical findings: *Inflammatory swelling of glands* and *Enlargement of spleen*.
- ▶ The result are 13 remedies, of which 6 have no contraindications. *Hepar sulfur* and *Silicea* are the favourites.

Materia Medica Comparison (GS)

Hepar sulfur

- ▶ *Swollen tonsils and hard glandular swellings on neck, with sticking, when swallowing, coughing ... or turning neck*

Silicea

- ▶ *Tonsils swollen, each effort to swallow distorts face.*
- ▶ *Tonsillitis when suppurating gland will not heal.*
- ▶ *Submaxillary glands painful to touch but not swollen.*

Prescription and Progress

- ▶ Due to the polarity difference and materia medica comparison, Valerie is given *Hepar sulfur 200 C*.
- ▶ Two hours later she is playing again, as if nothing had happened. After two days, however, she develops a dry cough and perioral dermatitis and we give *Hepar sulfur M*.
- ▶ This now leads to cure. After one week, there are no more pathological findings.

Comment

- ▶ If a patient with difficulty swallowing reports the symptoms *lack of thirst* or *loss of appetite*, these must be questioned because it is usually just the pain causing this.
- ▶ The symptoms *< being alone* and *> holding / carrying* are normal in ill children and may not be used in the repertorisation.
- ▶ Mononucleosis infectiosa lasts 6 weeks or longer with conventional medical “treatment” ...

6. Childhood Illnesses

- ▶ Childhood illnesses are infections that typically occur during childhood, and mostly (but not always) confer lifelong immunity.

Viral Childhood Disease

- ▶ Measles
- ▶ Mumps
- ▶ Rubella
- ▶ Poliomyelitis
- ▶ Varicella
- ▶ Erythema infectiosum
- ▶ Roseola

Bacterial Childhood Disease

- ▶ Whooping cough
- ▶ Scarlet fever (can recur)

Hahnemann on Childhood Disease

- ▶ “This is the place to point out that ... *chickenpox, measles, scarlet fever, whooping cough* ... without suitable homeopathic treatment [can] so convulse the organism that ... the slumbering psora is awakened, leading to chronic disease.”


Chronic Diseases ,Vol 1

My Experience...

- ▶ **Swiss Disaster Relief Mission 1974:** In a nomadic village in Niger seven children die from measles.
- ▶ **1978:** A 6-year-old boy dies from chickenpox after successful treatment for leukaemia.
- ▶ **1980:** A newborn girl with congenital rubella who is deaf, blind and severely mentally disabled.
- ▶ **2003:** An 11-year old girl with Measels Guillain-Barré syndrome, surviving only with intensive care.
- ▶ **2004:** A 7-year old boy with mumps meningitis.
- ▶ **2013:** Ulcerating varicella in a 4-year old girl, leaving scars on entire body.

Case 6: Measels Guillain-Barré Syndrome

- ▶ Eleven-year-old Linda falls ill with 39° C fever, conjunctivitis, intraoral pain and nightly febrile delirium, shortly after her siblings have recovered from measles. Since Easter will shortly arrive, the parents came to our practice in good time.

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- ▶ The examination reveals conjunctivitis and Koplik spots on the mucous membranes of the cheeks, otherwise nothing special. The mother has noticed that Linda has been unusually talkative since the start of the illness.

Checklist

Measles with conjunctivitis and febrile delirium

Thirst – P

Dislikes movement – P

< Light – P

< Swallowing – P

> Cold water – P

> Lying – P

We use the polar symptoms and the measles rash for repertorisation

L. F.

Measels

		Bry.	Phos.	Cham.	Ars.	Acon.	Caust.	Thuj.	Cupr.	Anac.
Hits		7	7	7	7	6	6	6	6	6
Sums		22	17	12	15	18	12	11	11	11
Polarity Difference		15	11	2	1	11	10	8	8	8
19	skin, eruption measly	3	2	1	1	4				
80	< light in general [worse] P	2	4	2	2	3	2	1	1	2
93	< swallowing [worse] P	4	3	2	2	2	1	3	1	2
99	thirst P	4	1	4	4	4	2	1	3	2
21	> food and drink, cold water [better] P	3	4	1	1		4	2	3	1
68	movement, aversion to P	2	2	1	4	4	1	3	1	2
106	> lying position [better] P	4	1	1	1	1	2	1	2	2
13	> light in general [better]				1					1
47	> swallowing [better]		1							
86	thirst, absent	1	2		3		1	1		
40	< food and drink, cold water [worse]			1	3/CI					1
58	movement, desire for	2		4/CI	2	2			2	
125	< lying position [worse]	1	1	4/CI	4/CI	1	1	2	1	1

Interpretation



- ▶ All symptoms are covered by four remedies, two of which have contraindications.
- ▶ If we include the striking mind symptom *talkativeness*, only *Phosphorus* remains (Kent Repertory). *Bryonia* is 2nd choice.

Materia Medica Comparison (GS)

Phosphorus

- ▶ *Measles: slow and scanty development of eruption.*
- ▶ *Inflammation of eyes, with pressing burning pains. Photophobia.*
- ▶ *Bloody erosions here and there in inner surface of cheek.*
- ▶ *Inability of swallowing nourishment.*
- ▶ *Delirium: loquacious; violent, at first alternating with intervals of consciousness.*

Bryonia

- ▶ *Secondary affections remaining after measles.*
- ▶ *Inflammation of eye ... < from warmth . Photophobia.*
- ▶ *Aphthae.*
- ▶ *Pain in throat; throat is dry and raw on empty swallowing.*
- ▶ *Nightly delirium.*
- ▶ *Taciturnity.*

Prescription and Progress

- ▶ Linda is given **Phosphorus 200 C**.
- ▶ Shortly afterwards the measles rash appears to weaken. After two days Linda feels well and returns to school on the fifth day of illness ...

And we go on holiday ...

Complications ...

- ▶ Three days later she suddenly has trouble with bladder control, a weakness of the legs begins and can no longer walk.
- ▶ The emergency doctor gives her **Drosera 200 C** (*MMP: All limbs feel to him as if paralysed*) and sends her to the hospital.
- ▶ Within 24 hours the paralysis ascends to the chest and affects the breathing muscles, she loses consciousness, is intubated and given artificial respiration.

... and Convalescence

- ▶ On our return after 10 days she can breathe unaided and is extubated. But she is confused, has a headache and ear pains and is talking again without interruption.
- ▶ And she can move her right arm a little. Left arm and legs are still paralysed.

Checklist 2

< Measles

Paralysis

< Left side – P

Head, inner, right – P

< Light – P

> Sitting – P

< Pressure, external – P

Desire for movement – P

L. F.

Guillain Barré Syndrom as Complication of Measels

		Chin.	Hyos.	Sulph.	Bry.	Bell.	Acon.	Mag-c.	Nux-v.	
Hits		8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	
Sums		18	12	18	18	18	18	12	17	
Polarity Difference		8	6	5	3	2	2	2	0	
19	< measles, during [worse]	1	1	2	3	3	4	1	1	
82	paralysis of the limbs	2	1	3	2	3	3	1	3	
130	side, left in general	P	5	1	5	1	1	2	2	1
127	inner head, right	P	1	2	2	3	4	1	2	3
80	< light in general [worse]	P	3	2	3	2	3	3	1	3
93	< pressure, external [worse]	P	1	2	1	1	1	1	3	1
101	> sitting [better]	P	1	2	1	4	2	2	1	4
58	movement, desire for	P	4	1	1	2	1	2	1	1
130	side, right in general		1	1	1	3/CI	4/CI	1	1	4/CI
128	inner head, left		2	1	3/CI	2	1	2	3/CI	2
13	> light in general [better]									
74	> pressure, external [better]		1		2	2	2	1	1	2
126	< sitting [worse]		2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
68	movement, aversion to		1	1	1	2	2	4/CI	1	4/CI

Interpretation

- ▶ All symptoms are covered by ten remedies but only two of these have no contraindications: *China* and *Hyosycamus*.
- ▶ If we include talkativeness (Kent Repertory), *Hyosycamus* remains

Materia Medica Comparison for Hyoscyamus

- ▶ *Paralysis of lower extremities, weakness of the legs, powerlessness of legs when attempting to get up from bed, cannot stand without being supported on both sides.*
- ▶ *Pressing pain in the right temple, in forehead and the right upper eyelid. Cannot tolerate any light*
- ▶ *Rapid pain in right ear.*
- ▶ *Talkativeness.*



Prescription and Progress

- ▶ Linda is given **Hyoscyamus 200 C**.
- ▶ Her recovery is now rapid: within a week the paralysis disappears and the state of mind becomes normal.
- ▶ One problem that still remains is impaired bladder control. Thanks to the help of an advanced medical device, this problem is now contained.

Comment

- ▶ Hahnemann's observations on childhood illness should be taken very seriously.
- ▶ Never allow yourself to be lulled into a false sense of security!



Thanks for your attention!