



Homoeopathy is the sea of science: A new perspective on the selection of similar remedy according to richard hughes

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Abstract

Background: This article tells helps us to know about Richard Hughes and his view about, selection of similar remedy, selection of similar remedies, generic similarity, specific similarity, individual similarity, similarity between disease and drug-action should be generic, specific, and individual

Methods: Various old literatures and previous journals about temperaments and its philosophical background in relevance to Homoeopathy is reviewed and thus we understand a new perspective on the selection of similar remedy according to Richard Hughes.

Conclusion: Helps the Homoeopath to know the clearly about the role of totality in Homoeopathy and also answers many questions regarding similarities and remedy selection.

Keywords:

Introduction

About Richard Huges was Born on 20th August, 1836 in London. He wrote a 'Manual of Pharmacodynamics' & 'Manual of Therapeutics' further worked as an officer for the British Homoeopathic Society and was the editor of British Journal of Homoeopathy.

Hughes' concept on therapeutics

The characteristics of Hughes Homoeopathy, gave importance to the scientific perspective of the Homoeopathic spectrum. On the theoretical part Hughes rejected Hahnemann's concept of the vital force, his theorizing about how homoeopathic medicines worked very well. He was also unhappy about the potency selection^[1].

He placed the similia principle at the topmost priority but his attitude to it was clear, he said, not a law of nature as Hahnemann claimed but simply a rule of thumb- a key to try in the therapeutic lock. It often gave the correct path but not always, nor was it the only key worth trying for some disorders, such as angina, Hughes thought that allopathy was more effective in few of the disorders as he always told us to know about our own limitations.

Hughes believed that, if you are keen on the principles of Homoeopathic idea you must take pathology into account. Hughes believed that medicines should be chosen not just on subjective symptoms they produced but on the basis of their known pathological effects on human beings & even on animals. He meant to say that our totality must include the pathology so that the remedy we prescribe will have the pathological Relationship. Kent says that Silica, actually, hastens the formation of abscesses and boils. It suppurates out old wens and indurated tumors. It has cured recurrent fibroids and old

indurated tumors^[2]. Thus says the relevance of pathology in prescription^[1].

He was a helping hand for Dr. Dudgeon in translating Hahnemann's 'Materia Medica Pura' into English and while compiling the Cyclopedia, Hughes decided to eliminate all the proving symptoms gained from the drugs taken at potencies above 6C as he always gave importance to the pathological development in case. Other starworts like John Henry Clarke, the skin of Silicea can be described as Painful sensibility of skin & itching over whole body, which is of a crawling or shooting kind (< at night). Eruption like varicella over whole body which tells us about the importance of knowing pathology while prescribing^[3].

Hughes also insisted that, in trying to find the correct remedy you should consider the time sequence in which symptoms occur. It was not enough to look simply at lists of symptoms recorded in the proving's. Each disease had its characteristic sequence of symptoms & one should try to find a remedy with a similar pattern of symptom development. Hughes looked Hahnemann's writings as a whole. He carefully charted the way the Master's thought had evolved over the years & was not afraid to say in what ways he thought it had changed for the worse. He pointed out that; Hahnemann's laying down the rule that the 30th potency should be used for all purposes had fossilized homoeopathy most undesirably^[1].

Hughes concept on drug proving

He was not so happy with the concept of drug proving as he also showed that the so-called proving's of 'The Chronic Diseases' could not have been carried out in the same way as those of 'The

Materia Medica Pura' & so could not be relied on as accurate descriptions of the effects of the new medicines because the susceptibility as well the temperaments of each and every individual changes and The morbid influences that are attracted to temperamental tendencies are amenable to treatment and can be removed by the homœopathic remedy; this in itself is greatly preventive of the dangers arising from temperamental weaknesses [4]. We cannot assure the effect of medicine just by proving it on few set of individuals. So, he re-edited homœopathic laws:

Many rules were adopted to eliminate untrustworthy or not so clear reports. No purely "clinical" symptoms were included, of course, & nor were symptoms obtained with high dilutions (above 6C) unless confirmed by proving's of more material doses as he has always given importance to the material doses [1].

A very important feature was that all the proving's were given in Puritan's language so that it's in narrative form so that the way in which the symptoms had developed could be read & understood "It took considerable courage for a doctor to declare himself a Homœopath in Hughes' day; because of infinite critics, nevertheless Hughes seems to have felt no fear for his oppositions & indeed in his last published work, 'The Principles & Practice of Homœopathy', he made an irreversible change in homœopathy and its new Perspective of prescribing thus began [1].

Hughes concept on the selection of similar remedy

Selection of similar remedies, Generic similarity, Specific similarity, Individual similarity & Selection of similar remedy means comparison of disease symptom with drug symptom and creating the actual picture of the Person. Richard hughes is of the opinion that when considering the similarity between the drug and disease action, there should be similarity between generic specific and individual action of both drug and disease as per B.K Sarkar So that cure takes place on the bases of science with logical background and that can be evidently shown to others [5].

Hughes concept on generic similarity

The drug should definitely be capable of altering state of health it should be able to create an artificial state of similar disease and again the alteration should be in the same intensity as the sickness. Again, the nature of alteration produced by the drug should be similar to that of the disease to which the patient is suffering so that the law of similars starts its action in the process of attaining cure [1].

Hughes concept on specific similarity

Specific morbid state originate as an end product of the interaction between the organism and its environment ,it can't be more similar to the disease causes but may meet corresponding areas in the living organism changes in the state of health so specific similarity can be found out by comparing the various common ailments in diseases & drug action respectively. in Homœopathy, It is the science which deals with diseased or abnormal conditions of living human beings. Medical pathology-deals with the internal morbid conditions & Surgical pathology-deals with the external conditions says Stuart Close [6].

Five points to define the pathological Similimum

Seat of action – the drugs should have same Seat of action as that of the disease of a suffering individual.

1. Kind of action – the drug should correspond to the underlying pathological process undergoing in the suffering individual.
2. Nature of the etiology & modifying cause – this can be subdivided in to mental & physical in origin.
3. Character of pain & other sensations – patients when complaining about their pains describe burning, stinging etc.so drugs should have similar sensations.
4. If these five points are found in a drug then its known as pathological similimum. Individual similarity [1].

Conclusion

As a conclusion we can say that Richard Huges always said "It is necessary to understand the pathology created by the remedies on the organic level & it is the pathology of the patient which has to be treated". Thus, had given a new perspective on Remedy selection. The journey to reach Similimum may be a most difficult bad Road but always remember the bad roads take to beautiful destination where the cure can be attained.

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