



Scabies & Its Homoeopathic Management

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ABSTRACT

It is an infestation of the skin by mite called *sarcoptes scabiei*. The female is larger than male and burrows in the epidermis, depositing eggs. These burrows should be looked for between the fingers, on hands or wrist and on the sides of the feet.

Homoeopathy can treat scabies and individual susceptibility. The right constitutional similimum arrived by the help of mental generals, physical generals, characteristic, causation, modalities, and concomitant help in removing the underlining susceptibility and bring out the cure.

Key word- Scabies, *sarcoptes scabiei*, homoeopathy.

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INTRODUCTION

It is caused by an insect mite, *Sarcoptes scabiei*, and is spread by skin-to-skin contact. No age is immune. It can lead to secondary infection, sometimes with complications, such as glomerulonephritis due to nephritogenic streptococci.

Most of the scabies in human beings are caused by *hominis* variety of mite. It is usually transmitted through close personal contact like sitting and sleeping together.

CLINICAL FEATURES

- The characteristics skin lesion are papules and vesicles that involve the skin, usually below the neck.
- The usual sites are between fingers and toes, ulnar side and front of wrist, elbow, anterior axillary fold, buttocks, umbilicus, and male genitalia.
- Intense itching and superadded infection may cause formation of pustules which, if not treated, lead to more widespread lesions with changed appearance and even development of crusts.
- In small children, the palms and soles can be involved, with pustules. Pruritus is prominent.
- Secondary eczematization elsewhere on the body; the face and scalp are rarely affected, excepts in infants.

DIAGNOSIS

Clinical diagnosis is sufficient for prescribing specific therapy. Burrows are considered pathognomic for scabies.

Confirmation of diagnosis is by demonstration of the mite microscopically in the scrapping obtained from burrows, eczematous lesions, or fresh papules.

Management And Treatment

- Lifestyle changes (avoiding direct skin – to – skin contact with an infested person or items such as clothing or bedding used by an infested person)
- Homoeopathic approach

Homoeopathic Perspective of scabies

All skin disease needs a constitutional treatment. Miasms of each disease shall be assessed by the interpretation of pathology and symptomatology. Scabies is a psoric miasm in this functional disturbance of skin is present.

Homoeopathic Management

Homoeopathy is the holistic system of medicine. The selection of remedy is based upon the theory of individualization and symptoms similarity. the aim of homeopathy is not only to cure the scabies but to address the root cause and individual susceptibility. Therapeutically several medicines are available for scabies and can be selected on the basis of cause, sensation, modalities of the complaints.

1. Sulphur– itching, burning; worse scratching and washing. pimply eruption, pustules, rhagades. excoriation, especially in folds. Itching especially from warmth, in evening, often recurs in springtime, in damp weather.
2. Psorium– Psorium is a nosode prepared from scabies lesion, can be given in the cases with severe itching. Crusty eruptions all over.
3. Arsenic– inveterate cases; eruption in bends of the knees; pustular eruption, burning and itching; better from external warmth.
4. Croton tiglium- itching and painful burning, with redness of skin; formation of vesicles and pustules, desquamation and falling of pustules.
5. Rhus venenata- is used for vesicular lesions over the fingers with intense itching. itching relieved by hot water vesicles.
6. Hepar Sulphur- fat, pustular and crusty itch; papules prone to suppurate and extend.
7. Mercurius – fat itch, especially in the bends of elbow, if some of the vesicles become pustular; itching all over, at night when in bed; insomnia from itching ;diarrhea; pustules and eczematous eruptions complicate the case.
8. Sulphuric acid- when itchiness of skin and single pustules appears every spring, after imperfectly cured itch.

9. Sepia- after previous abuse of Sulphur; itching< evenings, especially in females; large pustules develop into an impetigo.
10. Lycopodium- humid suppurating eruption, full of deep fissures; itching violently when becoming warm during the day.

CONCLUSION

Scabies is a contagious, intensely itchy skin condition caused by a burrowing mite.

Scabies is contagious and spreads quickly through close physical contact. Homoeopathic treatment is best suitable treatment for scabies. Homoeopathic treatment focuses on the patient as a whole. When on the base of similimum a well selected medicine is administered to a sick person, there is gradual relief in symptoms and restoration of health.

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