

# Homeopathy

Notes from – A Brief Study Course in Homeopathy

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Homeopathy outline –

1. That there is a natural law of cure, like cures like.
2. That the basis of therapy is a vital rather than a physiological one, i.e., that the vital force must be stimulated to cure the patient and that only so can he be really cured, that any other drug therapy is palliative or suppressive.
3. That the single remedy at a time is all that is needed, which follows from statement 1, because there cannot be two things most similar to another. The single remedy has the further advantage that when one thing is given one can evaluate its action, whereas, if four are given you cannot know which helped, or in what proportion.
4. That a minimum dose is essential. This is based on the Arndt-Schultz law that small doses stimulate, medium doses paralyze, and large doses kill, in other words that the action of small and very large doses of the same substance on living matter is opposite.
5. That the material medica must, because of the Law of Similars, be composed of the results of remedy experimentation with small doses on relatively health humans (so called provings).
6. That disease is not an actual entity but a name given for classification purposes to manifestations of departures from normalcy in individuals.
7. That individualization is essential, i.e., that no two people are exactly alike in sickness or in health, and that although even homeopaths must classify, they draw vastly finer distinctions. Theoretically there should be as many types of pneumonia as there are people who have it, but, owing to the small number of proved remedies compared to the substances that might be proved, there can only be as many pneumonia types to date as we have remedies for.
8. That suppression is one of the greatest dangers in medicine.
9. That chronic disease is a constitutional matter and has a philosophic bearing on prescribing. One cannot do true homeopathy without a concept of chronic disease.

## Hering's Three Laws of Cure

The symptoms are cured in this order with the right remedy:

From within outward, from above downward, and in the reverse order of their appearance. This is never the case in chronic disease untreated by homeopathy, therefore when observed one can be sure that it is the remedy which is curing and that it is the remedy which is curing and that the correct remedy has been found. Hering's laws are so important that we will give an example – A rheumatic fever case, where the joint symptoms have disappeared and the heart is affected receives the similimum (correct remedy). The heart improves, pains return in the shoulders and elbows, these disappear and the knees and ankles are involved, these in turn

pass off and the patient entirely recovers. The symptoms went from within outward (heart to joints), from above downward (shoulders to knees), and in the reverse order of their appearance (heart to limbs instead of limbs to heart). If the symptoms do not go in this order the remedy is wrong. When a patient on a chronic remedy develops a different symptom, search back in your record or question your patient rigorously to determine whether this is the recurrence of an old symptom.

These laws of cure may or may not apply in acute disease, usually they do not. If the picture of a chronic disease includes a suppression, especially if the suppression is due to crude drugging, the chronic remedy acting according to the third law of cure will sometimes restore the original discharge or eruption.

Pathology should not be removed by surgery until AFTER the sick constitution which produced such pathology has been cured.

Sluggish patients, often owing to much allopathic drugging, will often take a very high potency to get any action at all.

**It is an absolute rule that when favorable reaction sets in the administration of the remedy must cease.** So long as improvement is visible in the patient himself, the remedy should not be repeated. Not only is there no need of “more of a good thing” but a repetition of a remedy which is still acting successfully defeats itself and actually hinders cure.

When to prescribe or treat again? **The rule here is never repeat or change the remedy while the patient himself is improving.** When the improvement has apparently ceased in acute diseases you may need to repeat the same remedy in the same or a higher potency, or, if your remedy was not a similitum, you may need another remedy to round out the cure. You must be sure that the cessation of improvement is not due to emotional, mechanical, or hygienic cause, or merely to the aggravation or outcropping of single symptoms. In chronic work you should wait some time, from three or four days to two or three weeks or more, as the vital force has cycles even on the upward grade, and **true curative action must not be interrupted until it is certain that the reactive force is exhausted.** Watch and wait!

When you have had true improvement, and particularly in chronic cases you have observed the working of Hering’s law of cure, sit tight. More cases are bungled by too frequent repetition than by anything else.

Most patients require “medicine” often, not only so that they feel that something is being done but so that they may have remedies for emergencies and it is not only honorable but necessary to give placebos.

The most difficult cases to manage are the new patients who don’t yet understand what they must NOT DO, that they must NOT suppress again an eruption or

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discharge that the homeopath has been trying to bring out again. Always warn your patients with suppressions in their histories, if a rash or discharge reoccurs, to do nothing and let you know. Aggravations are not so hard to handle if you warn patients. Tell them that they may occur and that it will be a good sign if they do.

**Recap – Never repeat a remedy when the patient himself is improving. Never change a remedy when the symptoms are following Hering’s law of cure in the reverse order of the symptoms. Never change your remedy when a discharge or eruption follows the administration.**