

Efficacy of Homoeopathic Constitutional Remedies Dealing with Different Types of Cancers

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Abstract: Homeopathy is based on the theory of 'like cures like'. It uses small doses of a substance that in large doses would cause symptoms of the illness. Many cancer patients take homeopathy as a complementary therapy. It has rarely been studied systematically, whether homeopathic care is of benefit for cancer patients. In MHFS HMC SANGAMNER as a Name DISPLAY HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICAL COLLEGE AND HOSPITAL in our college we treat many cancer patients we use ("similia similibus curentur: let likes be cured by likes") parameters for giving treatment to them. Also we cure a patient as a whole not a disease. Homeopathy is discussed controversially as there is no possible mode of action for the highly diluted remedies, and whether it is clinically effective is currently a matter of heated debate.

Keywords: Homoeopathic remedy, Cancer, Homoeopathy

1. Background

Developed in the 18th century by German physician Samuel Hahnemann, it is based on two principles, the Law of Similar ("similia similibus curentur: let likes be cured by likes") and Individualisation and it makes use of a specific form of remedy preparation, the stepwise dilution and potentisation.

Many cancer patients use complementary and alternative medicine treatments. Homeopathy is one of the most popular complementary and alternative medicine modalities for cancer patients in seven out of 14 European countries. Homeopathy has traditionally been very popular in India and South America too, and is increasingly sought after also in the US.

2. Objective

- 1) To improve the life span of cancer patient.
- 2) To evaluate effectiveness and safety of homoeopathic medicines
- 3) To prevent or treat adverse effect different type of cancers.
- 4) To Control symptoms and side effects such as pain, sickness and tiredness.

3. Result

In our prospective study, we observed an improvement of quality of life as well as a tendency of fatigue symptoms to decrease in cancer patients under complementary homeopathic treatment. It would take considerably larger samples to find matched pairs suitable for comparison in order to establish a definite causal relation between these effects and homeopathic treatment. While some reviews and meta-analyses find it potentially efficacious.

In cancer patients homeopathy has rarely been studied systematically. The effects of homeopathy on quality of life in cancer patients have been studied very rarely. Only two randomised trials used it as a secondary outcome, with constitutional & mental sign and symptoms.

As with most types of complementary therapy, people use it because it may help them feel better or more in control of their situation.

Some people choose homeopathy because it is a different type of treatment compared to conventional medicine

People use it alongside conventional medicine. You should not have it instead of conventional cancer treatment.

Homeopaths believe that it can treat a wide range of symptoms and conditions.

Followers of homeopathy promote it to people with cancer as a natural way to help you:

- Relax
- Relief from painful condition
- Relief from stress, anxiety and depression
- Control symptoms and side effects such as pain, sickness and tiredness

People report that they feel better with homeopathy. But there is no evidence to show that it helps with any health condition. It is thought that it may have a placebo effect. This is when people feel better if they believe they have taken something to make them feel better.

4. Introduction

4.1 About Cancer

Cancer is the name given to a collection of related diseases. In all types of cancer, some of the body's cells begin to divide without stopping and spread into surrounding tissues.

Cancer can start almost anywhere in the human body, which is made up of trillions of cells. Normally, human cells grow and divide to form new cells as the body needs them. When cells grow old or become damaged, they die, and new cells take their place.

When cancer develops, however, this orderly process breaks down. As cells become more and more abnormal, old or damaged cells survive when they should die, and new cells form when they are not needed. These extra cells can divide without stopping and may form growths called tumors.

Many cancers form solid tumors, which are masses of tissue. Cancers of the blood, such as leukemia's, generally do not form solid tumors.

Cancerous tumors are malignant, which means they can spread into, or invade, nearby tissues. In addition, as these tumors grow, some cancer cells can break off and travel to distant places in the body through the blood or the lymph system and form new tumors far from the original tumor.

Unlike malignant tumors, benign tumors do not spread into, or invade, nearby tissues. Benign tumors can sometimes be quite large, however. When removed, they usually don't grow back, whereas malignant tumors sometimes do. Unlike most benign tumors elsewhere in the body, benign brain tumors can be life threatening.

4.2 Changes of Normal Cells to Cancer Cell

Cancer cells differ from normal cells in many ways that allow them to grow out of control and become invasive. One important difference is that cancer cells are less specialized than normal cells. That is, whereas normal cells mature into very distinct cell types with specific functions, cancer cells do not. This is one reason that, unlike normal cells, cancer cells continue to divide without stopping.

In addition, cancer cells are able to ignore signals that normally tell cells to stop dividing or that begin a process known as programmed cell death, or apoptosis, which the body uses to get rid of unneeded cells.

Cancer cells may be able to influence the normal cells, molecules, and blood vessels that surround and feed a tumor—an area known as the microenvironment. For instance, cancer cells can induce nearby normal cells to form blood vessels that supply tumors with oxygen and nutrients, which they need to grow. These blood vessels also remove waste products from tumors.

Cancer cells are also often able to evade the immune system, a network of organs, tissues, and specialized cells that protects the body from infections and other conditions.

Although the immune system normally removes damaged or abnormal cells from the body, some cancer cells are able to "hide" from the immune system.

Tumors can also use the immune system to stay alive and grow. For example, with the help of certain immune system cells that normally prevent a runaway immuneresponse, cancer cells can actually keep the immune system from killing cancer cells.

Type of cancers

Carcinoma, sarcoma, leukemia, lymphoma, multiple myeloma, brain tumor etc.

How to prevent from cancer:

- 1) Stop using tobacco and avoid secondhand smoke.
- 2) Eat a healthy, balanced diet.
- 3) Avoid alcohol, or drink in moderation.
- 4) Keep a healthy weight and stay active by getting at least 30 minutes of physical activity every day.
- 5) Don't engage in risky behaviors. Practice safe sex and don't share needles when using drugs or prescription medications.
- 6) See your doctor regularly so they can screen you for various types of cancer. This increases your chances of catching any possible cancers as early as possible.

Homoeopathic Approach towards Cancer

Constitutional Homoeopathic treatment consists mainly of prescribing on the psychosomatic makeup of the patient and on the past history. The patient is viewed against a background of a theoretical average person of the same age, sex and social environment and the salient mental and physical characteristics are noted and matched by a remedy having similar drug picture.

Here there is a strong genetic susceptibility for cancer prevails. Fore.g.Strong family history of Cancer in one or both the parents and/or first degree relatives. Genetic susceptibility along with environmental factors like dietetic habits, life style, and customs can predispose the person to cancer. Many studies reveal that significant emotional stress may be the precursor of development of cancer.

Homoeopathic medicines are prepared mostly by mixing herbs, minerals, or animal products with an alcohol/water solution and then diluting them with repeated dilutions so they are safe without any side effects.

4.3 Prevalence of Homeopathy In Cancer Care

Homoeopathic cancer treatment has become almost common place in Europe. According to the public record, patients in Tuscany, Italy, routinely demand homeopathic and other therapies complementary to conventional cancer treatments.

But in India for cancer treatment people prefer other than homoeopathy.

In 2017 study found that homeopathic treatment can reduce side effects and cancer-related symptoms, including hot flashes from surgery, chemotherapy, and radiation treatment. Researchers concluded that integration of evidence-based

complementary treatments such as homeopathy allows for an effective response to the demand coming from cancer patients and combines safety and equity of access in public health care systems.

The principal aim was to map centers across Europe prioritizing those that provide public health services and operating within the national health system in integrative oncology (IO).

Researchers used a cross-sectional descriptive survey design with a questionnaire regarding integrative oncology therapies to be administered to all the national health system oncology centers or hospitals in each country. They identified these institutes by convenience sampling, searching on oncology websites and forums and by analyzing the official websites of these structures to obtain information about their activities and contacts.

5. Materials & Methods

Study setup & design: Randomized single blind prospective open label observational study.

Location: Study was conducted in MHFS HMC SAGMANER.

Subject: All cases of different type of cancers of different age groups and in both sexes are studied from MHF'S HMC OPD & IPD.

Study of Cancer

Eligibility Criteria:

Inclusion Criteria

Only the patient of confirmed cancer (by his pathological examination of biopsy, cytopathological examination of CT guided by FNAC) involving all types of types of cancers of both sexes were enrolled.

- Histopathology/cytopathology confirmation of cancer.
- Inoperable tumors
- No previous chemotherapy or radiotherapy.

Exclusion Criteria:

The lower age limit was 20yrs & there was no upper age limit for the eligibility. Written informed signed consent was taken from each patient before starting the study.

Intervention:

Proper case taking was conducted of patient was conducted according to homoeopathic principle and was recorded in a case paper. After complete case taking repositioning of case was done on basis of totality of symptoms. Final prescription will be based on individualisation of patient and final selection of remedy is with the help of materia medica. The initial prescription of selected medicine's potency will be 30 /200/1M/single dose. Followed by placebo (4 nonmedicated globules). The follow-ups were done monthly for 12 month through scheduled visits to monitor the condition of pts., to record the changes in symptoms (relief of complaints).

Duration: 12 months.

Study of parameter:

Changes in symptoms e.g. Bleeding in cancer, pains, weakness, ulcerated throat, ulceration, size of lumps, fatigue, headache, wt. gain or wt. loss, seizures.

Study process: All cases of cancer different age groups and both sexes.

The outcome of study

Total number of patents analyzed as per modified intension to treat the patents

Marked improvement with increase life span up to 5 to 10 yrs. (65% to 50%)

Moderate improvement with increase life span up to 2 to 5 yrs. (50% to 40%)

Mild improvement with increase life span up to 1 to 2 yrs. (40% to 25%)

Not significant relief or death 25% to 10%

6. Conclusion

Homoeopathy today is a rapidly growing system and is being practiced all over the world. Its strength lies in its evident effectiveness as it takes a holistic approach towards the sick individual through promotion of inner balance at mental, emotional, spiritual and physical levels. When all types of cancers are concerned there are many effective medicines available in homeopathy, but the selection depends upon the individuality of the patient, considering the mental and physical symptoms.

Different types of medicines for cancer are selected according to constitution, mental symptoms and repertorization:

Phytolaccadecandra: Phytolacca dec is an excellent remedy for breast cancer where the breast is hard, painful and of purple hue. Hard nodes in the breast with enlarged axillary glands. Nipples cracked, very sensitive and inverted. Bloody watery discharge from breasts.

Conium maculatum: Conium maculatum is also effective for breast cancer with a hard tumor. Hard tumors in breasts with stitches or piercing pain. Stitches in breasts and nipples, on taking a deep breath or walking. Conium mac is suitable for old maids and bachelor.

Lycopodium clav: The medicine is best whose upper part is thin & lower part is swollen. Mentally he is very intelligent but physically thin person. Dry mouth with no desire for water swollen tongue with multiple small boils, ulceration on floor of mouth.

Kali Cynatum: Kali cynatum is one of the most effective remedy for tongue cancer. It is usually indicated in the last stage of cancer with severe pain. Ulcer of tongue with indurated edges, especially right side of tongue. Speech difficult, the power of speech lost but intelligence intact. Tongue has a peculiar dark ground seen through heavy white coating. Lips and mucous membrane of mouth becomes pale, and slight frothing is seen at the mouth.

AsteriasRubens: Asteriasrubens is effective for breast cancer even in the ulcerative stage. There is an acute sharp pain. Nodes and induration of breast gland, dull, aching neuralgic pain in this region. Breasts swell, especially left and nipple retracted. Left breast feels as if pulled inward and pain extends over the inner arm to the end of the little finger. Numbness of hands and fingers of the left side.

Arsenicum Album: Arsenic alb is effective in aggressive open ulcer with offensive discharge. Ulcers with burning, cutting pain and bloody offensive discharge. There is great anguish and restlessness. The person thinks it is useless to take medicine, fear of death and disease.

Antimonium Crudum: Antimoniumcrudum is also effective for open ulcer with offensive discharge. There is burning and itching worse at night. Digestion of the patient is easily disordered in Antimonium crude.

Abies Canadensis:

- **Throat:** Cancer. Sore, ulcerated throat. Foul breath, tongue coated yellow, body of the tongue a dark red. Difficulty in swallowing; takes only liquid food, reduced appetite. Ulcerated and of a dark reddish appearance; wit sharp, darting pains in the throat. Dryness of the mouth and throat, with thirst. Worse from tea and acids.
- **Stomach:** Cancer. Faint, sinking, light-headed feeling in epigastrium with gnawing hunger and hard beating of the heart. Distension and burning in stomach and epigastrium; with heart palpitations. Canine hunger with torpid liver.
- **Female Genitalia/Uterus/Cervix:** Cancer. Sensation as if the womb were soft and feeble; fears it would cause abortion. Sore feeling at the fundus of uterus; better by pressing. Faint sinking sensation in the pelvis in women with uterine displacement. Peculiar cravings and chilly sensations that are very characteristic, esp. for women with uterine displacement, probably due to defective nutrition with debility.
- **Mind:** Quiet, careless; but easily fretted. Irritable.

Abies Nigra: ESOPHAGUS/STOMACH: Cancer. Painful sensation as if something were lodged in chest, mostly on right side of sternum, which had to be coughed up, though nothing comes, after taking food that disagreed. Feeling of a lump (egg, stone) or constriction in top of stomach; agg. immediately after eating. Feeling in the epigastrium as if food were lying there. Frequent eructation's. Continual distressing sensation about stomach as if everything was knotted up; worse whenever debilitated. Pain in the stomach always comes after eating. Total loss of appetite in morning, but great craving for food at noon and night. Offensive breath Eructation's.

Rectum: Cancer; with hemorrhage. Constipation with dyspepsia; hungry and wakeful at night. Sensation of constriction, as if there was a hard substance or lump lodged in the rectum and needed to be expelled.

Lung: Cancer; of right lung; with hemoptysis. Sensation as if there was a hard substance to be coughed up. Sensation as if something were lodged in chest, mostly on right side of sternum, which had to be coughed up, though nothing

comes, after taking food that disagreed. Impaired and difficulty respiration.

Lymph: Cancer; of lymph nodes; with sensation of lump in nearby organ.

Abrotanum: Cancerous affections; with cachexia; prevention. Anemia and emaciation. Marasmus, yet with good appetite; in children. Tumors; angioma, fungus hematodes, hemangioma, naevi. Weak, sickly feeling, when excited, trembling. Rheumatism from suddenly checked diarrhea, cannot move her head, arms or limbs and suffers much pain, no swelling. Lame and sore all over. Weak and prostrated after influenza. Inability to move. Numbness.

MIND: Great anxiety and depression. Child cross, depressed, very peevish. Feels she would like to do something cruel; no humanity. Thinking difficult. Feels as if brains softening. Excited, loquacious, like shouting, good-humored, happy.

Psorinum: Psorinum is effective for breast cancer with open ulcers. Offensive discharge from the ulcer. The breast is swollen with red nipples. Burning and itching around nipples.

Thuja occidentalis: Thuja occidentalis is best for breast cancer with retracted nipples. Lump or cancerous growth in gums.

Malandrinum: Malandrinum is effective to remove cancerous deposits and remission of primary cancer and shrinkage of mass.

Carcinosin: Start treatment with this remedy.

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