

A STUDY ON CLINICAL UTILITY OF COCCUS CACTI

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ABSTRACT

Background: Coccus cacti is a well known homoeopathic remedy for its marked action on various systems especially in conditions characterized by thick, ropy, teanious expectoration. **Aims And Objectives:** To Study the clinical utility of Coccus cacti in day to day homoeopathic practice. **Materials And Methods:** 30 cases were taken up for the study from JSPS Govt. Homoeopathic Medical College And Hospital for 2yrs. **Results:** The study observed clinical improvement in acute and chronic diseases. The affinity of Coccus cacti and its detailed symptomatology were studied. **Conclusion:** Coccus cacti is an effective remedy, and the chief action is on respiratory related disorders mainly on Bronchial asthma which correlated with the literature.

Keywords: coccus cacti, acute and chronic diseases, primary action on the respiratory system, clinical improvement, conditions treated

INTRODUCTION

Nature around has provided everything for the necessity of mankind. And the master mind man has used every bit of the opportunity to exploit this to his benefit. The various resources of vegetable, mineral and animal kingdoms has been used for the continuous progress of the civilization. Man established many good qualities of these resources in the field of medicine and used them in various conditions either by empiricism or by experimentation and recorded their utility. Like using the resources from various sources man has tapped the animal kingdom for the use of their products to alleviate the disease, by observing their behaviour, their discharges, secretions and their poisoning effects on human beings. Medicines prepared from animals have special place in the homoeopathic pharmacy. [1]

The preparation and collection of animal-based drugs are extremely challenging, especially for drugs from exotic animals. Homoeopathic medicines prepared from animals, venoms, secretions and fluids etc., have special place in the homoeopathic pharmacy. The quality, safety and therapeutic efficacy of animal-based drugs chiefly depend on their genuineness. [2]

Coccus cacti is a well known animal remedy, prepared from the dried female insect Coccus cacti found on cactus plant. [3]

Arthropoda is the largest, most dominant group and

includes about 80% of known animal species.

Insects have a major role in the preparation of medicines. They have been under use in human civilization since prehistoric period as mentioned in our religious literatures like Vedas, Puranas, the Ramayana, Mahabharat and Charka samhita. When we consider the wide diversity and number of insects on the planet, it is surprising that insects make up such as small part of the known material medica. [4]

All insect medicines although have many similarities, they also have individual features which help us in selecting the specific medicine. Coccus cacti is very beneficial in cases for Respiratory, urinary, Rheumatism, Catarrh especially in conditions characterized by thick, ropy, teanious expectoration. Though well described indications in literature, there is limited clinical evidence available regarding its practical utility in every day clinical practice [5]

MATERIALS AND METHODS

30 cases were taken up for the study from OPD and IPD of Dharmakiran Govt Homoeopathic Hospital, Ramanthapur, Hyderabad, for the period of 2 years will be taken into consideration for this study. The cases of study will be selected on simple random basis.

INCLUSION CRITERIA:

- All age groups and both sexes are included.
- Cases under the scope of homoeopathy and relevant to the study.
- Selected drug will given in all potencies i.e., in accordance to the case.

EXCLUSION CRITERIA:

- Cases with rapidly progressing disease.
- Cases with gross irreversible pathological changes with complications are excluded.
- Patients who require surgical intervention are excluded.



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The detailed case history of the patient was recorded in systematic proforma prepared according to Homoeopathic principles in case taking, also keeping in view the modern diagnostic concepts. The positive findings found on a detail general examination including the vital data were recorded. A detailed examination of the system involved as well as the other systems was performed, and the positive findings were recorded in all the cases. All the cases were diagnosed on the basis of their clinical presentation, on the physical examination findings and supported by laboratory investigations wherever necessary. The basis of prescription was the totality of the symptoms of the case with detailed history regarding personal history, past history and family history of the disease. The potency and dose of the medicine was selected by taking into consideration the susceptibility of the patient. Follow ups were done in 7, 15, and 30 days as per the case. The period of follow up was as per the case. Depending upon the response to medicine during follow up, it was repeated in the same potency or higher potency.

Patients were advised to regular diet unless and until instructed. The conditions in general and in relation to diet, that aggravated the patient's conditions were asked to avoided. Other management techniques, whenever necessary.

After the complete follow up of each case, the cases were categorized in one of the three groups depending on the relief of symptoms.

Marked Improvement: Cases with significant improvement in mental and physical state with no recurrence of symptoms and improvement of > 70%, during the period of follow up.

Moderate Improvement: Cases with moderate relief of symptoms with improvement in mental and physical state and improvement in between 40% to 70%.

Mild Improvement: Cases with mild relief of symptoms with mild improvement in mental and physical state and improvement < 40%

No Improvement: Cases with no improvement in the symptom and also with no improvement in mental and physical state.

All the observations and results of the study were analyzed by standard statistical methods.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

After collection and presentation of the patient's data, analysis of data is the next important step. To draw the valid conclusion, analysis of the collected data is done below with the use of statistical methods to put into a scientific parameter. As the sample size is not more than 30, "Z-test" is not applicable. So, the obtained data is subjected to Paired "t-test".

RESULTS

30 cases were taken up for the study and the statistical data of observations are presented in tabular form.

S. No	Age	No. of Cases	Percentage
1	01-20	2	6.7%
2	21-40	17	56.6%

3	41-60	8	26.7%
4	61-80	3	10%
Total		300	100.0%

The study showed overall age incidence is found maximum in the age group 21- 40 years with 56.6% [17 cases] and second common age group is 41-60 years with 26.7% [8 cases], followed by 61-80 years with 10% [3 cases] and 1-20 years with 6.7% [2 cases], respectively.

Table-2: Table Showing the Distribution of Cases in Relation with gender

S. No	Gender	No. of cases	Percentage
1	Male	15	50%
2	Female	15	50%
	Total	30	100%

The study was undertaken in 15 male patients [50%], 15 female patients [50%]

Table-3 Showing Cases in Relation to System Affected

S. No	System affected	No. of Cases	Percentage
1	Respiratory system	19	63.3%
2	GUT	5	16.7%
3	Locomotor	4	13.3%
4	GIT	1	3.3%
5	Female reproductive	1	3.3%
	Total	30	100.0%

Out of 30 cases, 19 cases [63.3%] are affected with Respiratory system, 5 cases [16.7%] are affected with GUT, 4 cases [13.3%] are affected with Locomotor system, 1 case [3.3%] are affected with GIT, 1 case [3.3%] is affected with female reproductive system.

Out of 30 cases, 30% [9 cases] showed marked improvement, 56.6% [17 cases] showed moderate improvement and 13.3% [4 cases] showed mild improvement with Coccus cacti.

Out of 30 cases 26 cases [86.6%] are chronic cases, 4 cases [13.3%] are acute cases.

DISCUSSION

The main principle of homoeopathy is that each human being is different and unique. Homoeopathy treats the patient and not the disease. The homoeopathic material medica is too vast to be memorized but it can be understood. Knowledge of material medica can grow to its full stature only through application. Perception of insect group of remedies can be verified better through its application in the treatment of diseases which confirms it. [6]

This study, made to show the utility of coccus cacti in day to day practice of homoeopathy.

Thirty cases were taken and observed as a part of clinical study. Cases of all the age groups, and both male and female patients were considered for the study. [7] The cases were taken from OPD and IPD of Dharma Kiran Government Ho-

moeopathic Hospital attached to J. S. P. S Government Homoeopathic Medical College, Hyderabad between the period of 2021-2024. [8] The 30 cases of different clinical conditions, mostly chronic, with signs and symptoms indicating Coccus cacti are treated with 30, 200 and 1M potencies. [9]

The cases were diagnosed accordingly and followed regularly, in order to observe the results. [10] The prognosis was also done and also based on the general wellbeing of the patient, on the basis of Kent's twelve observations. Along with the administration of the medicine i.e., Coccus cacti, patients were advised supportive care through diet and regimen advices. [11] Repetition of potency was done as per the need of patient and on Homoeopathic principles.

A brief description of the observations made in the cases taken for the studying mentioned below:

Age distribution:

In the study of Clinical Utility of Coccus cacti, on referring to table number 1, the study showed overall age incidence is found maximum in the age group 21-40 years with 56.6% [17 cases] and second common age group is 41-40 years with 26.7% [8 cases], followed by 61-80 years with 10% [3 cases] and 1-20 years with 6.7% [2 cases] respectively.

Gender distribution: Referring to table number 2, study includes 15 male patients [50%], 15 female patients [50%].

There is wide sphere of action of Coccus cacti in various clinical conditions. Referring to table number 3, Out of 30 cases, 19 cases [63.3%] are affected with Respiratory system, 5 cases [16.7%] are affected with GUT, 4 cases [13.3%] are affected with Locomotor system, 1 case [3.3%] are affected with Gastrointestinal system, 1 case [3.3%] is affected with Female reproductive system.

It is observed that Coccus cacti is indicated in various clinical conditions and thus can be useful in wide array of diseases of suffering human race.

The distribution of cases in relation to diseases, there are 19 cases of Respiratory system out of which 5 cases showed markedly improved, 10 cases of moderately improved, 4 cases of mild improvement, 5 cases of GUT out of which 4 were moderately improved, 1 markedly improved, 4 cases of locomotor system out of which 2 moderately improved, 2 markedly improved, followed by GIT, Female reproductive system.

In Respiratory system, found changes in AEC, after giving coccus cacti, and majority of cases showed moderately improved.

In Renal calculi, found changes in usg scan i.e. decrease in size of calculi, out of 3 renal calculi case 2 were moderately improved, 1 markedly improved out of 30 cases 26 cases are chronic in nature and 4 cases are acute in nature.

Outcome/ improvement of cases was assessed into 4 categories as mild, moderate, marked and No improvement, considering the relief of symptoms.

CONCLUSIONS

Coccus cacti is useful medicine in treating various acute and chronic diseases such as Asthma, Backache, Catarrh, Gonorrhoea, Haemorrhages, Heart affections of, Impotency, labia-inflammation of, Menorrhagia, Nephritis, Phthisis,

Spasms, Tinnitus, Whooping-cough etc.

In my study, the chief action of Coccus cacti is on respiratory related disorders mainly on Bronchial asthma which correlated with the literature.

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