The Astrology of Homeopathy

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Why this Lecture

❖ Even Hahnemann reluctantly admitted that homeopathy goes back to Paracelsus (Philippus Aureolus Theophrastus Bombaste von Hohenheim, 1493-1541).
❖ Paracelsus himself acknowledged the astrological tradition in medicine
❖ Cornell indicated popularly of the homeopathic model among astrological medical practitioners.
❖ Many of the references are not in English or seriously out of print.

Why this Lecture

❖ Unfortunately, homeopathy really only became well known following Samuel Hahnemann, and by this time classical astrology had lost its punch.
❖ The results is that we have had several systems of rulerships proposed – and we shall review them.
❖ The purpose of this lecture is to present some of the ideas that have been proposed: not as answers, but as questions worthy of future research.

Paracelsus (1493-1541)

❖ Philippus Aureolus Theophrastus Bombaste von Hohenheim, a wandering Swiss doctor with a colorful life
❖ Paracelsus was the nexus between traditional astrological medicine, alchemy, homeopathy, and even allopathy – but with magic thrown into the mix!
❖ To understand how this happened, we have to go back to Ficino.

So why was Paracelsus a homeopath?

❖ Paracelsus emphasized the vital spirit, which he called the archeus.
❖ It is at the level of the archeus that “like attracts like,” and that operates through the Doctrine of Signatures, an old herbalist understanding.
❖ Notice that his was primarily an alchemical viewpoint, and only secondarily an astrological one.

Enter Samuel Hahnemann...

❖ 1755-1843
❖ Hahnemann began practicing medicine in the period of the breakdown of humoral system – but when there was still nothing to replace it.
❖ The primary medicines of the time were chemical and Hahnemann rapidly realized their futility.
❖ Hahnemann hit upon a variation of Paracelsus’ understanding – that a poison could cure exactly the symptoms that it produced as a poison.

Hahnemann's Contributions to Homeopathy

❖ Hahnemann worked with higher dilutions than had ever been tried – or imagined
❖ They were driven by what became known as Hering’s Law of “aggravation” - the tendency of the correct medicine to make a condition worse before curing it
❖ Aggravation was reduced by greater dilution
❖ It was only later that he realized the greater potency of greater dilution
❖ Developed the system of “proving”
❖ Initiated the idea of looking for a single remedy that matches the totality of symptoms

Hahnemann's Contributions to Homeopathy

❖ Developed the “polycrests”: toxic substances that cured a variety of conditions, because the poison would produce a variety of toxic effects
❖ Poisons could be used because they were given at sufficient dilution
❖ Traditional herbs were often “too mild” to produce symptoms in diluted doses
❖ This is in contrast to standard herbalism where milder remedies tend to be used
Hahnemann's Contributions to Homeopathy

- In working on chronic illness, he discovered a series of substances he called anti-psoric, what are now called constitutionals.
- Constitutionals are substances that work on the whole body, and have led to the theory of constitutional (personality) types.

How Hahnemann's Contributions affected Astrology

- The emphasis on “polycrests” makes it difficult from the standpoint of assigning rulerships.
- Poisons traditionally were almost always assigned to either Saturn or Mars.
- Does this imply that a homeopathic poison should be classified in the same way?
- Many of the non-plant substances were never given rulerships.
- There is no traditional system equivalent to the idea of the constitutional types.

How Hahnemann's Contributions affected Astrology

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General Types of Homeopathic Remedies

- Regular substances
- Polycrests
- Constitutional types
- Cell salts

Cell Salts

- The most astrological references exist to the cell salts, so we shall address them first.
- The cell salts were developed by Dr. William H. Schuessler beginning in 1873, who started out as a homeopath, but later rejected the rest of the field, claiming “his” salts were a different form of therapy, which he called biochemic.
- The typical dilutions of cell salts (6x and 12x) are much less than most conventional homeopathic remedies.

The Astrology of the Cell Salts

- By Cornell's time, the astrological rulerships had been established for the 12 salts.
- Cornell suggested that whatever sign the Sun was in, the Native would tend to have a chronic deficiency of that salt.
- He then went on to suggest the same for the Moon sign, the Ascendant sign, and the signs in which the malefics are posited – and possibly even more than that!

George W. Carey (1845-1924)

- George W. Carey's work on the cell salts combined standard biochemical info with a strong metaphysical perspective.
- Used the same rulerships as Cornell.

“...A shadow cannot be removed by chemicals; neither can disease be removed by poison. There is nothing (no thing) to be removed in either case; but there is a deficiency to be supplied. The shadow may be removed by supplying light to the space covered by the shadow.”

Later Researchers

- C. E. O. Carter's article can be seen as a critical review of Carey's conceptions.
- Bob Jansky also gave a secondary sign rulership to each cell salt.
- Here, we will go through each cell salt: its usage from Boericke, and its rulership(s).

Kali Phosphoricum (Ț)

- Conditions arising from want of nerve power, as prostration, exertion, loss of mental vigor, depression.
- Mental: Anxiety, nervous dread without any cause, gloomy moods, etc... Depressed spirits, general irritability, or great impatience.
- Head: Cerebral anaemia
- Eyes: Weakness of sight
- Ears: deafness from want of nervous perception
- Nose: thick yellow discharge
- Tongue: excessively dry in the morning
Natrum Sulphuricum (มง)

- Aggravation from lying on the left side
- Mental: suicidal; mental troubles arising from a fall or other injuries to the head
- Head: violent pulsating headaches
- Eyes: yellowishness of the conjunctive
- Ears: earache; tinnitus
- Tongue: dirty, greenish-gray or greenish-brown coating on the root of the tongue

Kali Sulphuricum (๑)

- Rise in temperature at night producing an evening aggravation.
- Mental: Very irritable.... Timid
- Head: Vertigo
- Eyes: Cataract.... yellowish or greenish, purulent discharge
- Ears: deafness from congestion
- Nose: Colds with yellow, slimy expectorations
- Tongue: coating yellow and slimy

Kali Muriaticum (Ⅱ)

- White or gray coating [of] ... tongue, white or gray exudations, glandular swellings...
- Mental: imagines he must starve
- Head: Headache with vomiting
- Eyes: Discharge of white mucous
- Ears: chronic catarral conditions of the middle ear
- Nose: catarrh, phlegm white, thick
- Tongue: see above

Natrum Phosphoricum (†)

- Sour eructations, sour vomiting, greenish diarrhea
- Mental: anxious and apprehensive fear; dull and without ambition
- Head: headaches on crown of head; on awakening
- Eyes: Discharge of golden-yellow, creamy matter
- Ears: sore, externally, burn and itch
- Nose: prickling in the nares
- Tongue: Thin, moist coating

Calcarea Fluorica (‡)

- Mental: depression, fears of financial ruin, indecision
- Head: Bruises or bumps on the head
- Eyes: flickering and sparks, cataract
- Nose: head cold, ineffectual desire to sneeze
- Tongue: cracked appearance with or without pain
- Gastric: vomiting of undigested food
- Urinary: copious urine, frequent urgings
- Respiratory: chief remedy in true croup; asthma with specks of yellow mucus

Calcarea Sulphurica ( instancia)

- Pus with a vent
- Mental: changeable mood; sudden loss of memory; of consciousness
- Head: Vertigo
- Eyes: Inflammation with discharge of thick, yellow matter., Deep ulcers of the cornea
- Ears: deafness with discharge of matter
- Nose: thick, yellowish, purulent secretion
- Tongue: flabby, resembling a layer of dried clay. Yellow coating at base

Magnesia Phosphorica (‡)

- Symptoms changing in locality, and are relieved by warmth and pressure.
- Mental: inability to think clearly... Talking to herself constantly or sitting still in moody silence
- Head: headaches always relieved by application of warmth
- Eyes: Orbital and supraorbital neuralgias, worse on the right side and relieved by warmth
- Ears: condition improves with heat
- Nose: Loss or pervention of the sense of smell

Silicea or Silica (‡)

- Ailments attended with pus formation
- Mental: stronger mentally than physically; oversensitive to noise, etc., with anxiety
- Head: Vertigo; inclines to fall toward the left; headache from nape to vertex, more on the right side, aggravated by noise, exertion
- Eyes: styes
- Ears: sensitive to loud sounds
- Tongue: induration; ulcers; sensation of a hair on the tongue
Calcarea Phosphorica

❖ Pains where bones form sutures or symphyses and numb
❖ Mental: impaired memory, mental anxiety
❖ Head: Headaches worse from dampness and change of weather. Crawling, as if ice water were on upper part of occiput.
❖ Eyes: photophobia
❖ Ears: outer ears feel cold
❖ Nose: point of nose icy cold
❖ Tongue: swollen, numb, stiff, with pimples

Natrum Muriaticum

❖ Malnutrition and emaciation. Anaemia. Transparent, watery, coarse, frothy mucous
❖ Mental: Depression with tendency to dwell on disagreeable and depressing subjects
❖ Head: Hammering headaches, generally worse in the morning
❖ Eyes: Sunstroke
❖ Ears: Cracking when chewing
❖ Nose: Old nasal or pharyngeal catarrhs with loss of smell and taste

Ferrum Phosphoricum

❖ Febrile disturbances and inflammations at their onset, especially before exudation commences
❖ Mental: indifference
❖ Head: Bruising, pressing, or stitching pain and soreness to the touch.
❖ Eyes: inflamed, red, with burning sensation, sore and red-looking, and retinal congestion.
❖ Ears: sensitive to noise
❖ Nose: first stage of all colds of the head

Summary: Cell Salts

❖ Some of the rulership attributions seem better than others.
❖ It may be that the correspondences would have been better with the planets than with the signs.
❖ It may be for our purposes that this isn't quite the “right” list of cell salts.
❖ Always pay attention to the symptoms
   ❖ Almost no one has all of them – if they did, they would be barely functional!
   ❖ You are really looking more for an image or picture than for a literal correspondence

Bach Flower Remedies

❖ Ridder-Patrick cites Peter Damian for the following correspondences:
   Aries Impatiens Libra Scleranthus
   Taurus Gentian Scorpio Chichory
   Gemini Cerato Sagittarius Agrimony
   Cancer Clematis Capricorn Minimus
   Leo Vervain Aquarius Water violet
   Virgo Centaury Pisces Rock rose

Regular Homeopathy: Terestchenko

❖ Recommends looking for astrological tendencies in the birth chart
   ❖ Avoiding dissonance that should not be emphasized
   ❖ Looking for harmonies to be enhanced
   ❖ Pick planets where the influence is:
      ❖ Too pronounced, in order to moderate it
      ❖ Harmonious, in order to balance it
      ❖ Too weak, in order to either reinforce it, or re-establish equilibrium

Terestchenko’s Astrological Considerations

❖ The phase of the Moon
   ❖ Waxing or Ascending: absorptive
   ❖ Waning or Descending: evacuative
❖ The Sun, to fortify vitality
❖ Temperament
❖ Planets representing the disease need to be fortified

Marcia Wiecher’s Work

❖ Refers to her work as a tribute to Karen DeWitt, who began the process of classifying the polycrests, and published her results privately in 1991.
Wiecher's Aries

* Bach flowers: Impatiens* and Chesnut bud
* Polycrest: Nux vomica (⊙)
* Others: Kali phos.( T cell salt), Aconitum nap. ([rand symbol]), Arnica(σ), Ferrum met.(σ), Ipecacuanha(☼), Cicuta vir.

Wiecher's Taurus

* Bach flowers: Gentian*, Gorse and Oak
* Polycrest: Sulphur (σ)
* Others: Nat sulph.(⊙ cell salt), Hepar sulph.(σ), Cuprum met.(☼), Kali carb.(☼), Sulphuricum ac. (σ), Borax

Wiecher's Gemini

* Bach flowers: Cerato*, olive and white Chesnut
* Polycrest: Phosphorus (♀)
* Others: Kali mur.(♀ cell salt), Bryonia(σ), Merc. vivus, Gelsemium(♀), Kali bichr.(☼), Apis mel.(σ)

Wiecher's Cancer

* Bach flowers: Clematis*, aspen and Honeysuckle
* Polycrest: Calcarea carb. (☼)
* Others: Calcarea fluor.(♂ cell salt), Belladonna(♀), Argentum nit.(☼), Phytolacca dec.(♀), Baryta carb.(♀), Selenium(☼), Petroleum(♀)

Wiecher's Leo

* Bach flowers: Vervain*, Heather and Vine
* Polycrest: Sepia(♀)
* Others: Kali sulph.(♀ cell salt), Strophanthus hisp. Aurum met.(☼), Chamomilla vul.(☼), Digitalis purp.(♀), Cactus grand

Wiecher's Virgo

* Bach flowers: Centaury*, Crab apple and Elm
* Polycrest: Arsenicum album
* Others: Kali sulph.(♂ cell salt), Graphites(♀), Mezereum(♀), Rhus tox.(♀)

Wiecher's Libra

* Bach flowers: Schleranthus*, Red chestnut
* Polycrest: Ignatia amara(♀)
* Others: Nat phos.(Ο cell salt), Cantharis(Οσ), Zinc met.(♀), Clematis erecta(♀), Sarsasparilla

Wiecher's Scorpio

* Bach flowers: Beech, chicory*, holly, star of Bethlehem, sweet Chesnut
* Polycrest: Lachesis(♀)
* Others: Calc. sulph.(♂ cell salt), Secale cor, Iodium met.(♀), Hyoscyamus nig(♀), China off. (♀), Aesculus hipp.(♀)
Wiecher's Sagittarius

- Bach flowers: Agrimony*, wild oat, wild rose
- Polycrest: Silicea terra( chall and cell salt)
- Others: Chelidonium maj( ), Berberis vul.( ), Alumina( ), Stannum( ), Aloe soc.( )

Wiecher's Capricorn

- Bach flowers: Cherry plum, Mimulus*, Mustard, Larch and Willow
- Polycrest: Lycopodium ver.( chall)
- Others: Calc. phos. ( cell salt), Hydrastis can. ( ), Plumbum met. ( ), Kali iod., Carbo veg. ( ), Ledum pal. ( ), Colocynthis( ), Equisetum

Wiecher's Aquarius

- Bach flowers: Hornbeam, Rock Water and Water violet*
- Polycrest: Nat mur. ( cell salt)
- Others: Thuja occ. ( ), Staphysagria. ( ), Veratrum alba ( ), Medorrhinum

Wiecher's Pisces

- Bach flowers: Pine, Rockrose*, and walnut
- Polycrest: Pulsatilla( ), and cell salt
- Others: Fer. phos. ( cell salt), Stramonium( ), Hamam. vir. ( ), Opium( ), Cannabis sat. ( )

Lee's Homeopathic Rulership Experiment

- I decided to list character traits from some of the polycrests, where I had a sufficient number for a single author.
- I then tried to correlate each trait with a rulership, the same way I had compared different sources for rulerships.
- I could then tally up which gave the highest results

Comparative Results

- The results obtained by key words are not necessarily those which other people studying these homeopathics get.
- The next slide compares some of these results between Wiechers and the keywords

Keyword Comparison

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Summary

- Needs more research!
- Cell salts need re-examination
- Is it the right 12?
- More consideration of how and when to use
- Homeopathic polycrests
- Seems to have more correlation with planets than signs
- Can we get to the point of recommending a polycrest before a transit?
Summary

❖ There are many more remedies than either zodiac signs or planets
❖ Does this mean that several should be mapped to the same astrological symbol?
❖ If so, then what's the difference between the remedies?
❖ Is the relationship between homeopathy mapping, analogy, or signature?

References