



THREE CASE STUDIES OF ERYSIPELAS AND HOMOEOPATHY

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ABSTRACT Erysipelas is a common skin disease in our community. Erysipelas is characterized by a sudden onset of fiery red swelling of skin especially face and extremities. In Homoeopathy this type of cases was treated holistically both mentally and physically and cure takes place without any complication. But not merely treated particular part of the body. These three case studies show the effectiveness of homoeopathic medicine in acute cases.

KEYWORDS : Erysipelas, community, Homoeopathy, holistically.

INTRODUCTION:

It was historically known as St. Anthony's fire [5]. Erysipelas is characterized by an abrupt onset of fiery-red swelling of face or extremities. The distinctive features of erysipelas are well-defined indurated margins, particularly along the nasolabial fold; rapid progression and intense pain. Flaccid bullae may develop during the second or third day of illness, but extension to deeper soft tissues is rare. Desquamation of the involved skin occurs 5 to 10 days into the illness. Infant and elderly adult are most commonly afflicted [1]. It is a spreading inflammation of the skin and subcutaneous tissues due to infection caused by streptococcus pyogenes [4]. The face is involved in at least 80% of all cases of erysipelas because of the spread of streptococci from the nose [7]. When it affects loose areolar tissues such as orbit, scrotum, etc., there is considerable swelling of the part due to oedema of the subcutaneous tissue and thus very much resembles cellulitis [2]. Surgery, obesity, diabetes mellitus, venous insufficiency, and lymphedema are considered as risk factors for recurrent erysipelas [3].

CASE STUDY:

CASE NO-01:

PATIENT INFORMATION:

A 3 yrs 4 month old female child came to my clinic with her parents on 28th sept. 2020, with complaints of sudden pain, eruption with redness, itching and no fever of middle back portion of left thigh for last one day.

Mental general: Desire Company, Restlessness.

Physical general: Thirst- thirst for large quantity; Appetite: excessive; Desire- sweet+++; Hot patient; stool-normal.

Particular: Pain, redness, itching of middle back portion of left thigh ameliorated by water application.

General Physical Examination: P.R. - 110/min., R.R.: 18/min., TEMP: 98.20F, Wt.-17 Kg.

Local examination: Eruption with redness, of middle back portion of left thigh.

Systemic Examination: C.V.S. - No abnormal sound during auscultation, C.N.S. - Sensory and motor functions are normal, Resp.-Chest clear; G.I.T.-Abdomen soft, no tenderness.

Provisional diagnosis: Erysipelas

Totality of symptoms:

- Desire Company
- Restlessness
- Appetite: excessive
- Thirst for large quantity+++
- Desire- sweet+++
- Hot patient
- Redness and itching of middle back portion of left thigh.

Repertorisation: After repertorisation with the help of Kent's repertory [6], *Sulphur* was cover maximum rubrics and highest mark taken. After final consultation of *Materia Medica Sulphur* was prescribed [8, 9, 10].

Prescription: Sulphur 30 one medicated globule in 30 ml of distilled water and make two doses, BD/AC prescribed on dated 28/09/2020 for one day and followed by placebo BD for another two days.

General management: Patient to advice washes with water two times a day.



Photographs of case 01

Treatment chronology of case 01:

Date	Observation	Prescription and advice
01/10/2020	Pain, Redness is reducing.	Placebo BDS/AC/4 Days
06/10/2020	Desquamation of the involved skin occurs.	Placebo BDS/AC/4 Days
17/10/2020	Normal skin, only healing spot present, no new symptoms appear.	No treatment

Case no-02:

Patient information:

Male patient – aged 53 years old came to my clinic on dated 19/11/2020. He was suffer from skin rash on left side middle of back with redness, burning pain, and slight swelling formation but no fever for last two days.

Mental general: Patient was very much irritable.

Physical general: Appetite-normal, Thirst- thirst less, hot patient, sweat-less, Bowel – regular one time.

General Physical Examination: P.R. - 86/min., R.R.: 18/min., TEMP: 98.0F, Ht.-170 cm., Wt.-75 Kg.

Local examination: Burning, redness on left side middle of back.

Systemic Examination:

C.V.S. - No abnormal sound during auscultation, BP-130/86mm of Hg, C.N.S. - Sensory and motor functions are normal, RESP.-Chest clear; G.I.T.-Abdomen soft, no tenderness.

Provisional diagnosis: Erysipelas

Justification of diagnosis: Symptomatic.

Analysis, evaluation and totality of the case:

1. Patient was very much irritable, 2. Thirstlessness, 3. Sweat less 4. Hot patient, 5. Burning, redness on left side middle of back.

Repertorisation:

Repertorisation was done with the help of Kent's repertory [6]. After the repertorial analysis, *Apis mellifica* was found to cover highest rubrics and scored highest marks. After consulting Homoeopathic Materia Medica, *Apis mellifica* was prescribed. The indications for prescription were patient with very much irritable, thirstlessness, hot patient, sweat less with burning filling in affected skin [8, 9, 10].

Prescription:

Apis mellifica 30 prescribed TDS on date 19/11/2020. With two days for placebo/TDS.



Photographs of case 02

Treatment chronology of case 02:

Date	Observation	Prescription and advice
22/11/2020	Burning Pain, redness slightly reduces.	Placebo TDS/2days
24/11/2020	No pain, skin color changes brownish black.	Placebo TDS/2days
27/11/2020	Desquamation of the involved skin occurs.	Placebo TDS/2days

Case no-03:

Patient information:

My son 5 year 05 month of age on 30th may 2021, with complaints of sudden development of pain, slight redness, swelling of both eye lids of right eye and surrounding periorbital skin with slight itching.

History of present complaint:

Patient presented with pain, redness, swelling of both eye lids of right eye with and slight itching. Complains sudden, no history of trauma, or insect bite. No treatment taken.

Mental general: Patient is restless.

Physical general: Thirst- Profuse. Stool- normal, Urine- normal, Sweat-profuse.

General Physical Examination:

P.R. - 100/min., R.R.: 16/min., TEMP: 98.0F, Ht.- 108 cm., Wt.-21 Kg.

Local examination: Redness, slight heat, swelling of eyelids of right eye and surrounding periorbital skin.

Systemic Examination: C.V.S. - No abnormal sound during auscultation, C.N.S. - Sensory and motor functions are normal, RESP- Chest clear; G.I.T.-Abdomen soft, no tenderness.

Provisional diagnosis: Erysipelas

Justification of diagnosis: Symptomatic.

Analysis and evaluation of the case:

After analysis of the symptoms of the case, the characteristic mental generals, physical generals and particular symptoms for formation of the totality. Symptoms are Restlessness, profuse thirst, profuse sweat, right eye lids are swollen, itching, pain and redness and eye around skin also.

Repertorisation:

After repertorisation with the help of Kent's repertory [6], *Rhus toxicodendrone* cover maximum rubrics and highest mark taken. After final consultation of Materia Medica *Rhus toxicodendron* was prescribed [8, 9, 10].

Prescription:

Rhus toxicodendrone 30 prescribed TDS on dated 30/05/2021.

General management:

Patient to advice no rubbing the right eye.



Photographs of case 03

Treatment chronology of case 03:

Date	Observation	Prescription and advice
31/05/2021	Aggravation in all respect.	<i>Rhus toxicodendrone</i> 30 one drops in half cup of distill water and to take every 2 hr.
01/06/2021	Swelling and pain reduce, brownish color skin around right eye.	<i>Rhus toxicodendrone</i> 30 QDS.
02/06/2021	Swelling was reduced and skin crust.	<i>Rhus toxicodendrone</i> 30 BDS
03/06/2021	No swelling, skin crust.	<i>Rhus toxicodendrone</i> 30 OD
04/06/2021	Desquamation of the involved skin occurs.	Placebo OD/2 Days
07/06/2021	Desquamation of the involved skin occurs.	Placebo/OD/2Days
16/06/2021	Right eye lids and surrounding skin normal. Only slight blackish spot present.	No treatment

DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION:

Homoeopathy principle and Homoeopathic treatment has no specific medicine for any specific disease by name, but it has a true specific for each individual case of disease. In this studies name of disease same but medicines are different in three cases, after the totality and evaluation of symptoms each case was select different medicine and apply upon the sick person and cure the each case. As per Dr H A Roberts, in the chapter Local Applications '*Acute local diseases such as inflammations of single parts, like erysipelas, for instance, which are not produced by violent external injuries, but by dynamic or internal causes, will usually yield rapidly to internal homoeopathic remedies selected from our stock of well-tested medicines*' [11]. As per Dr S P Dey, in the chapter Local Maladies '*Acute Medical Local Maladies: Boils, Abscesses, Cellulitis, Erysipelas, Whitlow etc. belong to this group. They require medical treatment for their cure. Medicines are to be selected on the basis of symptoms of the acute condition as also the associated general characteristics of the patient*' [12]. Search in internet database, no evidence based case documentation was found for the treatment of erysipelas with Homoeopathy. However, more such case studies and clinical trials are required to reproduce similar results of Homoeopathy in acute conditions and verify the outcome.

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Conflicts of interest

None declared.

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