

Homoeopathic Treatment of Intestinal Parasitic Infections in Children

¹Dr. Shailendra Bhamar and ²Dr. Krishna Murari Pathak,

¹Professor, Department of Practice of Medicine, Rajkot Homoeopathic Medical College, Rajkot, India.

²Associate Professor, Department of Organon of Medicine, Rajkot Homoeopathic Medical College, Rajkot, India

Abstract: Parasitic infection in children are the most common infection in developing countries and that these infections have chronic and disabling consequences for child growth and development. Homoeopathy is a system of medicine which effects the immune system as well as whole human being. It treats gently and permanently in case of children suffering with parasitic infection.

Keywords: Homoeopathy, Cost Effective, Infectious Diseases, Paediatrics

I. INTRODUCTION

In developing countries, intestinal parasitic infections are the most common cause of chronic^{1,2} infections. A parasite is a living organism that relies on a living host for survival and obtains nutrition from it while providing no benefit to the host. A parasite's host is an organism that harbours the parasite. The following are the different types of hosts: definitive host, intermediate host, and reservoir host. The adult stage of the parasite is housed in the definitive host, which is also where the parasite reproduces sexually. The intermediate host is the one that hosts the parasite's larval stages or where the parasite reproduces sexually. The host that harbours the parasite and serves as an important source of infection is referred to as a reservoir host.

II. CLASSIFICATION

Parasites were classified into-

Protozoa are amoebae, flagellates and sporozoan. In protozoa amoebae examples are Entamoeba Histolytica, Entamoeba Gingivalis. In protozoa (unicellular) of flagellates is Giardia Lamblia, Trichomonas vaginalis, Leishmania Species. In protozoa of ciliates is Balantidium coli.

Helminths are trematodes, cestodes and nematodes. In Helminthes (multicellular) of trematodes is Fasciola species and Schistosoma species. In Helminthes of cestodes is taenia species and echinococcus species. In Helminthes of nematodes is round worm (Ascaris Lumbricoides)

Various parasites cause a variety of diseases and illnesses. Infectious larvae penetrating³ the skin or ingesting infective eggs of the parasite cause infection in the intestine, where they grow and multiply by binary⁴ fission. This parasite travels from the gastrointestinal tract to the extraintestinal tract. Haptic, lungs, brain, spleen, and skin are all extraintestinal organs. The duration of incubation is determined by the protozoans and Helminthes. Infections caused by parasites are affected by the state of the ecological area, as well as the social, geographic, and economic development of the inhabitant.

Aetiology

Habits, poor hygienic conditions, contamination of food or water by agents such as fly from faeces, and unsanitary surrounding areas are all factors that contribute to parasite

infections. Intestinal obstruction, colitis, and other serious health problems are caused by parasite infections

Clinical features:

Most of the time they are asymptomatic.

Pyrexia, abdominal discomfort, vomiting, chronic indigestion, splenomegaly, hepatomegaly, lymphadenopathy and general features of anaemia and may be present intestinal disorders.

In cases of worm infections occur intermittent colicky cramps, loss of appetite, malnutrition, heavy infections may cause intestinal obstruction,⁵ vomited out or may pass through the oesophagus and come out through the mouth or nose, release of toxic body fluids of the worm infections may lead to allergic manifestations.

In pinworm have pruritus ani, an eczematous condition around the anus and perineum and nocturnal enuresis.

If untreated/ incurable may cause children cognitive development, learning abilities, nutritional status and result in to other health problems.

Most common parasitic infections are poor sanitation, hygienic and fly's.

Different types of lifestyles like playing on sand, any sand games licking of fingers etc. which are common to those infected with variety of parasites infections.

Eating habits like eating raw vegetables, sand etc., also allow the enter parasites infections to the intestine of human beings⁶

III. HOMOEOPATHIC APPROACH IN PARASITIC INFECTIONS IN CHILDREN⁷

Artemisia-

Convulsions from the irritation of worms, passes faeces and urine with the spasm; obstinate spasmodic strangury; hunger, but cannot get the food down; often (<) at night.

Chenopodium

Worm affections; constipation, ineffectual urging with pressure on bladder and rectum; frequent cutting pains in abdomen, especially at night; with flatulency and urging to stool; pale or yellowish colour of face; scraping and burning in throat; secretion of frothy mucus from mouth and throat; dullness in head.

Cicuta-

Sudden rigidity with jerks, followed by great relaxation and weakness; convulsions and contortions of upper part of body and limbs; frequent hiccough and crying; pain in neck; vertigo and headache, dilated pupils; spasmodic drawing the head backward; tremor of hands; constriction of oesophagus; tonic contractions alternating with intermitting clonic spasms.

Indigo-

Convulsions resulting from worms; pain in umbilical region; cutting pain (<) by retracting the walls of the abdomen and by pressure; frequent urging to urinate,<) at night, diarrhoea without injury to appetite or digestion.

Sabadilla-

Vomiting of round worms, or nausea and retching, with sensation of worm in pharynx; or in case of taenia, burning boring and whirling in umbilical region; accumulation of water in mouth; chilliness and sensitiveness to cold; sensation as if abdomen were sunken in; nervous symptoms from worms.

Spigelia-

Nausea every morning before breakfast always better after breakfast, dilated pupils, squinting; pale face; smarting in nose; sensation of a worm rising in throat; BETTER AFTER EATING; or vomiting of all she takes, with sour rising like vinegar from stomach; pain in bowels; dry, hard cough at night, palpitation of heart.

Terebinthina-

Burning and tingling at the anus, with sensation as if ascarides were crawling about; passes segments of tapeworm; burning in rectum lessened by applying cold water; irritability and weakness of bowels; sharp appetite and thirst; has to take something at once; strange appetite after a square meal; foul breath; choking sensation; dry hacking cough; spasms and convulsions wakeful at night; screaming as if frightened; staring look, clenching of fingers; twitching in different parts of the body.

Teucrium-

Terrible itching in anus from pinworms.

CONCLUSION

Homoeopathic medicines are safe for babies and children to take, babies often response very quickly and these are non-addictive, offer no side effects to child health easy to administer and very cost effective as well.

References

- [1] Schliessmann D.J. (1959). Diarrhoeal disease and environment. *Bulletin of the world health organization*, 21(2), 381.
- [2] Elsdon-Dew R. (1953). Housing and parasites: a comparison of slums with sub-economic housing. *South African Medical Journal*, 27(40), 879-880.
- [3] T aner Y avuz (2018). How do you keep through park, gardens and picnicity diseases in your childrens. *Ascaris Lumbricoides*, 1. www.artaneryavuz.com.
- [4] Owaka E.E., Njoku O.O., Uhwo C.A. and Odikamnor O. O. (2016). Survey of Intestinal Helminth Infection amongst School Children in Rural Communities of Ebonyi State Nigeria. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, 6(5), 76-85.
- [5] Barons S. (2003). Medical microbiology. 4th edition. The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, 4(1), 345.
- [6] Montessor A., Crompton D.W.T., Gyorkos T.W. and Savioli L. (2002). Helminth control in school-Age children: A Gude for Managers of control programmes Geneva. *world Health organization*, 2, 16-20.
- [7] Lilienthal S. Homoeopathic Therapeutics.