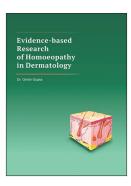
Book Review

Evidence-based research of homoeopathy in dermatology

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Gaurang Clinic and Centre for Homoeopathic Research, Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India
Dr Girish Gupta
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The book brings forth a clinician's experience in the treatment of dermatological conditions specifically Vitligo, Psoriasis, Alopecia Areata, Lichen Planus, Wart, Molluscum Contagiosum and Nail Mycosis.

STRUCTURE

For each of these conditions, the author has described the disease condition, treatment objectives and the results of treatment in the cases, treated in his clinic. Model case reports at the end of each chapter give the case details, repertorisation chart, process of medicine selection and follow-up. The photographic evidence add on to the case presentations. The change in presenting complaints of the patients and subsequent prescription is added to identify the progression of each case.

The cases presented are from those treated in 1997–2019 and have a varying treatment duration ranging from <2 months to more than 4 years, depending on the, which adds on to the pragmatic settings, in which the data have been collected and compiled.

DERMATOLOGICAL CONDITIONS

Common dermatological conditions where patients frequently seek homoeopathic treatment are presented in detail. Following a descriptive account of the condition, the data compiled from the clinical cases treated by the physicians are presented in structured format. The outcome assessments and ancillary measures used are described followed by model cases.

USEFULNESS

The publication is useful for professionals and students, who are seeking an understanding of approach towards treatment of these conditions and provides a useful evidence base on which future research studies can be built up.

The art of recording and preserving cases is best depicted by this publication which exemplifies the painstaking process by which the records were kept and maintained by the treating physicians. The photographs are of high quality and maintain patient confidentiality, bringing forth a clear picture of the skin ailment being presented. The technique ensures that all photographs are from the same angle in similar light effects, taken over a period of months to years.

AREAS OF ENHANCEMENT

The case details give the rubrics used, but not the symptoms that the patients "said" and the case details from which the rubrics were developed. The potential differential field which aided to the identification of the similimum from the repertorisation chart medicines is not included. Where treatment response is varying from 77.16% of cases of psoriasis improving to 50% of cases in warts and vitiligo showing a positive result, a discussion of cases, who did not respond to treatment would add to the learning as to why the cases fail to respond and how physicians can enhance their quality of prescriptions to have better results. Addition of symptom validation and clinical symptoms identified during the course of treatment can augment the future Materia Medica and disease therapeutics.

Divya Taneja*

Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, New Delhi, India E-mail: drdivyataneja@gmail.com Received: 16.02.2021; Accepted: 17.02.2021; Published: 31.03.2021

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