

HOMEOPATHY IN DENTISTRY

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The latter part of the 20th Century has brought along with its technical and synthetic advances a resurgence of the understanding of human beings as a total entity – body, mind, emotions, and soul – “holism”. The use of homeopathy is helping today’s dentists give holistic care to their patients.

More dentists are recognizing that attached to the teeth is a human being, and that in treating a localized manifestation of disease in the mouth, it is imperative that due considerations be given to the general physical state of the patient. Only when the dentist understands the relationship that oral disease has to the physical and mental reactions of the patient can he or she offer a fully therapeutic service.

Briefly, homeopathy is a system of healing that seeks to cure illness in accordance with certain principles of healing utilizing “remedies made from plants, minerals, or animal products”. These remedies are prepared by a process of repeated dilution and shaking, which renders them capable of stimulating the healing process. The treatment is not directed at removing symptoms or killing germs but, rather, toward strengthening the person so that his or her own healing capacities function better.

Homeopathy discovers the essence of disease through the symptom syndrome, or the totality of the mental, emotional, and physical symptoms expressed by the patient. By means of the totality of symptoms, the homeopathic

practitioner treats the patient as a whole rather than treating the disease in its localized expression. Therefore, the cause rather than the effect is being treated.

All patients are unique. Two different patients visit the dentist. Both complain of a toothache with similar duration, location, and intensity of pain. However, by talking with each patient, it can be observed that one of them is reluctant to take about his problems, wants no sympathy,

and has only come to the office because his symptoms are of sufficient intensity to force him to ask for help. The other

patient is easygoing, enjoys sympathy, and is clearly ready for help. For the best treatment, constitutional homeopathy should be applied, along with pathological homeopathy.

Constitutional homeopathic prescribing involves analyzing a person’s body type, temperament, disposition, and behavioral tendencies. Pathological prescribing is a treatment specifically for the disease or ailment. Homeopathy in holistic dentistry offers a combination of both types of prescribing. Thus, it is possible to prescribe one remedy to suit the general temperament or psychological state of a patient and another for the particular problem the patient is experiencing.

There are many homeopathic remedies that have been found effective in treating various dental conditions. You can use the **Synergy software system** to access many dental conditions and their corresponding remedies.

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DOSAGE GUIDELINES FOR REMEDIES 200X AND UNDER

Choice of Potency

When the treatment is prescribed on the basis of local signs and symptoms, prescribe low potencies (Dxxx).

When the treatment is prescribed on the basis of a mixture of local, general, mental and emotional signs and symptoms, prescribe higher potencies (everything except Dxxx).

Times Remedies Should Be Taken

Low potency remedies

- first aid – every 5-30 minutes
- acute conditions – every 30 minutes to hourly, decreasing to 3-4 times a day

Medium potency remedies

- one to three times a day

High potency remedies

- REDUCE FREQUENCY WITH IMPROVEMENT

Potency vs. Duration of Action

- the lower the potency, the shorter its duration of action (acute conditions)
- the higher the potency, the longer its duration of action, provided the analogy was clear and correct (chronic conditions)

Constitutional Prescribing

As opposed to pathologic or specific symptom prescribing, constitutional prescribing does not treat the disease entity, but rather the symptom complex of the individual who has the disease.

The purpose of constitutional prescribing is not to seek to change a patient's character, but by modifying its tone balances it, thereby giving systematic, systemic support to the self-healing effort of the organism. By encompassing the sum total of the individual's physical, emotional and mental picture, constitutional analysis and prescribing performs psychotherapy while also working on the physical level.

All the constitutional remedies and corresponding characteristics can be utilized in assessment and treatment using the **Synergy software system**.