



Theridion in management of drug induced (Metformin 500) Vertigo

A 52 year old married man presented to me on 16th February 2019 with complaints of terrible vertigo for last 1 week. Vertigo from bending forwards, sideways and upwards, worse by closing the eyes. Vertigo was associated with nausea off and on, which was relieved by inducing vomiting. Nausea feeling was aggravated after eating sweets. His appetite had increased. There was also a dull headache in the occipital region which extended down into the neck. He suffered from marked tiredness, so much so that he would not feel like doing any work. He was compelled to lie down or sit quietly with his face covered with a cloth, since his eyes could not tolerate any light emitted from the television or his mobile. In addition slightest noise around him was unbearable to him. He also complained that since last few months his hearing was impaired. The look on his face was sad, depressed, intoxicated and low spirited. He was hanging on the chair and sighing on and off. Prior to falling sick I had known this man to be an every smiling and happy go lucky person. Generally he used to be a hot patient but at present his thermal state seemed to be chilly. It was clear that something was terribly wrong with him.

On further inquiry it was found that an allopathic doctor had started him on one Metformin tablet per day since about a month ago, in order to reduce his weight, although he was not a diabetic. His present weight was 116 kgs. One week ago the same doctor increased his Metformin tablet to twice a day and he lost another 3 kgs of weight. Immediately after starting these tablets he began feeling uneasy and experienced sudden hunger pangs. Even after discontinuing taking these metformin tablets his condition did not seem to improve. There were other things that had also changed in him; usually he preferred warm drinks all the time, but of late he prefers cold drinks. A drastic change in his taste was also seen as in, everything tasted sweet. He suddenly began craving for sour things specially oranges+3 and green chillies+2. He could not enjoy his meals since his normal sense of taste was almost lost. After every meal he would have a diarrhoea since the time he has started taking Metformin tablet. His disposition had also turned into very cranky person as opposed to his usual happy go lucky type of personality. He would now get irritated if asked questions. He hadn't shown up at his own self-employed business for the last one week. He would just lie down in a corner all day. He feared that he was suffering from some serious heart disease.

Homoeopathic Analysis and Evaluation of the case to arrive at the prescription: I have never come across such peculiar symptoms in my life earlier so I knew this case would need a new remedy that I may not have prescribed earlier. This vertigo is sycotic miasm origin because it was as a result of faulty treatment and worse on closing the eyes. Secondly that the seat of disease is in central nervous system hence the corresponding drug must have that same depth of action in order to cure.

I utilized Kent's repertory to find the following rubrics: 1) Desires oranges 2) Sensitive to slightest noise 3) Vertigo on closing eyes 4) Loss of taste

Repertorisation was pointing towards Theridion(Spider). Thereafter I checked up for references from William Boericke's Materia Medica where I found "sensitive to noise and light and finds pleasure in nothing. There was also mentioned vertigo with nausea and vomiting on least motion". I also referred Boger's synoptic key of the materia medica that mentioned cardiac anxiety and the general modality of better by rest. Hence my choice of first prescription was Theridion 200, 1 single dose

Follow up the next day after starting the remedy: He resumed working at his family business which is a restaurant. His wife was surprised to see him in good form.

Follow up after 1 week dated 26 February 2019: Patient reported that since the 16th of February after he started with the homoeopathic medicine his vertigo had become 90% alright. He did not feel like eating sour things like before. He informed that he is able to walk and stand a lot now which is very much necessary for his job at the restaurant. He has gained 1 kg weight. Earlier he would feel hungry from morning until noon. Now he feels hungry only at breakfast. Stools are satisfactory. No diarrhoea after every meal. He consumed meat without any problem. He is able to watch the light emitted from his mobile but still cannot watch the television. His mood is happy. Earlier he would doze off anytime, now he has become more alert. Nausea after consuming sweets reduced only by 10%. Enjoys listening to music.

Follow up after 1 month dated 17th March 2019: Patient reported that bread still tastes sweet. Able to fulfil every responsibility of family. He had travelled to Mumbai for visa work to proceed to U.K in the future and there he also attended a music concert.

Follow up after one and half month dated 31st March 2019: Taste is back to normal. Able to eat laddu's and 2 bananas everyday. He is the first to wake up in the morning at 5.30am and prepares breakfast and tiffin for his children and then goes out shopping groceries for his restaurant.

Patient has had no relapse of the complaints till May 2022

Learning from the case: As per guidelines laid down by Master Hahnemann in aphorism 262/263 of 6th edition of organon of medicine, there is no restriction in desire or aversion in food and drinks developed during acute disease.

This case is an example of Artificial /Iatrogenic diseases mentioned in Organon of medicine in aphorism 74-76. Disposition during acute as compared with the usual disposition is the key factor in selection of indicated remedy.