
6 SUMMARY

Principles of homeopathic remedy pictures in veterinary medicine - historic roots and current applications in practice - instancing *Arsenicum album*, *Atropa belladonna*, *Lachesis muta*, *Strychnos nux vomica* and *Pulsatilla pratensis*

The objective of this research was to analyse veterinary remedy pictures (RP) of the homeopathic remedies *Arsenicum album*, *Belladonna*, *Lachesis*, *Nux vomica* and *Pulsatilla* with regard to the origin of their respective symptoms (veterinary / human) and to make a statement about the current RP of these remedies in veterinary homeopathy. The results of the research were analysed and discussed under different aspects.

Literature was sorted through and the chosen symptoms were searched for the existence or absence of a human homeopathic reference. To exactly pinpoint their origin, the symptoms which have a human homeopathic equivalent and which have not been observed by Genzke at a proving were referenced as human homeopathic derived symptoms. Symptoms observed by Genzke during a proving were referenced as veterinary-symptoms. Symptoms without a human homeopathic counterpart were treated likewise.

A symptom quoted by several authors was chronologically referenced. To illustrate the historic development of veterinary remedy pictures, symptoms were divided in groups mentioned only before 1950, after or before **and** after 1950.

Results of the count of the lists of symptoms (remedy pictures)

The symptoms of the veterinary remedy pictures were counted with regard to the mentioned criteria and the results were compared. Numbers are expressed as a percentage (rounded to the next integer) in relation to the totality of symptoms (N=100%).

Historical referencing of the symptoms

The remedy picture of *Arsenicum*, *Belladonna*, *Nux vomica* und *Pulsatilla* are mentioned 40 to 46% of the time in literature before 1950 only, 44-49% are mentioned in literature only after 1950; 10-11% are mentioned before 1950 and after 1950 as well.

The remedy picture of *Lachesis* moved the chronological distribution of symptoms significantly towards recent symptoms. This divergence is explained by the late introduction of *Lachesis* as a homeopathic remedy.

Presence or Absence of human homeopathic references

The percentage of symptoms with a human homeopathic reference was with 80-84% much larger than the group of symptoms without a human homeopathic reference.

Influence of Genzke to homeopathic provings

The percentage of symptoms mentioned by Genzke is 18-34%, the percentage of Symptoms observed during a proving is 3-14%. The percentage of Proving-Symptoms mentioned by Genzke found in literature after 1950 was 1-4%.

Analysis of the veterinary remedy pictures with regard to the origin of their symptoms

The examined symptoms were divided in six groups taking into account their origin and the period of time they were mentioned as well. Ranks of value were assigned to the groups (Rank 1-6) providing a ranking that made the analysis of the base of recent veterinary remedy pictures possible.

The basis of veterinary remedy pictures consists of veterinary symptoms (proving, practical experience) of the ranks 1-3 (11-16%) and the symptoms with human homeopathic reference of the ranks 4-5 (43-46%). Symptoms of rank 6 (symptoms mentioned before 1950: 40-46%) have no impact on the current remedy picture.

Defining afterwards the symptoms of ranks 1-5 as the totality of symptoms of recent remedy pictures, 17-26% were of veterinary origin whereas 74-83% of the symptoms derived from human homeopathic origins.

Conclusion

Today's selection of veterinary remedies is based on remedy pictures mainly containing symptoms of human homeopathic origin. Although some symptoms of a RP are similar on humans and animals, the details, which are critical for the remedy choice, are different. The transfer of symptoms from human to animal (and between different animal species) is being judged differently by varying authors. The question whether and under what circumstances a transfer is possible, could not be answered conclusively with the data on hand. Moreover the question seems (emotionally) linked to the demand for remedy provings on animals. Although detailed provings on animals based on guidelines of modern methodology are a possibility to develop veterinary remedy pictures independently from human homeopathy, such provings haven't been carried out in large scale. In practice, the carrying out of this plan would be limited by the tremendous amount of resources required. Additionally, questions pertaining to the systematic of homeopathy (in human homeopathy, too) are still unanswered.

Symptoms integrated into veterinary remedy pictures because of practical experiences of homeopathic veterinarians appear to be especially important in the light of the conclusions drawn. It seems prudent to back up the homeopathic remedy pictures through the collection of carefully documented cases (i.e. comprehensible choice of remedies because of the diagnosis, precise description of the course of the disease and the appearance and disappearance of symptoms) and systematic recording of the recognized symptoms. The greatest possible accuracy with regard to the origin and the frequency and strength of the symptoms should be taken. Such a procedure might lead to the creation of a constantly updated remedy theory or materia medica in veterinary practice.