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SYMPTOMATOLOGY

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DEFINE: Symptom is an external appearance of internally derangement of vital force.

1. GENERAL SYMPTOM

It is one that refers to an individual as a whole.

Generals are expression of whole person and physical and mental level. Genaral are sometimes made up of particular when a certain symptom runs through all the particular it become a general.

General can be categorized as-

- A. MENTAL GENERAL
- B. PHYSICAL GENERAL

A) MENTAL GENERAL :

All symptoms are related to mental sphere are termed as mental Generals.

Emotions provide greater force to an individual and any change in emotional sphere is considered as the most important symptom of person.

While considering mental symptom it should be taken into consideration in following order-

- a) Will (emotions) Ailments from anger, grief, joy, jealousy, irritability, symptoms of love, hate, fear, anxiety etc .
- b) Perversion of understanding- delusion, hallucination, confusion
- c) Perversion of memory- memory loss, absent mindedness.

B) PHYSICAL GENERAL :

Symptoms involving the whole person at bodily level are considered as physical Generals.

These symptoms can be general reactions- Thermal atmospheric, seasonal.

Ailments from circumstantial, dietary, sleep and its disturbances appetite, thirst ,dietary cravings and aversion perspiration, tendency to pathological changes.

E.g- Tumors, warts etc.

These symptoms the expressions which have pathological basis are considered as pathological Generals.

E.g- tumors, boils.

2. NEGATIVE SYMPTOMS (NEGATIVE GENERALS)-

Absence of an expected symptom in a particular condition is called ad negative general.

It is of great importance in therapeutic points of view

E.g. -

- a) Bronchial asthma is not aggravated by exertion.
- b) Arthritis nor aggravated in rainy season.
- c) Fever without thirst.

3. MAZE OF SYMPTOMS

Some chronic cases present mass of symptoms in which prescriber feels lost very often these patients have been victim of indiscriminate treatment and suppressive treatment of and as a result they manifest symptoms of drug induced disease along with symptoms of illness. It is impossible at this juncture to find definite indication of any single remedy. On these condition we may choose

- 1) a specific homoeopathic antidote
- 2) remedy based on resent symptoms
- 3) Remedy predominantly detected by prominent miasm which ever suitable to the case considerable patients will be demanded of both the patient and the physician.

4. CONCOMITANT SYMPTOMS-

This category of symptoms was coined by Boenninghausens in the homoeopathic system of medicine.

The symptoms which accompanying the nail or chief complaints of the patient are called as concomitant symptom.

This associate symptom should occur at the same time when the chief complaint appears in patient.

It can come before, during or after the chief complaint but strict time relation should maintain with the chief complaint

E.g.

- 1) Headache associated with irritability
- 2) Irritability during menses
- 3) Headache accompanied by education
- 4) cough with pain over the distended parts

Mental concomitant is case of physical ailments and physical concomitant in mental ailments are of great value for therapeutic purpose.

5. ELIMINATING SYMPTOMS

After case taking select one peculiar characteristic as an eliminating symptom for repertorisation.

The remedies that are covered by eliminating symptom are first recorded and then only those medicines are considered which are matched to eliminating symptom.

Characteristics of eliminating symptom-

- 1) It is must be very prominent symptom
- 2) Symptom must have sufficient no. of remedies under it.

In acute cases we can consider objective symptom, pathological Generals as an eliminating symptom.

E.g. - In case of recent swelling of wrist we can consider "swelling wrist".

As eliminating rubric (and select the remedy from the list taking into consideration other symptom)

But if the swelling is a chronic one we should not consider swelling wrist as the eliminating symptoms but consider some mental general symptom as the eliminating rubric.

6. GENERIC SYMPTOM

These are symptom produced by dynamic generic action of drug symptoms that are common to many remedies of particular genesis or class

e.g.

- 1) All halogens i.e., iodine, bromide, fluoride etc. They acts on mucous membrane producing inflammation, rawness and excavation.
- 2) ophidia (snakes) has common symptom of aggravation at night.

7. PARTICULAR SYMPTOM

Those symptoms pertaining to particular part or organ of the body. particular deals with the disease and not patient as a whole. particular symptoms are important when they are p,q,r,s or when Generals are not marked, when they point to more than remedy and when there is acute local disturbances.

e.g. - my throat is dry, my legs are weak, and my head is painful.

8. SUBJECTIVE SYMPTOMS

These are symptoms which the patients feel and speak about and communicate it to the physician.

A good observer when tried to recognize any abnormalities felt in the body. These ate usually the warning signs prior to a material or organic evidence of a disease.

The type of pain or any abnormality sensation felt by the patient can be obtained only from the patient and neither from by standers nor by the physician himself.

Eg-

- 1) Burning, smarting pain as if spices are applying on the body.
- 2) Nausea during headache
- 3) Sensation as if band over forehead

9. OBJECTIVE SYMPTOM

These are signs and symptoms observed by the physician, relative, and friends or by duty nurses.

Symptoms can be observed by interrogating the patient or by examining the patient.

E.g.-

- 1) Red triangular tip of the tongue of rhus tox
- 2) Teeth intentions with cracks on tongue of merc.sol.
- 3) map tongue of tarantula
- 4) cracks behind the ear of jelsemium

Objective symptom is very useful in case of infants, if patient are uncooperative, patients one sided case with deep pathology, mental .patients uncooperative due to language problems.

10. COMMON SYMPTOM (BASIC, ABSOLUTE AND PATHOGNOMIC SYMPTOM)

These are symptoms which are commonly seen in all patient with such particular type if disease or in drugs.

These are very helpful in diagnosis of case according to Homoeopathic point of view it is of no value

e.g.-

- 1) Fever, vomiting, diarrhea and pain in abdomen in a cause of gastroenteritis.
- 2) Headache, Nausea, vomiting, in case of migraine.
- 3) Fever, cough with yellowish expectoration, rattling chest and repetition on auscultation in a case of acute bronchitis.

11. UNCOMMON SYMPTOM-(DETERMENITIVE, NON PATHOGNOMIC SYMPTOMS)

Symptom which cannot be explain on the basis of any pathology or diagnosis and at the same time they are seen in few remedies and to a very few patient suffering from similar diseases.

- E.g.: peculiarity can be seen under various headings.
- 1) Lactation- a) pain over right tonsils (merc.iodum)

b) Sweating over the nose seen in nat.mur.

- 2) Sensation- a) Sensation of hot over
 - b) Sensation as if brain is expanded
 - c) Skull as to small (gonine)
- 3) Modalities- a) Root pain ameliorate by swallowing solids.(Ignesia)

b)Throat pain aggravated by sweet(spongium)

c) Asthma aggravated in summer seen in symphytum

4) Concomitant- a) pain over hip joined during menses (calcarea)

b) Vertigo with salivation (calcarea)