



## ROLE OF HOMOEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN CASES OF GASTRITIS

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### ABSTRACT:

The Stomach is a hollow organ situated just below the diaphragm on the left side in the abdominal cavity. Volume of empty stomach is 50ml. under normal conditions, it can expand to accommodate 1 to 1.5l of solids and liquids. however, it is capable of expanding still further up to 4L. (3)

- In humans, stomach has 4 parts:
  1. Cardiac region
  2. Fundus
  3. Body or corpus [forming about 75 to 80% of stomach]
  4. Pyloric region <sup>(3)</sup>

- Properties of gastric juice: Volume: 1200 to 1500ml/day

Reaction: highly acidic with a pH of 0.9 to 1.2 [due to presence of hydrochloric acid] Specific gravity: 1.004 <sup>(3)</sup>

- Composition of gastric juice:

Gastric juice contains 99.5% water and 0.5% solids. Solids are organic and inorganic substances. These are: <sup>(3)</sup>

Organic substances	Inorganic substances
Enzymes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Pepsin</li> <li>2) Rennin (in animals only)</li> <li>3) Gastric lipase</li> <li>4) Gelatinase</li> <li>5) Urase</li> </ol> Other organic substances: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Mucus</li> <li>2) Intrinsic factor</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A) Hydrochloric acid</li> <li>B) Sodium</li> <li>C) Calcium</li> <li>D) Potassium</li> <li>E) Bicarbonate</li> <li>F) Chloride</li> <li>G) Phosphate</li> <li>H) Sulphate</li> </ol>

- Functions of gastric juice:
  1. Digestive function: by pepsin, gastric lipase and other enzymes (e.g. gelatinase, urase, gastric amylase, rennin)
  2. Hematopoietic function: by intrinsic factor of castle, which is secreted by parietal cells of gastric glands – important role in erythropoiesis.
  3. Protective function: by mucus secreted by mucus neck cells
  4. Functions of hydrochloric acid: bactericidal action, activates enzymes like pepsinogen into pepsin, provides acidic medium necessary for action of hormones

**KEYWORDS:** Stomach, Gastritis, Acute and Chronic Gastritis, Inflammation, Homoeopathic RADAR repertory rubrics, Homoeopathic Medicines

## INFLAMMATION:

Inflammation of the cell of stomach lining is called stomatitis. Inflammation is a first line of defence by any cell against the injury. Signs of inflammations are Rubor(radness), Calor(heat), Tumor(swelling), Dolor(pain) and Functio laesa (Loss of function). <sup>(2)</sup>

Inflammation can be acute or chronic in nature. Prong inflammation of stomach lining may end up in gastric ulcer and gastric cancer (carcinoma). <sup>(2)</sup>

Different factors which are the causes of stomatitis. Some of the important causes are bacterial and viral infections, excessive use of anti-inflammatory drugs and painkillers. <sup>(2)</sup>

Among this most common cause of gastritis is Helicobacter pylori (H. Pylori) bacteria. It is a spiral shaped and gram-negative bacterium. Which is transmitted through feco-oral route. Common in area where there are poor hygiene practices. <sup>(2)</sup>

It is contagious or sometime self-limiting disease. <sup>(2)</sup>

## Definition:

Gastritis is a medical condition characterized by inflammation of the stomach lining. <sup>(2)</sup>

## Pathology:

The term 'gastritis' is commonly employed for any clinical condition with upper abdominal discomfort like indigestion or dyspepsia in which the specific clinical signs and radiological abnormalities are absent. The condition is of great importance due to its relationship with peptic ulcer and gastric cancer. Broadly speaking, gastritis may be of 2 types – acute and chronic. Chronic gastritis can further be of various types. <sup>(2)</sup>

## Clinical finding:

For the diagnosis purpose of suspecting gastritis, investigation advice to patient are as follows:

- Upper gastro-intestinal endoscopy
- RUT – Rapid Urease Test (Yellow- negative, Pink- positive) – detects the presence of urease in gastric mucosa.
- X – ray of upper digestive system <sup>(2)(3)</sup>

## Clinical variation:

There are 2(two) type of gastritis.

### 1) Acute Gastritis:

- Acute H. pylori gastritis
- Other acute infective gastritis (bacteria, virus, fungi, parasites)
- Acute non-infective gastritis

### 2) Chronic Gastritis:

- Type A gastritis (autoimmune gastritis)
- Type B gastritis (H. pylori related)
- Type AB gastritis (mixed gastritis, environmental gastritis, chronic atrophic gastritis)
- Chemical (reflux) gastritis
- Miscellaneous forms of gastritis <sup>(2)</sup>

## Etiopathogenesis:

For ACUTE GASTRITIS the causative agents are as follows:

### 1] Diet and personal habits

- i. Highly spiced food
- ii. Excessive alcohol consumption
- iii. Malnutrition
- iv. Heavy smoking

### 2] Infection:

- i. Bacterial infections – e.g. Helicobacter pylori, diphtheria, salmonellosis, pneumonia, staphylococcal food poisoning.
- ii. Viral infection – e.g. viral hepatitis, influenza, infectious mononucleosis.

### 3] Drugs:

Intake of drugs like NSAID's, aspirin, cortisone, phenylbutazone, indomethacin, preparations of iron, chemotherapeutic agents.

**4] Chemical and physical agents:**

- i. Intake of corrosive chemicals such as caustic soda, phenol, Lysol
- ii. Gastric irradiation
- iii. Freezing.

**5] Severe stress:**

- i. Emotional factors like shock, anger, resentment etc.
- ii. Extensive burns
- iii. Trauma
- iv. Surgery

In acute gastritis, the mucosal injury by any of the above agents causes acute inflammation by one of the following mechanisms:

1. Reduced blood flow, resulting in mucosal hypoperfusion due to ischemia.
2. Increased acid secretion and its accumulation due to H. Pylori infection resulting in damage to epithelial barrier.
3. Decreased production of bicarbonate buffer. <sup>(2)</sup>

For **CHRONIC GASTRITIS**: there is no any clear etiology of chronic gastritis. All the causative factors of acute gastritis may result in chronic gastritis too. Recurrent attack of chronic gastritis may result in chronic gastritis. Some additional causes are:

- 1] Reflux of duodenal contents into the stomach, especially in cases which have undergone surgical intervention in the region of pylorus.
- 2] Infection with H. Pylori is strongly implicated in the etiology of chronic gastritis and is more common.
- 3] Associated disease of the stomach and duodenum, such as gastric or duodenal ulcer, gastric carcinoma.
- 4] Chronic hypochromic anaemia, especially associated with atrophic gastritis.
- 5] Immunological factors such as autoantibodies to gastric parietal cells in atrophic gastritis and autoantibodies against intrinsic factor.

The mechanism of chronic gastritis injury by any of the etiologic agents is by cytotoxic effect of the injurious agent on the gastric mucosal epithelium, thus breaking the barrier and then inciting the inflammatory response. <sup>(2)</sup>

**Differential diagnosis:**

- Functional dyspepsia
- GERD
- Peptic ulcer disease
- Gastric cancer
- Cholecystitis
- Zollinger – Ellison syndrome
- Pancreatitis
- Myocardial ischemia
- Gastric lymphoma
- Celiac disease
- Multiple endocrine neoplasia <sup>(1)</sup>

**Complications:**

- Peptic ulcer disease
- Immune thrombocytopenic purpura [ITP]
- Iron – deficiency anemia [IDA]
- Vitamin B12 deficiency <sup>(1)</sup>

**Homoeopathic RADAR repertory rubrics:**

Schroyens F., Synthesis Treasure edition – Full Synthesis <sup>(4)</sup>



Schroyens F., Synthesis Treasure Edition



Full Synthesis ▾

**STOMACH**

☞ **INFLAMMATION (= gastritis):** 💡🌱 (135) abies-n. acon. *Aeth.* agar-em. agar-ph. agro. all-c. alum. alumn. anac. *Ant-c.* **ANT-T.** *Apis* apoc. *Arg-n.* arn. **ARS.** ars-i. ars-s-r. asaf. asar. aur. aur-m. bar-c. bar-i. *Bar-m.* **BELL.** bell-p. benz-ac. betu. *Bism.* *Bor-pur.* brom. **BRY.** *Cact.* cadm-s. calam. *Camph.* cann-xyz. *Canth.* caps. carb-ac. carb-an. carb-v. chel. *Chin.* chinin-m. chlor. cic. cob-n. *Cocc.* colch. coloc. *Con.* cop. cory. cund. cupr. cycl. cyt-l. *Dig.* elaps **EUPH.** euph-c. euph-ip. ferr. ferr-p. ferr-s. gaul. gels. *Graph.* grat. guaj. hell. *Hydr.* hydr-ac. **HYOS.** indg. iod. *Ip.* kali-ar. kali-bi. kali-c. kali-i. kali-m. kali-n. kali-perm. kali-s. kali-sula. kreos. lac-ac. *Lac-d.* lach. laur. levist. **LYC.** mag-s. mang-s. merc-c. mez. nat-c. nat-m. nat-s. **NUX-V.** orex-tann. ox-ac. **PHOS.** *Plb.* puls. ran-b. ran-s. rumx-act. sabad. *Sabin.* sal-ac. *Sang.* sanic. *Sec.* sep. sin-a. spig. squil. stram. sul-ac. *Sulph.* tab. tarax. tart-ac. *Ter.* thal-xyz. tub-d. **VERAT.** *Verat-v.* zinc. zinc-act.

**Homoeopathic Medicines:****3 marks remedies: [BOLD + CAPITAL + Red coloured]**

Ant-t, ars, bell, bry, euph, hyos, lyc, nux-v, phos, verat

**2 marks remedies: [italics + blue coloured]***Aeth.*, *ant-c.*, *apis*, *arg-n.*, *bar-m.*, *bism.*, *bor-pur.*, *cact.*, *camph.*, *canth.*, *chin.*, *cocc.*, *con.*, *dig.*, *graph.*, *hydr.*, *ip.*, *lac-d.*, *plb.*, *sabin.*, *sang.*, *sec.*, *sulph.*, *ter.*, *verat-v.***1 marks remedies: [normal + black coloured]**

Abies-n, acon, agar-em, agar-ph, agro, all-c, alum, alumn, anac, apoc, arn, ars-i, ars-s-r, asaf, asar, aur, aur-m, bar-c, bar-I, bell-p, benz-ac, betu, brom, cadm-s, calam, cann-xyz, caps, carb-ac, carb-an, carb-v, chel, chinin-m, chlor, cic, cob-n, colch, coloc, cop, cory, cund, cupr, cycl, cyt-l, elaps, euph-c, euph-ip, ferr, ferr-p, ferr-s, gaul, gels, grat, guaj, hell, hydr-ac, indg, iod, kali-ar, kali-bi, kali-c, kali-I, kali-m, kali-n, kali-perm, kali-s, kali-sula, kreos, lac-ac, lach, laur, levist, mag-s, mang-s, merc-c, mez, nat-c, nat-m, nat-s, orex-tann, ox-ac, puls, ran-b, ran-s, rumx-act, sabad, sal-ac, sanic, sep, sin-a, spig, squil, stram, sul-ac, tab, tarax, tart-ac, thal-xyz, tub-d, zinc, zinc-act.<sup>(4)</sup>

**Conclusion:**

This article is to aware general public to the disease gastritis, acute and chronic symptoms, its causation and utility of homoeopathic medicine in cases of gastritis.

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