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Waterworld by Viktória Bodrogi

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Waterworld

Fish in Homeopathy

Viktória Bodrogi

Emryss

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Introduction

I have practised homeopathy since 1983, and in the past 35 years have seen an explosion of provings, which has gradually evolved into a kingdom-centric knowledge base. We have taken to the skies, burrowed into the earth, learned plant evolution, and mined strange and precious minerals. On occasion we have leapt into imponderable realms, and right off the planet into the stars. Yet one kingdom has remained on the fringes of our exploration.

Rising from the dark inscrutable ocean depths comes Viktória Bodrogi's exploration of the Kingdom of Fish. Our materia medica is the richer for it. The information comes from provings and cured cases. Marine and freshwater vertebrates are brought together as a kingdom and treated as such in the search for sensations and symptoms common to the kingdom as a whole. Having established the overview of the physical and mental essence of 'fish remedy' patients, Viktória worked to find the subdivisions, which do not follow family lines, in order to pinpoint the remedies clearly. First she created two groups, of predatory and non-predatory fish. The predatory fish were further seen to fall into three sub-groups: on-the-move, migratory, and bottom-dwelling. The non-predatory group also fell into three: tropical fish, shoal-living fish and bottom-dwelling fish. And it seemed that each group had an outstanding characteristic: Angry, Homesick, Melancholic, Childish and Cheerful, Confused, and Quarrelsome.

This is a work which gives us a good grip on this little-known kingdom. Of course we have Jeremy Sherr's excellent proving of the unpronounceable Salmon. And Louis Klein has organised some provings that have been written up in journals, but until this point, there has been no dedicated Fish book. There are nineteen fish remedies (each one with full colour plate) and three fish-related toxins or extracts: Evolution of fish, anatomy, pathology, sensation and function and the Overview, maximum information in minimum space, that is common to many of Emryss's books. Medicines will be found here for Alzheimer's, autism, dyslexia, skin and eating disorders, and musculoskeletal difficulties. Cases illustrate the language, strategies and pathology of patients needing a fish remedy.

This is the first materia medica devoted to the Fish Kingdom, a complementary volume to Jo Evans's *Sea Remedies*, which deals exclusively with invertebrates. Welcome to Waterworld.

Jenni Tree, Fulbeck, 2018.

Glossary

Actinopterygii: ray-finned fishes

Anadromous: means 'upward-running' (of a fish such as the salmon) migrating up rivers from the sea to spawn. Hatching and a juvenile period occur in freshwater. This is followed by migration to and maturation in the ocean. Adult fish then migrate back up rivers in order to reproduce in freshwater habitats.

Benthopelagic: (English) Living and feeding near the bottom as well as in midwaters or near the surface. Feeding on benthic as well as free swimming organisms. [www.fishbase.org/glossary/Glossary.php?q=benthopelagic]

Catadromous: means 'downward-running'. Fish born in a marine environment and migrate to freshwater to mature, returning to the sea to spawn. (Eels. Females spend their lives largely in freshwater, while males live primarily in the brackish water of estuarine areas. Individuals breed in the seas and die after spawning once.)

Cypriniformes: minnows or carp, goldfish

Demersal: adjective (chiefly of fish) living close to the floor of the sea or a lake. "demersal fish"

Diadromous: fish species that spend part of their life in freshwater and part in salt water. Because of their ability to tolerate a variety of salinity regimes, diadromous species are also described as euryhaline, meaning "broadly salty."

Iteroparous: multiple reproductive cycles over the course of a fish's lifetime.

Oceanodromous: of a fish - migratory in salt water.

Phototaxis: the bodily movement of a motile organism in response to light, either towards the source of light (*positive phototaxis*) or away from it (*negative phototaxis*).

Polygynandrous: spawning as a group, releasing eggs and sperm in a group

Potamodromous: Applied to fish that undertake regular migrations in large freshwater systems.

Scutes: bony plates rather than scales, armouring a fish's body.

1. Study

1.1. FOREWORD

The purpose of my study was to collect the many worldwide fish provings and to collate them into one summary in order to understand the essence of the fish. There is a range of studies of different animal groups, but the fish group is missing. We know that the fish was the first vertebrate and all the others, amphibious, reptile, bird and mammal, developed from it. It seems that the progenitor of vertebrates deserves our homeopathic attention. Why is it that up until now we have not come to a consensual understanding of the essence of fish energy? This study takes a first step in this direction, yet many questions will undoubtedly remain.

During my research I discovered some fish remedies in the Kent and Boenninghausen repertories. I received a lot of provings from different countries and realised that something had happened with this theme around the 1990s.*

Fish currently have limited use in homeopathy, with just a few individual remedies well understood. The best-known fish remedies of the nineteenth century are *Gadus morrhua* (cod) and *Oleum jecoris* [cod liver oil]. Oncor-hynchus *tshawytscha* [Chinook Salmon] is a well-known twentieth century proving.

Fish are ancient animals, more than 420 million years old. They have survived many climate changes and geological ages and they are still with us. According to a report from the *International Union for Conservation of Nature*, 2014, a comprehensive compilation of vertebrates reveals a species total of 5,513 mammals, 10,425 birds, 10,038 reptiles, 7,302 amphibians, and 33,249 fishes. That's nearly the half of the combined total of all mammals, birds, reptiles, and amphibians. When we refer to 'fish' we are referring to 49,99% of all the known species on Earth with backbones. Given these numbers, I started to think about the fact that we have a lot of magnificent remedies from the other vertebrates: we cure a lot of diseases with them and help people to find healing with these homeopathic remedies, without side

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effects. But we have little literature from the biggest group of all, from fish. They do not show themselves. They are somehow invisible animals, living in a hidden world, yet existing together with the other vertebrates and with humans on the same planet.

* (The use of alternative medicine in the west began to rise from the 1970s, and then grew explosively beginning in the 1990's. In the early 1980's several states in the USA re-established homeopathic licensing boards. In Europe the Central Council of Homeopathy and the Committee for Homeopathy were established in 1990. Non-prescriptional homeopathic medicines, forms of self-dosing, became popular in the late 1990's. From the 1980s many homeopathic schools, colleges, complementary academies and universities were established around the world. The number of professional homeopathic healers increased and new research had begun.)



[1 - diagram of vertebrates]

From my study I gathered information about nineteen different fish, and two others that are not really fish, but related remedies. From these provings and triturations I was able to postulate a fish remedy essence. Gradually the hidden, silvery fish kingdom will become visible, and the Fish remedies can take their place in our pharmacopeia.

1.2. GROUP ANALYSIS IN HOMEOPATHY

The group analysis approach to homeopathy is not new. Farrington used kingdom analysis in 1880 and Leeser used periodic table information in 1935. However it was not until the 1990s that the first modern application of group analysis began to emerge. Group analysis is an attempt to identify a mechanism for understanding groups of related remedies according to natural classification of the various sources used in homeopathic practice. The prime movers of group analysis of the modern era are Jan Scholten and Rajan Sankaran. Scholten has defined group analysis as the process of looking at a group of remedies and extracting what is common from that group. Scholten realised that homeopathic practitioners have generally used symptoms as almost the only guide to the remedy, without really considering the source of the drug. It is, however, becoming very clear that the symptomatology of any drug is intimately related to the source it is drawn from, and that each drug has in it the essence of its source.

1.3. KINGDOM ANALYSIS IN HOMEOPATHY

Since homeopathic remedies come from the natural world, they can also be categorised into the kingdoms of nature, plant, animal and mineral. People who need remedies from animal sources will have different characteristics and types of symptoms from people who need remedies from mineral or plant sources. Rajan Sankaran developed this idea in his book, *The Substance of Homeopathy*. Since studying with Sankaran, we have come to believe that categorising according to kingdom can be a very useful, if not vital, tool in finding the correct remedy for the patient. In figuring out the characteristics that we might expect from remedies in the different kingdoms, it is important to look at the characteristics of the members of each kingdom as they appear in nature.

Animals move around, looking for food, water, sex, a safe place to sleep, warmth, and protection from the elements. Animals, mammals particularly, are social and hierarchical by nature, often with elaborate mating rituals. According to Sankaran, the main theme of animals is competition. They may compete for food, mates, territory, or superiority. Animals demonstrate the principle of survival of the fittest with tooth and claw, or by more subtle means, in humans, with deceit, sarcasm, industriousness, etc. Animals need to draw attention to themselves. They try to be attractive, beautiful, sexy and

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better than those around them. Animals have issues of attractiveness, and even the complaints that bring them to the homeopath often have to do with their beauty, the attractiveness of their skin or hair, their sexual functioning, weight and other issues which affect their competition with others. People who need animal remedies usually dress attractively, with clothes that are distinctive in their colour or design. Jewellery will be worn to attract attention. Animal people are animated, expressive and full of life. They are alert and quick to act and react. They make contact easily with other people. Their eyes are striking and attractive. They are aggressive, pushy and competitive, and may attack if provoked. Jealousy and envy are strong in animals. They compete for social position and will stop at nothing to be the best. The person may even move like an animal or make growling, hissing, or scratching motions and sounds. Animal-like career choices are often adventurous, competitive and designed to show off their best attributes, or the superiority of their products or services. Their speech is typically vivid and excited. They are talkative, communicate easily. Their ability to connect people and to keep other people's attention is remarkable. Their handwriting and signature can be conspicuous, which catches attention. It looks striking, distinctive, sharp and aggressive; is lively, bold and appears self-confident.

People with animal energy have issues of domination and being dominated. An animal that is not making it will have feelings of inferiority and worthlessness. In any competition there are winners and losers. Animals fear loss of power, mates and territory; isolation, neglect and rejection. Sankaran also writes of the split, in people who need animal remedies, bet-

Sankaran also writes of the split, in people who need animal remedies, between the higher human nature and the lower animal nature. These people may relate to other people as 'humans'; somehow different from themselves as an animal. "I just don't understand how humans think." "Why are humans so inhumane?"

Or within oneself there can be a despising of the animal part by the human part – a sort of Jekyll and Hyde phenomenon. The animal part is seen as malicious, deceitful, aggressive, and jealous, while the human part is seen as nurturing, loving, warm, friendly and playful. This split can lead to feelings of antagonism with oneself, duality and confusion of identity.

Animal remedies are complex and have lots of issues going on at the same time. There are multiple modalities. Cravings are often for meat, fish and milk. And sea remedies can also be highly intolerant of these proteins.