

BIOLOGICAL THERAPY

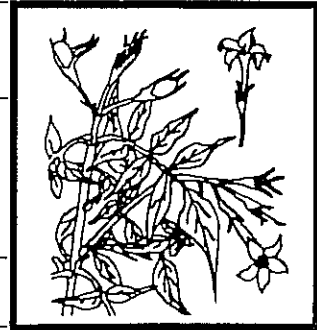
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GELSEMIUM SEMPERVIRENS (Jasmine)

Homeopathic Single Remedy

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The tincture prepared from wild jasmine (*Gelsemium sempervirens*) is also used in general medicine as a nerve remedy. Symptoms for gelsemium gained by means of homeopathic medicine testing on healthy subjects provide a typical pharmaceutical picture with references to numerous diseases, especially those of the nervous system or those accompanied by participation of the nervous system, so that gelsemium occupies a first rank place in homeopathic prescriptions.

Nash characterizes as the most outstanding symptom complete relaxation and exhaustion of the entire muscular system, with partial or complete paralysis of the motor nerves, as if the muscles no longer want to obey the will. A feeling of relaxation and general fatigue with the desire to lay down occurs here as a first symptom. The pulse is accelerated at the slightest movement. The legs tremble when walking. Hands and tongue also tremble because of weakness so that gelsemium has been termed the trembling agent. This weakness is further characterized by the eyelids drooping, speech disturbances and difficulty in swallowing, as can occur in the bulbar syndrome. Violent congestions in the head, combined with headaches and neuralgia, possibly similar to migraine occur frequently here, and the pains can be dull or sudden and shooting, possibly combined with convulsions. The face can be dark red in this case. Frequently the pains rise from the nape of the neck over the head with a feeling like a band around the head.

Gelsemium patients are also frequently inert, sleepy and avoid movement. Inability to concentrate also exists. The patients can neither think clearly nor direct their attention to a certain point. Sleep is restless and full of dreams, as if doped in this case. However, because of a stimulated inflow of ideas, sleeplessness can also exist with compensatory

sleepiness during the day and long deep sleep in the morning (*Nux vomica*).

Diseases similar to typhus are caused by sudden excitement, bad news and fright while premonitions and diarrhea can occur suddenly as natural regressive vicariation. Stage fright is also an indication for gelsemium. Vertigo is also influenced by gelsemium if degeneration of visual sensation, double images and a feeling of intoxication (as if drunk) are present. The headaches are frequently improved by liberally passing urine. Nausea can also be combined with headache.

Gelsemium is also frequently indicated as a fever agent, where a certain amount of exhaustion exists with sleeplessness and cerebral congestion similar to typhous fever, but not as intensively as with *Belladonna*. The feeling of shivering, where the shivers run up and down the spine, is also an indication for gelsemium (otherwise chiefly for sodium chloride).

Gelsemium is indicated quite especially in paralysis conditions, e.g. postapoplectic or else in atony of the bladder or urinary incontinence, but also in postdiphtheric paralyses. Stools are copious and yellow, frequently connected with spasms in the sphincter, as well as with hemorrhoidal pains. Gelsemium is also indicated in dysmenorrhea and in violent migraine which starts one day before commencement of menstruation with vomiting.

Dahlke recommends gelsemium in paralyses of every type, further in influenzal catarrhs and if the complaints are worse in moist warm weather and in the summer heat. Gelsemium is also recommended in typhous or bilious fevers with previously occurring defective vision, as well as in migraine with preceding blindness, in convulsions in the childbed and in infants as well as if a hysterical component is present after emotion. Also in functional heart diseases (fear as if

something must happen), in diarrhea (because of stage fright, examination fear etc), nervous sleeplessness and in glaucoma.

Gelsemium is indicated for colds if the nose runs thinly and bloody mucus is blown out of the nose.

Symptoms in which gelsemium has proven itself frequently occurring in practice can be summarized as follows:

1. Stupor and vertigo with a feeling of intoxication.
2. Typhous fever with shivering, relaxation and exhaustion.
3. Migraine and headaches like a strap around the forehead, improved by passing urine copiously. Inability to concentrate, doped condition.
4. Nervous paralysis after diphtheria, apoplexy etc. Speech disturbances with trembling, heavy tongue. Swallowing with difficulty, experimentally in the bulbar syndrome.
5. Shivering and anxiety conditions about the heart, as if the heart wanted to stop beating.
6. Urinary incontinence. Dysmenorrhea. Diarrhea after excitement. Stage fright.
7. Colds with bloody mucus being blown out of the nose.

Gelsemium as an active factor in biotherapeutics and antihomotoxic agents

Because of its healing indications characteristic in nervous symptoms, gelsemium is an important constituent of numerous biotherapeutics and antihomotoxic agents. Thus gelsemium acts in *Spigelia compositum* (in the 4th decimal dilution) against anxiety conditions about the heart, as if the heart wanted to stand still or as if something must happen.

Gelsemium is contained in *Gelsemium Homaccord* in the 4th and higher dilutions, in a so-called dilution combination and acts here against headaches which spread from the nape of the neck over the head up to the forehead, e.g. in the cervical syndrome. Two further important homeotherapeutics are also contained in *Gelsemium Homaccord* having a similar action, namely *Rhus toxicodendron* in D 5 and higher dilutions (dilution combination) and *Cimicifuga* in D 4 and higher dilutions (dilution combination), with *Rhus toxicodendron* acting against rheumatic-neuralgic complaints with weather sensitivity and *Cimicifuga* especially in spinal complaints if the headache rises from the spine and spreads over the head into the sides of the nose. A feeling of stiffness in the back of the head which radiates into the cervical spine is also influenced favourably by *Gelsemium Homaccord* and it is also healed if other conditions are satisfactory. Here it is naturally understood that organic changes to the cervical vertebrae must be compensated for in addition or as a necessary condition for the final effect of *Gelsemium Homaccord*, by healing by appropriate treatment measures with Glisson's sling and especially with the posture correction according to Alexander.

Gelsemium Homaccord is the main agent in cervical migraine, it being prescribed, if necessary, alternatingly with

Spigelon, since *Spigelon* frequently influences headaches of a general nature but not so outstandingly those headaches which are caused by displacement or changes to the cervical vertebrae. *Gelsemium* in the 4th decimal dilution is also in *Spigelon*, so that with *Spigelon* alone part of the symptoms caused by changes to the cervical vertebrae can be compensated.

It must still be noted here that biotherapeutics and antihomotoxic agents which come into action on the basis of their homeopathicity have to be assessed differently pharmacologically and especially must be dosed otherwise (every 5 to 10 minutes one tablet or 5 drops). No toxic effects can be obtained with *Gelsemium Homaccord* and *Spigelon* as well as with other biotherapeutics, so that animal experiments, for instance, also cannot be made use of to prove their effect, since the homotoxic substrate cannot be reproduced in these. The action of all biotherapeutics and antihomotoxic agents is based on stimulation effects, i.e. on stimulation of the defense mechanisms against homotoxins which are in any case in action in all diseases, this being performed by the great defense system.

It is therefore not expedient to administer a large dose but instead to administer small doses frequently in the sense of cumulative stimulation therapy to achieve radical and speedy effects with these even in severe conditions. This applies quite particularly to the treatment of pain conditions, in particular of headaches, cervical migraine etc., the ampoule form also being used if necessary in order to better and more radically influence the defense mechanisms.

Gelsemium is further contained in *Spascupreel* in the 6th decimal dilution and thus acts on widely differing neural and nervous functions which represent an important causal factor in all spastic conditions. *Gelsemium* can be used in *Gelsemium-Injeel* (forte) as a single agent, the dilution combination D 4, D 6, D 12, D 30, D 200 being used in the "forte" form, the dilution combination D 12, D 30, D 200 in *Gelsemium-Injeel*.

Gelsemium is also contained in the Heel preparations *Cerebrum compositum* (D 4), *Echinacea compositum* (D 6), and *Echinacea compositum forte* (D 8).

The single homeopathic remedy *Gelsemium sempervirens* is also contained in combination in the following BHI preparations:

4x in BHI Headache for its effect on headaches provoked by displacements in the spinal column

6x in BHI Sciatic/Back against paralysis of various groups of muscles

8x in BHI Restorative for paralysis following stroke, paralysis of pharyngeal muscles, aching and trembling

10x in BHI Heart for irregular heartbeat with a feeling as if the heart's action might cease

10x in BHI Neuralgia for neural paralysis and vertigo spreading from occiput