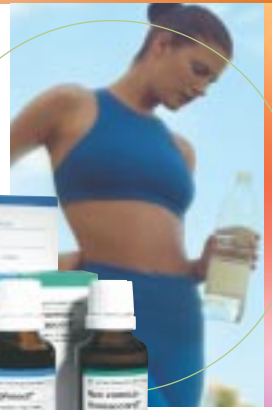


Drainage vs Elimination



Detoxification is a general term that means to rid the body of toxins, but in medical application, it is a process that involves two mechanisms: drainage and elimination. The terms **drainage** and **elimination** are ambiguous, and there is a fine line differentiating the two mechanisms. By the same token, the homeopathic remedies used for detoxification are narrowly differentiated.

Certain complex homeopathic preparations promote both drainage and elimination; the components of detoxification. Such preparations possess a wide spectrum of action, and consequently, afford the practitioner many thorough treatment possibilities.

Drainage and elimination go hand in hand, but they are not the same. In most cases, the practitioner wants to make use of both, and generally does so with one combined protocol. For optimal results, it is important to understand the difference between drainage and elimination and to understand how to achieve these processes through homotoxicology.

Again, detoxification is the complete process comprising drainage and elimination. Detoxification is often mistaken for elimination, which in fact is the clearing process that occurs after drainage.

First there is drainage of the toxins of the disease, which brings the toxins, by-products, or toxic residues to the surface, from where they can be eliminated. Although both the processes of elimination and drainage are intimately related, it is advantageous for the practitioner to regard them as separate processes in order to achieve a complete detoxification process. Often when both processes are channeled through one system by a single protocol, they are incomplete and the results of treatment will reflect this; the condition may not be resolved, and a kind of cascade of biochemical processes will occur causing a flux of toxins that will be difficult to control.

Drainage establishes the foreground of detoxification, by preceding the process of elimination. When choosing an antihomotoxic protocol, the practitioner decides through which system to channel toxins. Certain preparations have this directional quality and are thus especially useful. The list below differentiates certain composite remedies as draining, eliminating, or both.

Remedy	Target	Drainage	Elimination
<i>Lymphomyosot/Lyphosot</i>	<i>lymphatic system</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Mucosa compositum</i>	<i>mucous membranes, lungs</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Berberis-Hom.</i>	<i>kidney</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Nux vomica-Hom.</i>	<i>digestive tract; intestines</i>	<i>Low</i>	<i>High</i>
<i>Galium-Heel</i>	<i>general draining; heavy draining</i>	<i>High</i>	<i>High</i>

* The two processes of detoxification: drainage and elimination are closely related, and therefore are assigned broad-spectrum values in the range of low, medium, and high, in the assessment of their action.

