

HYPERACTIVE SYNDROME and RELATED DISORDERS in CHILDREN

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The term "Hyperactive Syndrome (HS)," describes a wide range of physical and psychological conditions that seem to have become widespread in children. Blows to the head and poisoning can cause hyperactivity. Environmental influences serve to reinforce or reduce hyperactive behavior. Adult responses can both cause or exaggerate hyperactivity in children. The physical and mental condition of the pregnant mother affects the eventual activity level and concentration of the child. Nutritional influences as well as food intolerances and allergies can cause hyperactivity. Such a complex pathology cannot be treated with a single therapy. In my opinion, it is essential to find the specific causes relative to each child.

According to my studies and to my understanding, from a physiopathological point of view, hyperactivity

and related disorders are due to a lack of hypothalamic control of the cortical centers of the brain. Lack of attention is the primary problem. Without regulation of the cortical centers, there is a spontaneous response or activity of the superior brain, manifesting problems of motion, reading, writing, and behaving.

Hyperactivity is similar to seizures that occur in early morning when there is a weak current from the state of sleep to the state of wake.

From a psychological point of view, hyperactivity and related disorders are due to a lack of pleasure responses that cause a release of endorphins and consequently calm the patient. The "pleasure centers" in children can be stimulated by such activities as thumb sucking, or affection from the mother. Stimulation of these centers is essential to the healthy development of nervous structures. Hyperactivity is a response to the lack of stimulation of pleasure centers.

Homeopathic treatment involves specific evaluation of the symptoms for each patient. Every hyperactive child behaves differently. Some are dreamy, spaced out drifters without real physical hyperactivity. Some are withdrawn and daydream, oblivious to the world around them, while others are highly active physically, "motorized" and agitated. Others are impatient, constantly interrupt, and continually seek new stimuli. It is then necessary to evaluate the specific physical etiology of the disease for that patient. It is necessary to find the underlying cause of the condition. For example:

- Genetic predisposition
- Gestational circumstances
- Noxious factors
- Prematurity or immaturity
- Trauma
- Anoxia
- Vaccination or illness (is there a connection between the abnormal behavior and a recent vaccination or illness?)

The evaluation of the particular psychological etiology of the disease is another factor. Are there emotional problems, difficulties in the family, sibling rivalry? Discussion with parents and possibly other family members may be useful in determining the child's emotional environment.

Intoxication, allergy and hypersensitivity or intolerance to food can also cause hyperactive behavior. It is therefore necessary to inquire about diet, daily activities and habits.

Constitution and temperament of the patient is always an important factor in homeopathic treatment. Attitude, endocrine equilibrium, immune reactivity, and physical shape determine the constitution. Understanding the child's constitution determines the basic "constitutional remedy" among the 4 basic mineral homeopathic polycrests (calcareo carbonica, natrium muriaticum, phosphoricum, sulfuricum) as well as giving some dietary and general guidelines for the specific reactivity of the particular patient.

USEFUL REMEDIES

Because of the nature of this condition, it is best to prepare a protocol for each individual child; the following are some useful and easily available remedies that can be incorporated into a tailor-made protocol:

VIBURCOL: for conditions of restlessness related to vaccination or illness such as in the viral incubation phase, teething, anxiety the night before school.

1 suppository 1-2 times a day. In mild cases, one suppository at bedtime is very effective.

TRAUMEEL: for hyperactivity due to emotional or other trauma, restlessness due to vaccination, illness, or allergies

or food intolerances, anxiety during traveling.

1 ampule orally 2-3 times a day.

8-10 drops from ampule every half hour for acute conditions.

(for children under 6 years of age use one drop per year of the child's life; e.x: a child of two years old = two drops; a child of 4 = 4 drops).

CEREBRUM COMPOSITUM

For more serious hyperactivity that may have a psychopathological basis. There is no general protocol here, it is dependent on the individual case and the physician's familiarity with the patient.