Homeopathic Treatment of Endemic Pneumonia among Calves

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The goal of this article is to report on the positive results obtained with *Engystol*® in the treatment of respiratory viral infection in a herd of young cattle.

In a group of 21 male calves, approximately four months of age, six of the animals exhibited symptoms of acute viral bronchitis while four other animals which had already been treated suffered from viral broncho-pneumonia with a considerable deterioration in general health. All the animals were feverish (see Table) and all presented an increased rate of breathing, with coughing and nasal secretion.

The animals with viral bronchitis accompanied by a body temperature of 39.2°C to 39.4°C were treated with a single 5 ml injection of *Engystol*®, a dose which was sufficient to bring about recuperation the next day and reestablishment of their appetite.

The four more seriously ill calves which suffered from general symptoms including exhaustion, were given injections of *Engystol*® every three days. During this time they also received twice daily oral doses of *Bryonia* G6X and Sulphur iodatum G6X.

*Bryonia* is the best choice in cases of beginning or established pleuritis, also for dry, fibrinous broncho-pneumonia with moaning and hissing, usually accompanied by a highly worsened general state. While conventional medicine is only capable, in the best cases, of establishing a reserved prognosis, the results demonstrated by *Bryonia* are often surprising. Administration of this remedy within a short period of time reestablishes a notable improvement. *Bryonia* presents an especially effective action in pneumonia of this type.

The remedy Sulphur iodatum with its Sulphur component presents a specific action on the mucosa, increasing phagocytosis, while its lodine component promotes the resorption of the accumulated secretion in the bronchi and lungs.

By the fifth day, that is, two days following the second injection of *Engystol*®, these animals were no longer feverish and were beginning complete recuperation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal #</th>
<th>Symptoms</th>
<th>Body temp in °C</th>
<th>Diagnosis</th>
<th>Initial Treatment</th>
<th>Exam on 3rd day</th>
<th>Appetite regained after</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1-6</td>
<td>Increased breathing, Bronchial rales, Worsening of general state</td>
<td>39.2°C - 39.4°C</td>
<td>Bronchitis of viral origin</td>
<td><em>Engystol</em>® 5 ml s.c.</td>
<td>No detectable symptoms</td>
<td>1 day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Painful thoracic percussion, Dry cough, Moaning, Worsening of general state</td>
<td>39.9°C</td>
<td>Broncho-Pneumonia</td>
<td><em>Engystol</em>® 5 ml s.c., <em>Bryonia</em> G6X + Sulphur iodatum G6X orally for 3 days</td>
<td>No fever after 2 days</td>
<td>4 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Abundant nasal secretion, Moaning, Worsening of general state</td>
<td>40.6°C</td>
<td>Broncho-Pneumonia</td>
<td><em>Engystol</em>® 5 ml s.c.</td>
<td>Temp 40.1°C</td>
<td>Engystol® s.c.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Painful thoracic percussion, Dry cough, Worsening of general state</td>
<td>40.1°C</td>
<td>Broncho-Pneumonia</td>
<td><em>Engystol</em>® 5 ml s.c., <em>Bryonia</em> G6X + Sulphur iodatum G6X orally for 3 days</td>
<td>No fever, <em>Engystol</em>® s.c.</td>
<td>3 days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Light nasal secretion, Dry barking cough, Weakness on right side, Worsening of general state</td>
<td>41.2°C</td>
<td>Broncho-Pneumonia</td>
<td><em>Engystol</em>® 5 ml s.c., <em>Bryonia</em> G6X + Sulphur iodatum G6X orally for 3 days</td>
<td>No fever after 2 days, <em>Engystol</em>® s.c.</td>
<td>4 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table: A synopsis chart of the described cases: endemic pneumonia in a group of male calves of 4 months of age. Preliminary account: Three days earlier cough was detected among all 21 animals, along with increased breathing, serum nasal secretion, loss of appetite. Ten animals were treated.
Engystol®, which was used as a primary remedy, contains in saline solution Vincetoxicum (swallowwort), which has specific antiviral effects, and Sulphur, which provides specific and nonspecific stimulation of the organism's defenses.

The immunostimulating action of Engystol® was demonstrat ed in 1985 at the University of Munich where it was shown that this preparation increases phagocytic activity by 20% to 40% in both the carbon-clearance test and bioluminescence test. It was further shown that the formula of Engystol® is the best combination of its ingredients, since the elimination of any of its ingredients produces a reduction of phagocytic activity of the preparation.

In veterinary practice Engystol® is typically recommended for non-specific stimulation of defense systems with vascular and sympathetic action in viral illnesses with fever such as bronchitis of horses, pneumonia of calves and pigs, colds (catarrhal) of dogs and cats, in the initial phase of distemper, as well as in herpes and parvovirus infections, and for general repolarization in dermatological diseases such as eczema, pruritus, otitis externa, or warts on the udder.

Another application possibility for Engystol® is in cases of small animals which present reactions following vaccination. When administered simultaneously with the vaccination, no reaction is usually observed.

The Table provides a resume of the herd of calves with pneumonia which were given Engystol®. As shown by the therapeutic results, Engystol® is recommended not only for its prophylactic effect in foreseeable situations of stress, but also for treatment of an already established illness, either alone or in conjunction with other medications (perhaps antibiotics) such as serious cases of pneumonia among calves.

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