

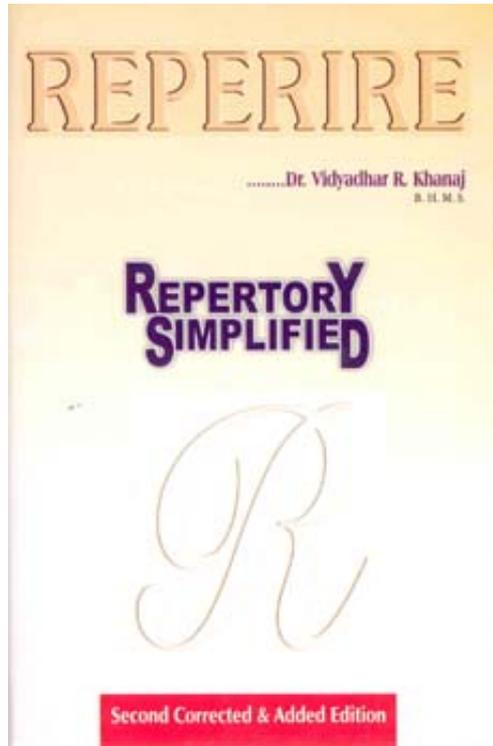
Vidyadhar R. Khanaj

Reperire - Repertory Simplified

Reading excerpt

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of [Vidyadhar R. Khanaj](#)



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Dr. KENT'S CONCEPT OF EVALUATION OF SYMPTOMS

Evaluation of symptoms implies the principle of grading or ranking of different kinds of symptoms in order of priority, which are to be matched with the drug symptoms. The key for similimum is the grading of symptoms. After analysis of symptoms physician has to determine quality and value of each symptoms.

The patient gives as a list of symptoms, all of which are not equal in importance. So the prescriber has to learn to distinguish those symptoms which are most important and which must be covered by the remedy as against those, which may be conveniently ignored. The basic principle of evaluation is, symptoms are ranked according to their intensity. How deeply they reach into the organism and according to their degree of peculiarity as characteristic nature.

All the symptoms can be classed under the following order.

- 1) Symptoms of man; i. e. symptoms which refer to the pt. as a whole i.e. pertaining to mental generals and physical generals (Kents generals)
- 2) Next come the PQRS symptoms, "which can neither, be accounted for physiologically, anatomically and pathologically but decides the similimum.
- 3) Symptoms of organs - i. e. particular symptoms referring to the particular part, tissues or organs of the pt. (Kent's particulars)

Lastly come common symptoms, which are diagnostic symptoms so a symptom, which possesses individualizing features, are higher grade in evaluation.

For practical purpose one should evaluate the symptoms as follows -

Out of generals the symptoms of the first grade are if *well marked* the mental symptoms. These take the highest rank and a highly marked mental symptom will always rule out any number of poorly marked symptoms of lesser importance. Amongst mentals the more importance is given to the will with hates, loves, emotions etc.

Of second grade are those that affect the intellect and understandings with delusions, delirium, loss of the sense of proportion, with exaltation of trifles, delusions of grandeur as persecution.

Of third and lowest mentals are those that relate to memory. Mental symptoms Agg. and Ameli, by physical generals is of very much importance.

E.g. menses < as >. Sleep < as >.

Low-grade mental symptom Agg. and Amel, by physical general symptoms is of higher value or grade than common mental symptoms. If mental symptoms are marked. Especially if it is a change from normal, then are of the at most importance to the case. Get these symptoms clear, and then give them the highest standing in your Repertory analysis. The remedy, which includes them, will be curative. Amongst generals second in grade, after the mental symptoms and his reactions to mental environment. Come if *well marked* such general symptoms of the patient as his reactions as a whole to bodily environment. To times and seasons, to heat and cold, to damp and dry to storm and tempest to position pressure motion, jar, touch etc. Then general symptoms related to

desires and aversions but to be elevated to such rank, they must not be mere likes and dislikes, but longings and loathing in big types in repertory and in the patient in corresponding types, anyhow!

Next in importance comes in women the menstrual state, i. e. general aggravation of symptoms before, during and after the menses. Of lower rank comes the questions of menses early late and excessive and this last of course only where there is nothing such as polyps, fibroid, menopause, to account for it.

After such physical general characteristic symptoms come to the particulars the symptoms that bulk so largely for the patient and for which he is as a matter of fact actually consulting. Dr. Kent says "The whole is greater than its part not juggle with 'particulars' at the expense of life of the whole.

- Out of particulars the top grade as high particulars are peculiar, uncommon, unexpected, unaccountable, rare as unusual, odd e.g. inflammation without pain. Itching of skin without eruptions.
- Second grade particulars are particular characteristic i. e. particulars with modalities. Sensations etc.
- Particular symptoms having modalities by any mental general symptoms and physical general symptoms are of higher grade than only particulars. The more the symptoms relate to the anatomy of the parts the more external they are the more they relate to the tissue. The more likely they are particulars.

Besides Kent's generals and particulars there are other common symptoms. A symptom may be common to all cases of a certain disease. And therefore has of no great use in picking out the individual remedy for a particular case of that

disease. As it may be common to a number of drugs. And therefore indicate one of a large group of remedies only and so of very little use in repertorizing.

Intensity / Magnitude of the Symptom -

This study of intensity is very important feature but which is very often not given the due consideration. It is necessary to study because of following reasons.

- a) It speaks about the nature, extent and degree of disease process.
- b) It speaks about the patient's sensitivity in general.

Some patients are hypersensitive and respond acutely to trivial stimuli in them, the intensity of symptom is always more marked and should not be mistaken for any true indication of the seriousness or otherwise of the disease process. At the opposite end are the stoical patients who can put up with anything without complaining. Such patients can misguide clinician by concealing intensity.

- c) The intensity of symptoms assumes in Homoeopathic practice an added importance, in view of matching the symptoms of patient with those of the remedy in the Homoeopathic Materia Medica. Let us see to the circumstances in which a common symptom assumes the importance of the characteristic symptom.

E.g. Intense burning Pains characterize few remedies like Apis mel, Ars alb, Phos, Sulp, Puls, Canth, Caps, etc. A Homoeopathic physician therefore, must make it a point to record the symptom while taking the case.

- d) The question of intensity of the symptoms, assumes greater significance while evaluating a symptom under consideration. An intense particular symptom will necessarily be rated higher than general symptoms with

poor intensity. By principle, a strong general will overrule any number of particulars. Hence it is imperative to record the intensity of symptoms by Homoeopathic physician.

Rank of symptoms -

Rank of symptoms denotes the qualitative value of symptom. In Homoeopathic therapeutics the qualitative value of a symptom is far greater than the quantitative value.

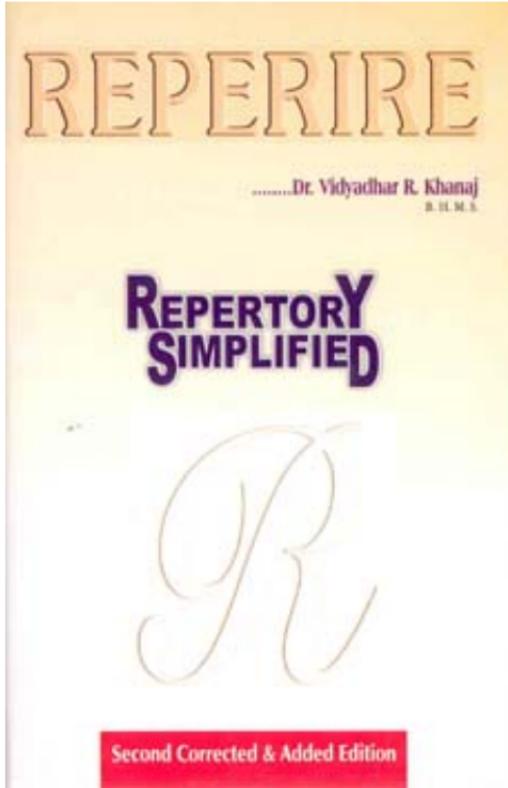
Dr. R. G. Miller clearly mentioned the word Rank to denote the qualitative aspect of symptom. By use of this term, we can give the highest value to a greater symptom of high characteristic significance even with the poorer quantitative value. And by careful and intelligent use of this term with its precise implication, we can be in a position to make a rational and effective use of the repertory on qualitative basis rather than on mechanical quantitative basis.

In the book 'symptoms alone' Gibson Miller writes about Rank of symptoms as When using these peculiar and characteristic symptoms as the main guides in the selection of remedy, it is important to bear in mind that they must be equally well-marked in-patient and in remedy.

In other words, no difference how peculiar and outstanding a symptom may be either in the patient or in the remedy, unless it be of equal grade in both we must pay little heed to it.

For example - if a patient, experiences occasional and slight heat in the soles of the feet at night in bed, this symptom would not be of much important in selecting sulphur as the remedy. Because in that drug this symptom appears in such a vigorous and out standing way that the provers declares that their feet burn at night as if they had been on fire.

Even in a case with, let us say, ten peculiar and characteristic symptoms, of which one remedy has eight, but of a very low rank, while another has only five, but of high rank and corresponding to the rank of the symptoms as experienced by the patient. In such a case it is very Improbable that the first medicine will prove to be the curative one. The second is much more likely to be so. It is this question of the rank of symptoms that is the chief objection to the numerical method of selecting the remedy.



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