

# Homeopathic treatment for MEASLES

**Didier GRANDGEORGE, homeopath pediatrician, FREJUS, France, MARCH 2011-03-13**

This is a very common viral disease caused by the MORBILLIOUS virus and that used to be almost compulsory. Currently most of new born babies receive the MMR vaccine and are therefore protected during their childhood. However the disease is becoming more and more common those last few years because on one hand young adults catch it despite their childhood vaccine and on the other hand more and more families refuse the non-compulsory vaccine because it is said to have severe side effects such as autism.

## CLINICAL PICTURE

This childhood disease has the same symptoms of a febrile and acute rhino pharyngitis with a severe conjunctivitis and an eruptions of small whitish spots that looks like grains of salt on a red background inside of the cheeks (KOPLICK spots). The incubation after contamination is 10 days , then there is four days of fever after what the eruption appears. The fever decreases for three days while the eruption spreads all over the body from head to toe and then disappears after four days. There can be some complication such as bacterial (otitis, pneumo-pathology) or even viral super infection (early or even late encephalitis what is quite rare). With homeopathy this disease is well managed and complication will be avoided.

## SYMBOLIC MEANING OF MEASLES

This is a human childhood disease and therefore doesn't exist in animals. This disease allow the child to sort out the problems coming from the too tight bond between mother and child, what is the FREUD 's oral stage. By doing so the child will be able to get to the ANAL stage and then **learn how to talk**. It is may be why we have been counting so many cases of AUTISM since the introduction of the systematic vaccination: the vaccine would block a disease essential for the good development of the brain and the proper set up of the immunity system. This could explain the disastrous increase of number of food and respiratory allergies cases that have been noticed the last twenty years in developed countries where all children are vaccinated.

## ALLOPATHIC TREATMENT

Allopathic medicine offers very few possibilities to treat measles which is a viral disease. After the contamination an early vaccine or some gamma globulin can be offered to try to minimize the illness. Then we have only symptomatic treatment; antipyretics for the fever and some antibiotics in case of infectious complication. And in case of encephalitis there is the reanimation in hospital.

## HOMEOPATHIC TREATMENT

**Prevention: before or straight after the contamination one dose of MORBILLINUM 12C can be taken what will significantly reduce the effect of the disease.**

### **Curative treatment:**

**PULSATILLA 6C** (or 18X): this is **the chief remedy for measles**. The child is clingy with the mother or with the teddy bear. There is a fever with no thirst, heated child, worse around 6am or 4 pm.

Conjunctivitis and suppurating rhinitis with a greenish nasal discharge.

**EUPHRASIA 6C** (or 12X) will be preferred if the ocular involvement dominate the picture with photophobia and intense lacrimation irritating around the eyes and the cheeks.

**FERRUM PHOSPHORICUM 6C or 12X** will be the right remedy in less acute cases with a fever not over 38,5°C, a dry cough and epistaxis.

**STRAMONIUM 6C or 12X** could quickly solve a **severe case** with high fever over 40°C, delirium, intense suppurating conjunctivitis with eyes stuck together by the pus. **The lower limbs are cold during the fever.**

**SQUILLA MARITIMA 6C or 12X is one of the great remedy for measles with a violent and tiring cough.** The child rubs his face during the cough, involuntary passing of urine during the cough and **sneezing**. Diarrhea after measles. To be noticed that this remedy acts on the blood circulation at the level of the coronary in an adult patient.

**SULFUR : one dose in 6C or 12X for a child who still has fever** despite the eruption being out and who is still relax and playful.

**ZINCUM METALLICUM: the eruption takes time to** appear in a sleep walking child, castrated by a too severe father and who has a restlessness of the lower limbs.

### **COMPLICATIONS**

**VOMITING** during measles: ANTIMINUM CRUDUM 6C or 12X; The child is greedy and ticklish.

**EPISTAXIS** during measles: ACONIT, BRYONIA, FERRUM PHOSPHORICUM, IPECA, PULSATILLA.

**OTITIS:** very common during measles. The main remedy is PUSLATILLA 12C or 24X and if it is not effective those following remedies should be considered: BOVISTA, CACTUS, CARBO VEGETALIS, COLCHICUM, CROTALUS HORRIDUS, LYCOPODIUM, MERCURIUS, NITRICUM ACIDUM, PSORINUM, SULFUR.

**COUGH during measles:** if SQUILLA 6C or 12X doesn't work, those remedies should be considered COFFEA COPAÏVA, DROSER, EUPATORIUM PERFOLIATUM, SPONGIA. If the child coughs only by day CUPRUM (could accelerate the coming out of the rash).

**PNEUMOPATHY** during measles: KALI CARBONICUM (6C or 12X) bad temper: wants company but treats her badly. Ticklish, desire for sugar, edema of the upper eyelid.

**DIARRHEA during measles:** apart from SULFUR and SQUILLA, those other remedies can be considered ARSENICUM ALBUM, CHINA, IPECA, MERCURIUS, PULSATILLA and VERATRUM ALBUM.

**DRAWSINESS** during measles: APIS 6C or 12X: child who can't bear the community life.

**ENCEPHALITIS:** rare but feared; the remedies to be thought of are the ones that could help the rash to come out such as STRAMONIUM, CUPRUM, ZINCUM METALLICUM.

Once the eruption is out consider **ARSENICUM ALBUM:** restlessness, white stains on the nail, grief during the pregnancy.

## OBSERVATIONS

**MATHIEU**, ten years old, is admitted in hospital ten days after catching measles in a picture of stage 1 coma. The diagnosis of encephalitis caused by measles is retained. I go and see him around 01pm: he is unconscious, very restless; I notice that he has cold extremities and a lot of white stains on the nails. I open his file and see that during the first consultation when he was one month old his mother told me she was very affected by the death of her godfather, the brother of her own father, who died from a painful cancer during her pregnancy. I give him few pills of ARSENICUM ALBUM 12C: 3 days after he is completely out of coma and play in the hall of the hospital. He is out the next day.

**PAULINE**, three years old has been in contact with a child suffering from measles in the waiting room of her pediatrician. He gives her an injection of the measles vaccine straight away. But ten days later she develops measles with an increasing fever. The fourth day I am called to her bedside around 10pm: the fever is over 40°C, she has a delirium and talks about the "woua woua" and can't open her eyes because of an intense suppurating conjunctivitis. I uncover her: the lower limbs are frozen. I take a look at the Kent's repertory and give her Stramonium 12C. The next morning, everything is fine, the conjunctivitis, the fever and the delirium have disappeared and the rash is out. The mother tells me that when she was 6 months pregnant she was not able to hold the dog and the postman got bitten!

STRAMONIUM is a great remedy for the cannibalistic sadistic oral stage that develops around 6 months old.

## CONCLUSION

With homeopathy a childhood disease like measles will resolve easily and there will be very few sequels. Furthermore this disease will allow the child to do a step forward toward the independence from the mother.

In case of abnormal fatigue after measles **CARBO VEGETALIS 30C or 60X** should be prescribed to enable this step forward.