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NOSODES

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Abstract –

Nosodes are homoeopathic preparations derived from pathological material of animal, vegetable or human origin such as diseased tissues, morbid discharges and cultures of causative micro-organisms. Historically anticipated long before the rise of bacteriology, they were first explored by Hahnemann with Psorinum and later systematically developed by Hering. Traditionally prepared by trituration and potentization, and usually prescribed from 6C upwards, nosodes are today recognized as distinct homoeopathic remedies rather than merely isopathic agents, since their prescription is based on totality of symptoms, including characteristic mental and emotional features, and not solely on etiological identity. This article reviews the historical evolution of nosodes in relation to key discoveries in microbiology, outlines their sources, methods of preparation and the debate on isopathy versus homoeopathy, and summarises their scope of use. In acute diseases, nosodes may be employed as prophylactic agents in epidemics and to assist resolution of protracted convalescence. In chronic practice, they are considered when well-chosen remedies fail to act or hold, when miasmatic blocks are suspected, when symptom totality is insufficient for a clear simillimum, or when a “never well since” history points to a specific nosode. Clinical indications for their constitutional and isopathic use, as well as their role in epidemic prophylaxis and in “mixed pictures” of several constitutional remedies, are discussed to highlight their practical relevance in contemporary homoeopathic prescribing.

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