



Isopathy - a Special Kind of Therapy

**by Dr. Anita Kracke, Naturopath,
and Karsten Wiethoff Sc.D.**



Introduction

The concept of Isopathy is derived from the Greek words "iso", meaning equal, and "pathos", meaning morbus or sickness.

Isopathy is a variant form of Homœopathy. This means that, as a treatment method, it has a very long tradition, having been in use as long as 3,000 years ago by the Chinese, and also by Hippocrates. Despite the length of time that it has been in use, we do not find any clear definition of this school of treatment in the literature. Homogeneous monographs on the production of isopathic medicines are not openly available. This article summarises the history of Isopathy as it relates to the preparations produced by SANUM-Kehlbeck GmbH & Co. KG, and aims to fill the gaps that exist in our understanding of this branch of medicine.

History of Isopathy

In 1833 Constantin Hering (1800-1880) and Johann Josef Wilhelm Lux (1773-1849), a vet from Leipzig, established a school of thoughts of Isopathy.

Instead of the Law of Similars ("similia similibus curentur"), they propounded the Law of Equals ("æqualia æqualibus curentur").

Lux had realised that he could treat animals suffering from anthrax by potentiating the blood of ill animals and giving it to his "patients" internally. He published his own periodical, "Zooiasis", in which he reported on his successes.

The principle was described in such manner that cure of a disease results from administration of a substance which is the product of the same disease:

I. Find the causative factor and, if it is of a material nature, use it in potency as a cure.

II. Take the pathological material produced within the body (whether infectious or not), potentise it and cure the same disease with it. This is Isopathy!" This is how Lux describes it in his periodical [1].

In 1885 Collet published his book: "Isopathy - Pasteur's method by the internal route", in which he described his use of pathogenic substances in homœopathic potency. [2]

On 27.1.1898 Emil von Behring explained the curative principle of Isopathy in a lecture at Marburg in the context of the facts as they were known at that time, making reference to the work and knowledge of Hahnemann and Ehrlich [3].

In his expositions Hahnemann himself expressed his opinion on Isopathy; however, he regarded it as a kind of simillimum and thus an improvement on the Law of Similars [4][5].

The effectiveness of Isopathy as a part of Homœopathy has been the subject of scientific discussion primarily with regard to what is currently termed the "Hormesis principle". Hormesis is the name for the biological effect, formu-

lated by Paracelsus (1493-1541), that low doses of harmful or poisonous substances can act positively on the organism: "Sola dosis facit venenum" (only the dose constitutes the poison). In medicinally active substances such a dose-dependent reverse effect may be easily proved (e.g. Digitalis, Colchicin, Opium). Modern scientists too, such as the American Professor Edward J. Calabrese, are researching the varying action - dependent on dosage - of substances on the human organism [6].

Across the centuries there have been continuing development and adaptation of Isopathy on the part of various researchers; the work of Antoine Béchamp in particular [1816-1908] inspired Günther Enderlein [1872-1968], Wilhelm Reich [1897-1957], Royal Rife [1888-1971] and Tamara Lebedewa [b.1938] [7].

Isopathics according to Prof. Enderlein

When people talk about isopathics, they often describe the preparations developed by Joseph Wilhelm Lux, which are also classified as nosodes.

The isopathics produced by the SANUM-Kehlbeck Company are based on the body of thought of Prof. Enderlein and are very different from nosodes, both in the way they are produced and also in their composition.

Enderlein's starting point was that, in the healthy macro-organism, symbionts live which help to keep us healthy, and which, in the event



of illness, can be mobilised to support healing [8]. This is comparable to the physiological colonisation of the gut by non-pathogenic intestinal bacteria which stimulate the body's immune defences, co-existing with it in symbiosis.

In the blood and tissue fluids of healthy people Prof. Enderlein discovered minute, mobile corpuscles of protein, which he called protites/symprotites. Following the taking of a blood sample, for instance, these are visible on the slide with the aid of a darkfield microscope. In the course of observation, as time passes, changes may be observed as these minute proteins become larger and may take on the shapes of well-known types of bacteria (streptococci, staphylococci). As well as this in the darkfield we may see microbial forms leaving the red and white blood corpuscles and, if we continue our observation, we may even see them changing into fungal structures.

In his painstaking research extending over decades, Prof. Enderlein observed these processes, making and publishing relevant sketches and revelations regarding these phase mutations in the development of microbes. This multiplicity of forms (pleomorphism) of microbial growth depends on the environmental conditions to which the microbes are exposed. When energy becomes congested, higher bacterial forms (i.e. pathogenic to humans) may develop; in the event of an energy deficiency or block, even so-called "starvation forms"

may come into existence, presenting as e.g. fungal structures.

Modern microbiological research confirms these discoveries of Enderlein's. Prof. Wainwright of the University of Sheffield observed E-Coli bacteria which, when cultured, normally grow in a crude rod shape; when cultured on artificial surfaces in starvation conditions, after only five days they had taken on a great variety of gigantic shapes with thread-like, strongly branching growths [8]. In her book, "Cell Wall Deficient Forms - Stealth Pathogens", Lida Mattman [10], an Emeritus Professor of microbiology, describes the so-called "cell-wall-deficient forms" (CWD), which in orthodox microbiology are also known as L-forms; these are formed under certain environmental (milieu) conditions within and outside the human body, so as to ensure the microbe's survival [9]. With photographic illustrations so-called "plasmalytic" microbial forms are also shown in this work, e.g. leaving red blood cells. Studies by Prof. Popp and Prof. Lynn Margulis [12] of the University of Massachusetts at Amherst likewise point to a multiplicity of forms connected with changes in energy or the symbiotic co-operation of microbes within macro-organisms.

As early as the end of the 19th and beginning of the 20th centuries knowledge of this polymorphism was available. It is to Prof. Enderlein's credit that he assembled the various pieces of information in one bundle and

took them a stage further by observing that more evolved, pathogenic growth forms of this kind can be regressed into the lower, non-pathogenic form, because they are subject to cyclical changes, described by him as a "cyclogeny". At the same time he revised his observation that the more highly developed forms can be degraded in a very short space of time if protites are added to them - protites which he had recognised as non-pathogenic symbionts, essential for life.

Based on these discoveries he developed treatment with isopathic remedies. For reasons already mentioned these should always be linked with a change in the body's internal environment (milieu). Thus isopathic remedies prepared according to Prof. Enderlein's theory are obtained from the same symbionts which live physiologically in the blood and tissues of human beings, who depend on them in order to stay healthy. On the basis of his reflections he developed numerous medicaments and, in 1955, among others he described the isopathic treatment of bovine leucosis. Production of the preparations that he developed in the IBICA company was taken over in 1975 by the SANUM-Kehlbeck company.

According to the historical development and application of isopathic remedies and the investigations carried out by the SANUM-Kehlbeck company, we may assume that, in isopathic medicines, we are also dealing



with immunologically active substances. Clues as to appropriate mechanisms of action have emerged from the toxicological investigations which have been carried out to ensure safety in use, and also from prospective studies. In individual isopathic remedies, for instance, proliferations of T- and B-cells were demonstrated, as proof of immunological efficacy. On the other hand, no excessive immune reaction such as anaphylaxis could be observed. Even in patients with so-called immunological disease, in the case of these same remedies, in whatever form they were prescribed, no adverse side-effects were found.

For decades isopathic preparations have been used to treat people in numerous Natural Health practices. In treatment of a variety of illnesses it has been found again and again that regulation of the internal milieu (e.g. with SANUVIS, CITROKEHL and FORMASAN), together with dietary changes and, where necessary, supplementation of trace elements and other vital substances in which the patient is deficient, are indispensable. Frequently detoxification is also required for any homœopathic or isopathic treatment to act successfully.

The extensive palette of SANUM remedies makes the fulfilment of these conditions possible for, along with isopathic remedies, there are also physiological carboxylic acids, essential fatty acids, mineral and vitamin preparations, plus re-

medies derived from vegetable sources for regulation and detoxification. If these medicaments are skilfully combined, as suggested in Dr. Werthmann's 4-stage plan, the improvements achieved in patients' health can be astonishing. In the event of blockages or weaknesses in the immune system, complementary bacterial preparations are available for immunomodulation or the resolution of "mochloses" - Prof. Enderlein's term for blockages.

It has also been possible to obtain authorisation for veterinary use in respect of the main isopathic remedies, such as MUCOKEHL and NIGERSAN, for the immunobiological remedies BOVISAN and UTILIN, and for the Haptenes SANUKEHL Salm and SANUKEHL Trich. These preparations are obtainable in the VETOKEHL range, e.g. VETOKEHL Muc, VETOKEHL Nig or VETOKEHL Sub (UTILIN).

Here too the theory behind isopathic treatment has proved to be well-founded: that symbionts at a low stage of development can support living creatures' powers of self-healing, thus resulting in the restoration of health!

Summary

In accordance with the Hormesis Principle, Dr. Grüger [13], an eminent physician who works isopathically, has defined the mode of action of an isopathic remedy as a medicine which causes illness when given in large doses, but brings about cure in small doses. Successful treat-

ment using Isopathics according to Prof. Enderlein's theories over more than 40 years has shown this to be true. In the case of allopathic use of medicines, it is well-known that large doses are used to combat symptoms. However, when Isopathics are used in treatment, small quantities are sufficient, and these can be prescribed in potentised form. In most cases these high doses of allopathic medicines act very well, temporarily, but need frequent repetition resulting in the disease picture being obscured; this is then followed by an apparent cure with simultaneous weakening of the body. In certain disease pictures addiction and drug-dependency may even occur. Isopathics, on the contrary, stimulate the body's healing energies, resulting in a recovery which promotes life.

Bibliography

- [1] Busse, E.: *Isopathia - interna et externa*, 10 - 11, Haug Verlag, Ulm (1956)
- [2] Julian, O.: *Materia medica der Nosoden*, Karl F. Haug, 8-9 (2004)
- [3] Behring, E.: *Über Heilprinzipien, insbesondere über das ätiologische und das isopathische Heilprinzip*. [On laws of healing, particularly on the law of aetiological and isopathic cure]. *Deutsche Medizinische Wochenschrift* [German Medical Weekly] 5, 65-69 (1898)
- [4] Hahnemann, S.: *Organon der Heilkunst*, ed. Schmidt, J.M. Standardausgabe der sechsten Auflage, [Organon of the Healing Art standard version



- of the Sixth Edition] Karl F. Haug, 136-137 (2002) [Note: various English translations of this work are available]
- [5] Genneper, T., Wegener, A. (Editors): Lehrbuch der Homöopathie, 2. Auflage [Manual of Homœopathy, 2nd Edition] Karl F. Haug, 219-220 (2004)
- [6] Calabrese, E.J.: Challenging Dose Response Dogma, Hormesis presents a good model for toxicological risk assessment - and it's not homeopathy. *The Scientist*, 19, 2005.
- [7] [http:// de.wikipedia.org/wiki/ Antoine Béchamp](http://de.wikipedia.org/wiki/Antoine_Béchamp), 11.08.2009, 18:27 hrs.
- [8] Schneider, P.: Bakterien und Pilze, [Bacteria and Fungi], SANUM-Post No. 58, 7-11, Semmelweis Verlag, (2002)
- [9] Schneider, P.: Professor Enderleins Forschung aus heutiger Sicht [Prof. Enderlein's research - a modern-day appraisal], SANUM-Post No. 56, 2-11, Semmelweis Verlag, (2001)
- [10] Mattman, L.: Cell Wall Deficient Forms - Stealth Pathogens. 3rd Edition, CRC, (2001)
- [11] Wainwright et al.: Letters in Applied Microbiology 29, 227-229 (1999)
- [12] Margulis, L.: Die andere Evolution [The other Evolution], Spektrum Verlag, (1999).
- [13] Grüger, W.: Zyklogenie und Symbioselenkung, [Cyclogeny and Guided Symbiosis], Verlag ebi-electronic ag.

First published in the German language in the SANUM-Post magazine (94/2011)

© Copyright 2011 by Semmelweis-Institut GmbH, 27318 Hoya (Weser), Germany

All Rights Reserved