

Homeopathy Veterinary in India

Homeopathy is widely prevalent in India for humans, but did you know it can be used just as effectively for our four-legged friends as well? Through **Dr Marcie Fallek's** ongoing column, you can learn how to use this gentle yet powerful form of medicine, to heal the animals that share our world, and our lives!



Dr Marcie Fallek

Homeopathy is an extremely popular form of medicine in India, following only Allopathy (conventional medicine) and Ayurveda in practice. It was introduced in India in the 18th century, and as of 2010, there were approximately 200,000 registered homeopathic doctors with about 12,000 being added yearly. The number of homeopathic hospitals/dispensaries in India has increased four-fold in the past few decades. According to the World Health Organisation (WHO) it is the second largest system of medicine in the world.

Samuel Hahnemann discovered the principals of homeopathy in the late 18th century. Dr Hahnemann, a German physician, was so disillusioned and disgusted by the type of medicine being practiced, that he had abandoned medicine altogether and devoted himself to translation and chemistry in order to make a living. He felt that the medical methods being utilised, caused more harm than good, often hastening the patients towards their death.

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In many cases the people actually died from the treatments, rather than from the disease. Some of the common medical methods of the day, were the use of substances such as arsenic and mercury to promote agonising purging of supposed poisons, by means of inducing vomiting and diarrhoea or using bloodletting



via cutting the veins or using leeches to remove 'excess' blood, and the blistering the skin with painful caustic agents to remove toxins.

This may seem barbaric and antiquated to us, but is it really so different from the conventional medicine of today? Consider the dangerous, crude and toxic methods, such as chemotherapy, amputations, and

removals of diseased organs, or the use of strong pharmaceuticals that according to the manufacturers' own labels, can often cause devastating side effects including death.

Have things really changed that much? Samuel Hahnemann was a man of extreme integrity who would rather leave his professional calling, than causing harm to

the patients he so wished to help. It was during this hiatus from medicine, that Dr Hahnemann discovered the principles of homeopathy, and founded this miraculous gentle effective system of healing.

Homeopathy was introduced to India in 1810, by a French traveller Dr John Martin Honigberger who had studied with Dr Hahnemann. This humane system of medicine spread and flourished in *Hindustan*, because it resonated with the people's philosophy and principles. Interestingly, the ancient Hindu physicians had also recognised this '*Law of Similars*', on which the Homeopathy is based, stating that 'like cures like'. Basically what this means is, that a substance which can cause certain symptoms when given in 'large amounts' to a healthy individual, will also cure similar symptoms when given in 'minute amounts' to a sick individual.

Use of Homeopathy in Veterinary Medicine

The use of homeopathy in veterinary medicine has been growing world-wide. I, myself, have been practicing it exclusively for over 20 years in the USA with astounding results. It can treat a myriad of conditions from emotional issues such as fear, anxiety, and aggression; infectious diseases – parvovirus, kennel cough, pneumonia, metabolic, hormonal, immune mediated diseases, orthopaedic conditions – arthritis, torn ligaments, sprains, strains as well as devastating conditions like cancer.

Veterinary homeopathy dates back to the time of Dr Hahnemann. It was popularised by various German veterinarians of the day. Veterinary homeopathy has had resurgence in the west principally due to three people: George MacLeod, Christopher Day in the UK, and Richard Pitcairn in the USA. The group that I studied with in the UK, the Homeopathic Professional Teaching Group (HPTG), has recently taught homeopathy



to veterinarians around the world, including in South Africa, Japan, Australia, Ireland, and Canada amongst others.

The beauty of homeopathy is that it is safe, gentle, and extremely cost efficient, with remedies costing only a few rupees. It always builds the animal's immune system, never compromises it, as we see

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so often with the use of conventional medical treatment with pharmaceuticals. In addition, there are never any of the nasty side effects that can accompany the use of drugs. When a homeopathic remedy is used properly, the animal should always feel better emotionally, physically and mentally. It is truly a holistic approach.

Treatable Disorders

Some of the disorders and ailments that can be easily treated in pets, saving expensive trips to the veterinarian are:

Skin: Allergic dermatitis, chronic yeast infections, autoimmune diseases such as pemphigus, lupus, sarcoptic & demodectic mange, acne, folliculitis, hot spots, abscesses, bite wounds; and other types of wounds such as puncture wounds, ulcers, burns and scalds, cuts and lacerations, insect bite, snake bites, ringworm, cancers of all types ex, mast cell tumours, hemangiopericytomas, etc.

Ear problems: Ear infections and aural hematomas.

Mouth: Gingivitis, mouth ulcers, autoimmune disorders such as Lymphocytic-plasmacytic gingivitis, pemphigus, ranulas, abscesses, rodent ulcers, cancers, etc.

Gastrointestinal disorders:

Megaesophagus, acute and chronic diarrhoea, such as from food poisoning, poisoning, inflammatory bowel disease, foreign bodies in stomach and intestine, constipation both acute and chronic, bloat, colic, cancers, etc.

Respiratory disorders: Upper respiratory infections with or without chronic sneezing, flu, nosebleeds, nasal tumours, bronchitis, pneumonia, kennel cough, allergic bronchitis, asthma, lung cancer, etc.

Eye problems: Conjunctivitis, corneal ulcers, uveitis, entropion, eye injuries and eye tumours.

Urinary disorders: Cystitis, Bladder infections, urinary incontinence, bladder stones, kidney failure both acute & chronic and autoimmune, cancer of the bladder & kidney, Feline Urological Syndrome (FUS), etc.

Musculoskeletal disorders: Sprains, strains, ligament tears (ex. cruciate ligaments), muscle tears, arthritis of all types, ex. autoimmune, degenerative, intervertebral disc disease, herniated discs, spondylitis, panosteitis, Hypertrophic Osteodystrophy, Osteochondritis Dissecans, Rickets, Legg-Calve-Perthes Disease, helps accelerate healing of broken bones, bone cancer and other types of cancer, etc.

Nervous system: Epilepsy and other types of seizures, brain tumours, degenerative myelopathy, paralysis, injuries to brain and spinal cord for example from car accidents, twitches, tics, etc.

Reproductive disorders: Female – pyometra, vaginitis (to facilitate difficult

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labour), postpartum conditions such as bleeding, retained placenta, pain, eclampsia. Neonatal care such as fading puppy syndrome, failure to thrive, rejections of puppies, inadequate milk flow from mother, mastitis, breast cancers, etc. Male – Prostatitis, Phimosis & Paraphimosis, Balanoposthitis, Orchitis, Prostate and Testicular cancer, hypersexual behaviour.

Hormonal/Organ disorders: Diabetes, cushing's disease, hyper/hypothyroidism, addison's disease, hepatitis, liver failure, parathyroid disease, etc.

Heart/Circulatory disorders: Heart disease, heart failure, anaemia, and heart worm disease.



Emotional problems: Hyperactivity, fears, phobias, grief, anxiety, post traumatic stress and autism (from vaccines).

General: Fevers, vaccine and drug reactions, post surgical complications, heat/sun stroke, etc.

With the appropriate information and remedies, you should be able to handle almost any emergency situation you encounter with animals, be those pets or strays. My heart's desire is that with this column, I will be able to educate, and empower pet owners along with animal lovers, with the knowledge that can safely and effectively cure many ailments that animals suffer from, as well as improve the quality of their lives.

These techniques can be used both on stray animals, rescued animals, and indeed can be used safely and effectively on all species of animals, even birds and reptiles. In many cases, what you will learn, can and will save lives as well!

Follow my column as we explore more about homeopathy: how remedies work and how to choose the appropriate remedy for many common ailments and conditions!

Marcie Fallek, DVM has been practicing for thirty years and for over twenty years has specialised in homeopathy. She is a contributing author to the bestselling book 'Your Dog's Golden Years', a staff columnist for Dogs Naturally and has contributed articles for holistic animal magazines as well as books. She is the author of soon to be released book on veterinary practices "Krishna's Flute: The Spiritual Journey of a Holistic Veterinarian". Featured in newspapers, including the New York Times, participating in two documentary films about holistic veterinary medicine, she has also appeared on TV on many occasions. You can contact her at www.holisticvet.us