

# Safety in homoeopathy

by

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Introduction

Claims of homoeopath's – hahnemanians

1. drug's are diluted in order to reduce toxic side effect's

2. drug's carefully matched to patient's

3. The serial agitated dilution's lost their toxic effects yet retained the "stimulatory therapeutic effects"

# Conventional reaction

## Claims

- No specific reaction at all ( Placebo like)
- Food and drug administration of USA
- Classifies Hom. Preparation as counter drug approved for sale without claims of effectiveness

# Recent evidence

- Homoeo medications may not work in identical fashion with placebo
- Substantiatingly , the claims are homoeo remedies are felt to produce side effects.

# Safety assessment

- Requirement to assess risk benefit ratio as any other intervention
- Safety issues-1. Direct
  - 2. Indirect
  - 3. Misclassification
  - 4. Paradigmatic or interpretation issues

# Direct safety

- Direct toxic effect of a drug itself
- By stimulation of remedies by proving
- Especially with high dilutions
- Aggravation of symptoms after right remedies(frequencies of aggravation not studied)

# Indirect safety

- Treatment with ineffective therapy leads to progression of disease and adverse effect
- Duration of action of drug from particular potency (Homoeos claims their action lasts even upto year)
- Symptom control without resolution
- Management of emergency

# Misclassification

- False positive diagnosis
- Symptom removal without resolution

# Paradigmatic issues or interpretation

- Aggravation
- Suppression
- Old symptoms
- Grafting

# Conclusion

- Safety in homoeopathy cannot be assumed without emperical testing and verification
- Evaluatory issues –