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## Artificial intelligence in homoeopathy polarity analysis in cases of Renal Calculi

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### Abstract

Polarity analysis is an expansion of Boenninghausen's concept of contraindications, illustrated by Dr. Heiner frei MD a renowned paediatrician, to increase the consistency and reliability of homoeopathic prescriptions. This study aimed to prove that for an accurate homoeopathic prescription, the characteristic of a remedy should not be contraindicated by a strong opposite in the patient {in the footnote of aphorism 213 in Organon of medicine}.

**Methods:** An attempt was made to select a simillimum in patients with renal calculi who received homoeopathic treatment in Dr. GGHMCH, by using the Polarity analysis software and thereby assessing the results with the aid of Modified stone Criteria.

Among 60 cases 30 (Group A) cases were prescribed a simillimum based on their constitutional totality. The remaining 30 (Group B) cases were rechecked for contradictory symptoms and the remedy which scored the highest polarity difference was prescribed.

**Results:** Out of 60 cases, 30 cases (Group B) prescribed based on polarity difference showed remarkable improvement than in 30 cases (Group A) prescribed based on constitutional totality.

**Conclusion:** This study validates that in choosing the medicine for a patient we have to find the one, whose characteristics best correspond to the characteristic patient's symptoms.

**Keywords:** Contraindicated, correspond, characteristic

### Introduction

Dr. Heiner Frei's development of the polarity analysis methodology an extract of Boenninghausens's concept of contraindications was tested and introduced with an attempt to modernize the repertorisation process. Polarity analysis is a result of the search for a way to better match the characteristic patient symptoms with the genius symptoms of a homoeopathic medicine. This method is based on Boenninghausen's therapeutic pocket book 1846 which provides a comprehensive framework for assessing and prioritizing symptoms, including contra-indicating symptoms, in the process of remedy selection. Dr. Heiner Frei designed polarity analysis software that leads to higher precision in homoeopathic prescriptions which may be a great advantage in busy homoeopathic practice.

Renal calculus is a stone-like body composed of urinary salts bound together by a colloid matrix of organic materials. Renal stone-calculus or lithiasis is one of the most common diseases of the Urinary tract. It is becoming one of the emerging challenges in the medical field because of modern lifestyle changes, sedentary habits, an unhealthy dietary plan, and overweight problems. In this study, we have taken cases of renal calculi and applied polarity analysis software.

### Bönninghausen's contraindicating symptoms:

In homeopathy, Dr. Clemens Maria Franz von Bönninghausen contributed significantly to the understanding of Contra-indicating symptoms, also known as "symptoms against." Bönninghausen's approach to contra-indicating symptoms can be understood in the context of his Therapeutic Pocket Book, a seminal work in homeopathy that he developed. Polar symptoms are those symptoms that can have an opposite aspect, such as thirst/ thirstlessness, etc. If, in a given polar symptom, the opposite is covered by a particular medicine in a high grade, whereas the pole exhibited by the patient occurs only in a low grade, then this medicine is contraindicated.

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Almost every homeopathic medicine includes several polar symptoms. A medicine may exhibit both poles, usually in different grades. In the Therapeutic Pocket Book, symptoms are classified into various rubrics, each representing a specific aspect of the patient's condition. Bönnighausen recognized that certain symptoms, when present alongside others, may indicate that a particular remedy is unsuitable for the patient, even if it appears to match other symptoms. According to Boenninghausen, high-grade symptoms (grade three, four, and five) correspond to the characteristics of the medicine. In choosing the medicine for a patient we have to find the one, whose characteristics best correspond to the characteristic patient's symptoms. For example, Nux vomica has an aversion to movement in third grade, a desire to move, however, only in first grade. Consequently, Nux-v will likely not cure a patient who exhibits a strong desire to move, even though it covers this symptom in principle. Boenninghausen used this method to check his choice of medicines.

### Polarity analysis and Polar difference

**Table 1:** Shows in patient symptoms Nat carb

Patient's symptoms	Nat carb	Merc sol	Mag carb	Rhus tox	Graphites
<swallowing	1	3	2	3	1
<speaking	4	1	2	4	3
<cold food	1	2	1	4	3
<after waking	4	4	3	4	5
>After eating	4	1	1	2	2
Total	14	11	9	17	14
Opposite symptoms	Nat carb	Merc sol	Mag carb	Rhus tox	Graphites
<swallowing	1	2	1	1	2
<speaking	0	0	0	0	0
<cold food	0	2	1	1	0
<after waking	1	0	0	0	0
>After eating	3	1	2	4*	3*
Total	5	5	4	6	5
Polarity difference	9	6	5	11	9

\*-contraindication i.e., patient's symptoms low grade opposite symptoms high grade.

According to Boenninghausen, a contraindication occurs when the patient's symptom is observed in the 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> grade with the opposite pole listed for the remedy in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, or 5<sup>th</sup> grade. In this case, the opposite pole corresponds to the genius of the remedy and hence cannot be prescribed as it is not the minimum for the patient.

As cited above for the symptom amelioration after eating, Rhus tox and Graphites appeared to be in 4<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grade respectively whereas aggravation after eating appeared to be in 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in both the remedies and hence cannot be considered as a simillimum.

#### CASE:

A Patient named Mrs. S. G, Aged-35/F, C/O pain in left loin, radiating to left groin for 2 years. Aching pain> riding

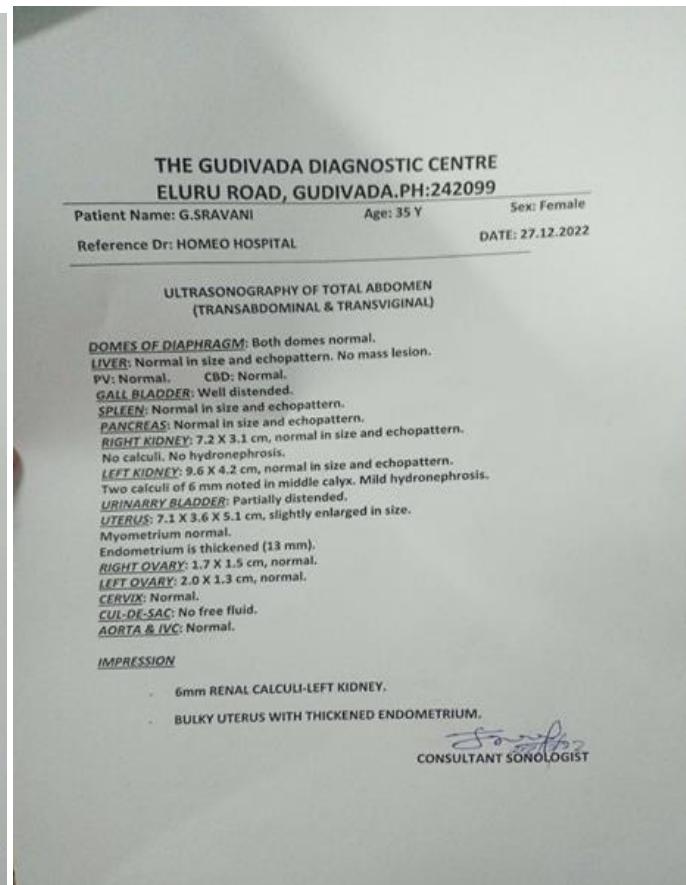
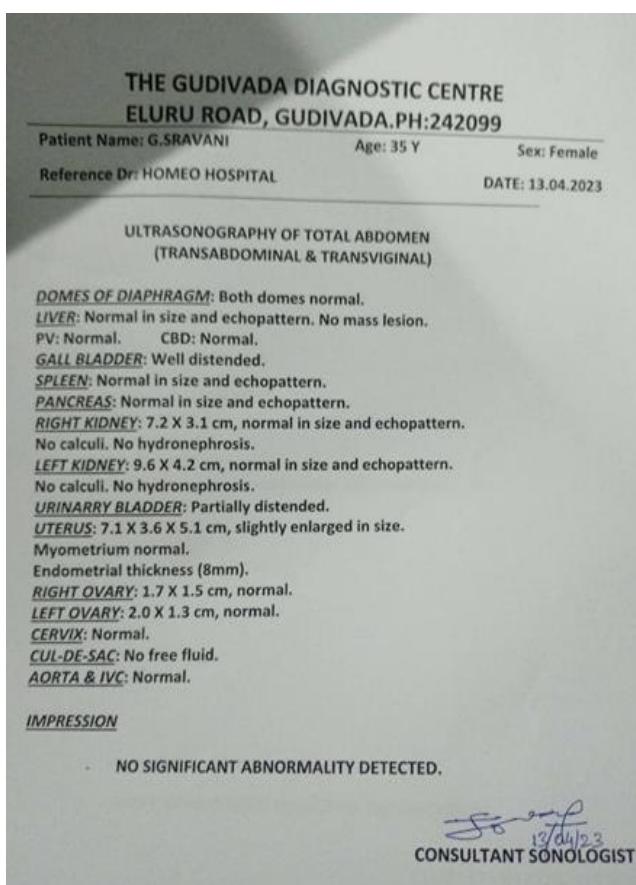
In 2001, during the initial phase of the ADHD double-blind study, Boenninghausen's notion of contraindications was used as the foundation of polarity analysis, a mathematical procedure that leads to higher hit rates, resulting in more solid clinical improvements than was so far seen with conventional homeopathic methods. Polarity analysis is a further development of Boenninghausen's insights for polar symptoms and contraindications: on the one hand by excluding remedies with contraindications, on the other hand by calculating the polarity difference. At least 5 polar symptoms should be used for the analysis. Ex: thirst, thirstlessness; cold aggravates, cold ameliorates; desire for open air, aversion to open air. Frei describes on page 21 of his book that the PA methodology of Repertorization is: "calculated for each remedy by adding the grades of the patient's polar symptoms. From the resulting value, the grades of the corresponding opposite polar symptoms are subtracted. The higher the polarity difference calculated in this way, the more the remedy corresponds to the patient's characteristic symptoms assuming that there are no contraindications.

**Table 1:** Follow Up

Date	Symptoms	Prescription
6/3/2023	Pain in the left loin persists. Nausea and vomiting reduced.	S.L-15 Days
25/3/2023	The pain increased, nausea and vomiting also increased with the temperature rise.	china-1m /1 day, S.L-15 Days
13/4/2023	No pain episodes. Patient feeling better. No nausea and vomiting.	S.L-15 Days
28/7/2023	There is no relapsing of symptoms, patient is feeling better.	S.L-15 Days

3	<b>Sravani</b>										
4	Renal colic										
5											
6		Chin.	Arn.	Sulph.	Kali-c.	Phos.	Sep.	Ars.	Hep.	Cham.	Acon.
7	Hits	10	10	10	10	10	10	9	9	9	9
8	Sums	31	25	32	19	31	23	27	23	24	18
9	<b>Polarity Difference</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>
11	28	desire for sour food	P	3	5	5	4	5	3	4	4
12	88	< weather / air, cold [worse]	P	1	1	2	4	3	3	4	2
13	130	side, left in general	P	5	4	5	1	3	1	3	3
14	121	nausea in general		3	2	4	3	3	3	2	3
15	85	vomiting in general		3	2	4	1	3	3	4	2
16	71	< drinking, after [worse]	P	4	3	3	1	1	2	4	3
17	126	< movement [worse]	P	3	3	2	1	3	1	1	1
18	102	chill, chilliness, lack of vital heat		4	1	3	1	4	2	4	3
19	80	urine, sediment, in general		3	2	3	2	3	4	1	1
20	38	urine, sediment, sandy (like gravel)		2	2	1	1	3	1		1
22	8	aversion to sour food				3					
23	44	> weather / air, cold [better]				3/CI		1	2		1
24	130	side, right in general		1	1	1	1	2	1	1	4/CI
25	13	> drinking, after [better]					3/CI				
26	102	> movement [better]		1	1	1	1	1	3/CI	2	1

## Results



**Table 3:** Improvement shown with modified stone criteria

Variables	Before	After
Sex		
Male	0	0
Female		
Duration of pain to presentation		
>24		
6-24	1	0
<6		
Obstruction (pelvicalyceal dilatation)		
Absent		
Present		
Nausea and vomiting		
None	3	0
Nausea only		
Vomiting		
Haematuria		
Absent	3	0
Present	0	0
Total	7	0

When comparing to control group (prescription not on the basis of PA method), Case group (prescribed medicine on the basis of PA method) showed very good improvement. 28 cases showed very good improvement out of 30 cases in case group, 23 cases showed improvement out of 30 cases in control group.

### Discussion

"Any introduction of new methods into homeopathy should be carefully evaluated. Polarity analysis has been tested by Dr. Heiner Frei in cases of ADHD.

### Possible outcomes of a new procedure could be

- (a) that the precision of the prescriptions suffers, leading to a decline in the rate of cure.
- (b) a restriction of prescribed remedies to polychrests only.

To get information on the homeopathic medicines used, the prescriptions in the conventionally treated reference group were analyzed and compared with the group in which polarity analysis was applied. Concerning the result, there was an increase in the rate of cure, inferring successful prescriptions. In addition, we made the experience that by using the new method, small remedies not rarely lead to spectacular results. One objection may be that polarity analysis is only based on the symptom grading by Boenninghausen as a possible source of bias. Since Boenninghausen's grading is very homogeneous and incorporates the experience of other physicians of his time including Hahnemann, the problem is presumably small. Basing the new method on the revised edition of Boenninghausen's Therapeutic Pocketbook (published in 2000) inherently restricts the spectrum of homeopathic remedies to those 133 remedies contained therein. Possibly, the treatment failures encountered in the evaluation of the treatment of renal calculi are due to this limitation. With the progress of the complete revision of the *materia medica*, this problem will hopefully disappear. So far it has to be circumnavigated by a good personal knowledge of *materia medica*".

### Conclusion

The polarity analysis introduced by Dr. Heiner Frei should be carefully examined by every homoeopathic physician. PA methodology of calculated contra-indications may

statistically improve the obstacles for successful prescription in large sample studies. However, it may mislead prescribers into thinking that low-graded (1 and 2) symptoms are insignificant when a remedy has produced high-graded (3 and 4) symptoms opposite to them, when in fact all symptoms in the Pocketbook are primary actions of substances. This will occasionally lead to wrongly discounting symptoms which are contraindicated by the software due to the PA calculation. There is a risk of under-valuing and even misunderstanding the worth of low-graded symptoms in Bönninghausen, which are all positive remedy effects. Correcting this error may be critical to improving the accuracy of PA prescriptions above the 80% mark that Frei has reported. Careful inclusion of mental symptoms may also improve this percentage. By carefully considering the totality of symptoms, their modalities, and their relationships, homeopaths can effectively navigate the complexities of case analysis and choose the remedy that aligns most closely with the patient's state of health.

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