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# Homeopathic Treatment Protocol in the Management of Chronic Kidney Disease-A Case Report

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#### ABSTRACT:

The prevalence of chronic kidney disease (CKD) has increased in India over the past two decades commensurate with the global trend. The limitation and complications of renal transplant and dialysis procedure can be reduced by Homoeopathic treatment. The case discussed here is a patient having difficult and burning urination since two years, associated with nausea and no appetite, also chronic joint and back pain. Blood report showed high serum urea (82mg/dl) and serum creatinine (5.3mg/dl) with decreased eGFR (24.5 ml/ min). Urine report showed increased pus cells and USG of kidney showed increased cortical echo texture and high PVRU (85cc) suggestive of CKD. The constitutional remedy selected after repertorisation was Nux vomica given in LM potency; Thuja was given as intercurrent antisycotic for Benign Hypertrophy of Prostate (BHP) and chronic joint pain; Cantharis was used to reduce acute symptoms of urinary infection and Sabal ser. Q used as organopathic remedy for BHP. The patho-physiologies, diagnosis and management of CKD are discussed. The of homeopathic medicines show reduced serum urea (27mg/dl) creatinine(0.9mg/dl), increased eGFR, along with correction of UTI and normal kidney in USG report with less PVRU (40cc). This case study shows that early diagnosis and appropriate selection of homeopathic remedies are important to cure CKD and possible resulting renal failure can be prevented.

**KEY WORDS**: Chronic kidney disease; Homeopathic remedies; Haemodialysis.

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#### **INTRODOUCTION:**

Among the non-communicable diseases, chronic kidney disease (CKD) now affects more than 500 million people worldwide, with 80% of those affected living in low to middle income countries. In India, the prevalence of CKD has increased substantially in the past two decades with significant cause of mortality and morbidity

despite several medical advancements. [1] Deaths caused by CKD were estimated at 71,000 in 2000, are expected to increase 352,000 in 2030. [2]

The definition of chronic kidney disease has been simplified over the last 5 years. It is now defined as the presence of kidney damage for a period greater than 3 months.<sup>[3]</sup> Stages of Chronic kidney disease





are: stage1- normal or increase GFR >/90ml/min/1.73m<sup>2</sup>, stage2-GFR 89ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, stage3- moderately decrease GFR 30-59ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup>, stage severely decrease **GFR** 29ml/min/1.73 m<sup>2</sup> and stage5- kidney failure < 15mi/min/ 1.73 m<sup>2</sup> (dialysis or replacement if uraemia present). [4] Stage4 and 5 represent major costs for health care systems and burden for patients. Early detection with primary care intervention progression reduce risk of sustainability. Risk factors are diabetes, hypertension, acute kidney injury, cardiovascular disease, structural renal tract disease, renal calculi, prostatic hypertrophy, systemic lupus erythematous, hereditary kidney disease, abnormal kidney structure, frequent use of medications etc. [5]

The symptoms of chronic kidney disease typically include tiredness or breathlessness, due to renal anaemia or fluid overload, later pruritus, anorexia, weight loss, nausea, vomiting and hiccups. Then occur swollen feet and ankles, puffiness around eyes, especially in morning, urination often in night, muscular twitching, drowsiness and coma. Decreased immune response, makes the patient more vulnerable to infection, irreversible damage to kidneys (end-stage kidney disease), eventually requiring either dialysis or a kidney transplant. Renal functions should monitor from blood urea and creatinine. urine analysis and quantification of proteinuria, electrolytes, calcium phosphate, 25(OH)D, full blood count, lipids, glucose, HbA1c, ultrasound, kidney biopsy. [6]

Using non-prescription pain relievers for a long time could lead to kidney damage. Cigarette smoking can damage kidneys and make existing kidney damage worse. [7] Management can be done by diet low in

protein, sodium, potassium, and phosphate, high in calories and calcium and supplemented with essential amino acids; fluid intake and output monitoring. Longterm emotional support and counselling is needed for adaptation to chronic, potentially fatal disease. [8]

Homoeopathy prevents further progress of disease, like renal failure, minimizes need of dialysis or transplant. A homoeopathic remedy can be selected on the basis of causation, specificity, keynote, miasm, organopathy or totality of symptoms. <sup>[9]</sup> The totality of the characteristic mental and physical features with particulars are taken into consideration. <sup>[10]</sup>

When cause lies. in lower urinary tract, repeated urinary infection due to high PVRU for enlarge prostate and neurogenic bladder, repeated antibiotic usage, high recurrence rates and increasing antimicrobial resistance greatly increase the chance of infection. In such case, the scope of a constitutional remedy holds a promising action, especially the potencies are often recommended for use in cases with advanced pathology and there is least possibility of aggravations, proved by research studies. [11]

## **CASE STUDY**

The case presented here was treated in OPD of Dr. A.C. Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital. A male person aged 54 years came to my OPD on Dt 04.12.2020 having complain of difficult urination, had to wait for 5 to 10minutes to start urination, increased frequency, unfinished sensation and burning pain before and during urination with pain in lower abdomen; fever with chilliness and headache: nausea flatulence of whole abdomen. aggravated at night. He had also pain in both knees and back aggravated from motion. He was a chilly patient, used to catch cold easily; had desire for sweets and





warm foods, increased thirst; stool dry, hard and crumbled. Mentally he was irritable, company desired and extrovert. He had no diabetes or hypertension. Once he had accident and injury on back in 2013. Since that day he had bladder emptying problem with high PVRU. Blood pressure 130/80mm of Hg, oedema absent. In family, mother had arthritis and piles. He was taking NSAID for joint pain. Had taken antibiotics several times for urine infection and fever.

Lab investigation reports showed ( 23.11.2020) Serum Urea 82mg/dl, Serum Creatinine 5.3 mg/dl (Fig1), Hb11.5mg%, TLC 11,000/cu mm, DC -N 73,E 05, L 22, **ESR** mm/1st 88 hr, eGFR-24.5ml/min(Fig2). Urine contained pus cell 20-30/HPF, RBC8-10/HPF, Bacteria +, Epithelial cells 2-4 (Fig3). USG report shows Grade 1 bilateral medical renal disease, Grade I prostatomegaly with High PVRU 85cc (Fig4). Here the causes of CKD are repeated use of NSAID for joint pain, neurogenic bladder since injury causing High PVRU and repeated urinary infection with BPH. As the disease progressed, besides taking allopathic medicine several times, he decided to take homoeopathic medicine which is safe and cost effective also. After taking the case, following symptoms were selected as totality of symptoms for repertorisation.

# Presenting complaints of the patient taken for repertorisation

- Irritible mind, company desires and extrovert
- Chilly patient and catches cold easily
- Desires for sweet and warm food
- Drinks more
- Stool hard and crumbled
- Urination unsatisfactory, burning pain before and during urination
- Difficult urination with enlarged

prostate

- Pain in back with soreness
- Pain in joints, motion aggravation

The case was repertorised with the help of complete repertory of HOMPATH(Classic) software (Fig.5). Basing on the reportorial analysis from total 18symptoms marks obtained by Nux vom 31/16, Phos 28/13, Lyco 27/14, Bry 26/13, Arsenic 26/10, Kali carb 25/11. Nux vomica covered maximum mental, physical and particular symptoms high marks and selected simmilimum in this case. Other drugs were not covered symptoms as like Nux vomica in all grounds. So Nux vom was given in LM potency from 0/1- 0/4, 30 ml each, in 8 doses, once daily morning; Cantharis 30, 6glob once daily evening also was given to reduce the acute complains of cystitis, *Sabal* ser.Q 30 ml, 15 drops twice daily at day and night were also prescribed for BHP along with Nux vomica for one month.

#### **FOLLOW UP AND RESULT:**

After one month on dt 06.01.2021 the patient came with no pain in abdomen, burning micturition less and nausea absent, but urination not clear. Pain in knees and back was present. On dt.06.01.21 blood report showed TLC 7,200, Hb-10.08, S Urea 28mg/dl, S Creatnine decreased to 1.6mg/dl (Fig 6), eGFR increased to 51.5ml/min (Fig7). *Thuja* 10M one dose was given. Then after 8 days Nux vom 0/5 and 0/6, 30ml each, in 8doses was given on alternate days, Cantharis 30, 6glob once evening and Sabal ser Q 15drops twice daily given for another one month. Patient came after two months having no burning urination, ineffectual urination less, no nausea and no fever, only nocturnal frequency of urination was present. Pain in joints diminished. On dt. 06.03.21, Blood report showed TLC 7000/cmm, Hb 12.4mg%. S Urea 27mg/dl, S Creatinine 0.9mg/dl (Fig8), Urine Pus cells 6-10/HPF, RBC nil (Fig9). USG showed both





kidneys normal, mildly enlarged prostate with PVRU 40cc. (Fig 10). He had prescribed *Nux vom* 0/7-0/8, 30ml(8doses) alternate days one after another, *Sabal ser* Q 15 drops twice daily, *Calcarea phos* 6X,4tab twice daily. There were no adverse events during the process of treatment; improvement of symptoms was steady. Also, there has been no recurrence of the symptoms till date. The patient is now maintaining normal life

**TIMELINE:** The detail about the management and results is mentioned in table-2.

Table 2. First prescription and Follow-up

Date	Symptoms	Investigation Reports	Medicine
04.12. 20	Difficult and	TLC-11000, S urea	<i>Nux vom</i> 0/1- 0/4, 30 ml each in 8
	burning	82mg/dl , S Creatinine	doses, once daily; Canth.30, 6glob
	micturition, pain	5.3mg/dl, ESR 88mm/1st	OD, Sabal ser Q 30 ml 15 drops
	in lower	hr, eGFR – 24.5ml/min.	twice daily.
	abdomen, fever,	Urine pus cell 20-30, RBC	
	nausea, anorexia,	8-10/HPF. USG -Grade 1	
	constipation,	bilateral medical renal	
	knee and back	disease, Grade I	
	pain.	prostatomegaly with High	
		PVRU 85cc.	
06.01.21	Fever absent,	S Urea 28 mg/dl, S	Thuja 10M one dose,
	pain in abdomen	Creatnine 1.6 mg/dl, eGFR	After 8days, <i>Nux vom</i>
	and burning	51.5 ml/min , USG -	0/5,0/6,30ml(8doses),alternate
	urination	Bilateral early medical	morning one after another, Sabal
	diminished,	renal disease with High	ser Q 15 drops BD, Cantharis 30
	nausea absent.	PVRU 66cc.	OD, Ferrum phos 6X 4tablet twice
	Pain in knees and		daily.
	back present.		
1003.21	Difficult urination	TLC 7000/cmm, Hb 12.4,	Nux vom 0/7-0/8, 30ml(8doses)
	very less,	S Urea 27mg/dl, S	alternate day , Sabal ser Q 15
	nocturnal	Creatinine 0.9mg/dl, RBS	drops twice daily,
	frequency	98mg/dl, Urine Pus cell 6-	Calcarea phos 6X, 4tab twice
	present. Pain in	10/HPF, RBC nil. USG-	daily.
	back and knee	Both kidneys are normal,	
	less.	mildly enlarged prostate	
		with PVRU 40cc	





## Blood, Urine and USG before treatment

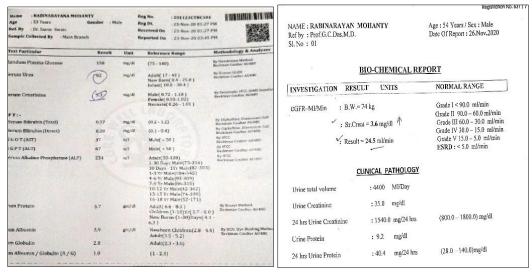


Fig 1 -(23.11.20) S Urea and S Creatinine Fig 2-(26.11.20) Report for eGFR

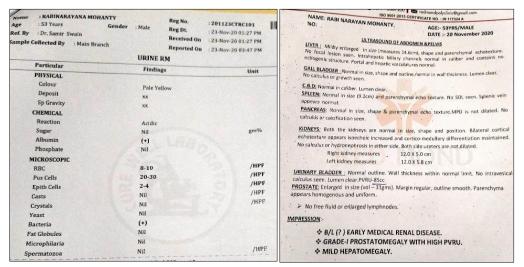


Fig 3- Urine Report on Dt. 23.11.20

Fig 4- (20.11.2020)USG of abdomen and pelvis

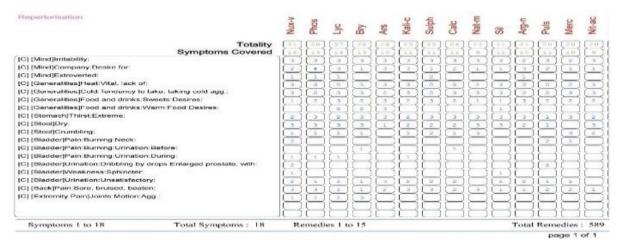
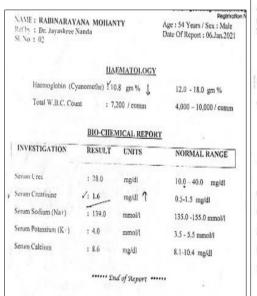


Fig -5: Repertorisation of the case





# Reports of first follow up



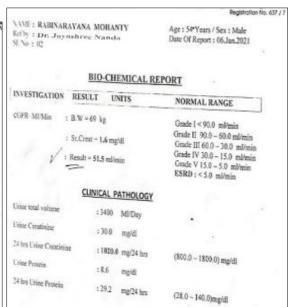


Fig 6- Fig 6- (06.01.21)Blood Report

Fig 7-(06.01.21) Report for eGFR

## Reports on second follow up

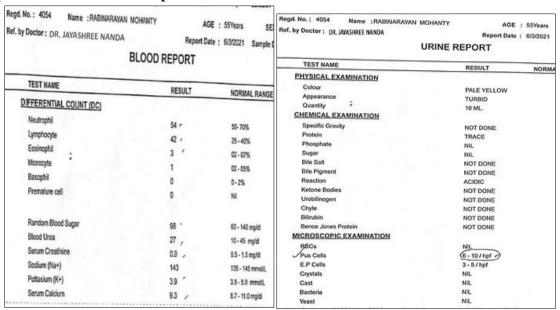


Fig 8- Fig 8-(Dt.06.03.21)S Urea and S Creatinine

Fig 9-(Dt.06.03.21) Urine report





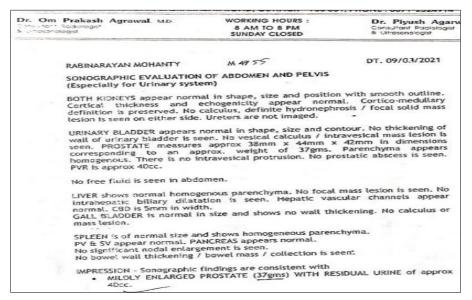


Fig 10 -(Dt.09.03.21) USG shows normal kidney

#### **DISCUSSION:**

The outcomes of this case study clearly show the efficacy of the homeopathic drugs in CKD patient with high serum urea and creatinine, without haemodialysis with cost effective and most harmless way of treatment by symptom similarity, since these readings are a part of the decision making process of whether to start dialysis or not. [13] Several studies have already been established the efficacy of homoeopathy in different kidney disorders.

Quite recently evidence of association between BPH and CKD has arisen in two different studies. A recent study by Yamasaki et al showed that the Post-Void Residual urine (PVRU) of the patients was significantly greater with CKD than that of the patients without CKD and the presence post-void residual urine independently associated with CKD. indicating a close association between CKD and residual urine. [14].

In this case, we also see that USG of the kidneys which has bilaterally increased cortical echo texture before treatment (Fig4), a feature of CKD, became normal kidney after treatment (Fig10). PVRU

diminished and chronic UTI also became almost normal from urine analysis (Fig9). After repertorisation following the law of symptom similarity, Nux vom was given in LM potency in increasing doses. Nux vomica is useful in urinary disorders like weakness of bladder function with enlarged prostate, ineffectual urination which is painful during urging to urinate (Neurogenic bladder). [14] Thuja used for sycotic pain, tearing in muscles and joints, worse at rest, associated with complains of genito-urinary organs, like BHP and dysuria. [15] Here I had given Thuja in high potency as an intercurrent antisycotic to treat the chronic joint pain which was manifested since childhood and also for enlarged prostate which was another cause of high PVRU and ultimate help in CKD. Then again Nux vom was helpful to increase the bladder power after treatment of miasm. Cantharis could reduce the acute effect of cystitis which was very essential here to give because the person had suffered cystitis several times and treated allopathically but failed. So to control the symptoms of cystitis it was needed to give Cantharis to relive pain before and during micturition and also to





frequency of urination. Sabal serrulata Q used for enlarged prostate as organopathic remedy, biochemic medicines as Ferrum phos for anaemia and Calcarea phos for bone pain also was given helped to save the life of the patient. As here multiple causes combinely produced CKD, so besides a constitutional remedy some other drugs were also needed to control the acute conditions of the patient and prevent patient to go for dialysis or end stage renal disease. Actually though CKD is due to disorder of a particular organ but the disease and the symptoms were manifested in whole body and made it a generalised disease. So in an artificial chronic disease and also where multi system are affected we can give both chronic and acute remedy which gave beneficial results proved in this case.

#### **CONCLUSION:**

In CKD, homeopathic treatment is possible by early diagnosis from appropriate case history, with law of similia after repertorisation, at low cost, no surgical measures or without haemodialysis and preventing renal failure.

#### LIMITATION OF STUDY:

As this is a single case study it needs to be tried in greater number of cases for its scientific validation.

#### **PATIENT CONSENT:**

Author declares that written consent was obtained from the patients to publish the case information

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