

Sumit Goel

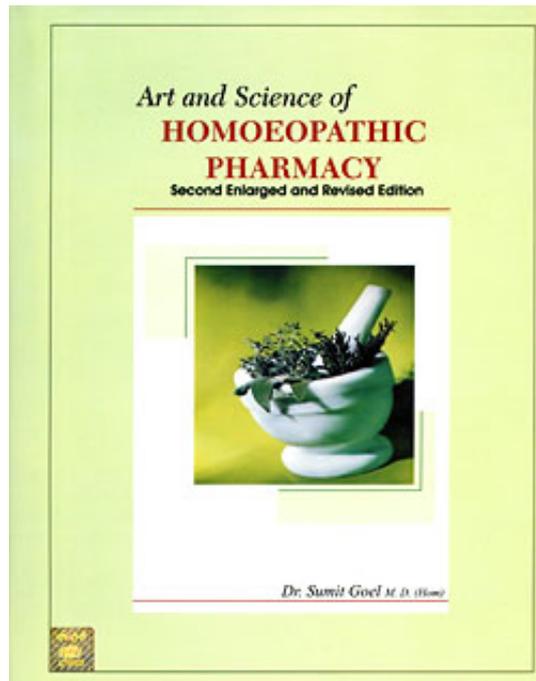
Art and Science of Homoeopathic Pharmacy (with CD)

Leseprobe

[Art and Science of Homoeopathic Pharmacy \(with CD\)](#)

von [Sumit Goel](#)

Herausgeber: IBPP



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<http://www.narayana-verlag.de>



Introduction to *Homoeopathic* Pharmacy

HOMOEOPATHIC PHARMACY may be defined as the art and science of identifying, collecting, preparing, preserving, evaluating, standardizing and dispensing of medicines. It also embraces the legal and professional aspects and regulation of proper distribution of medicines.

The Greek word designating the idea of pharmacy is *pharmacon*, "a drug, a medicine, remedy, a potion, charm, spell" that has been anglicized into such words as *pharmacy*, and *pharmacist*, one skilled in pharmacy.

The study of pharmacy includes the study of the theories and exercise of the operations necessary to the intelligent preparation and dispensing of substances used in the healing art. It is concerned with the collection, identification, preparation, standardization and preservation of drugs used in homoeopathic practice.

In the broadest interpretation, this definition carries the drug from its original source to the actual consumer or patient. In such an activity, one encounters an academic, a professional and a commercial aspect.

OFFICIAL PHARMACY consists of the preparation of drugs according to the processes that are prescribed in an official pharmacopoeia and is done in a pharmaceutical set-up.

EXTEMPORANEOUS PHARMACY consists of preparing and distributing medicines according to the directions of the physician and is done at the dispensary level.

INSTITUTIONAL PHARMACY is the practice of homoeopathy in private and government-owned hospitals, health maintenance organizations and nursing homes.

CLINICAL PHARMACY is that division of pharmacy, which deals with patient care with particular emphasis on drug therapy. This is patient oriented and includes not only the dispensing of required medication but also advising the patient on the proper use of all medications.

THEORETICAL PHARMACY relates to teaching at academic institutions and is of theoretical nature.

Narayana Verlag,
79 400 Kandern
Tel.: 07626 974 970
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Excerpt from
Dr.Sumit Goel:
Homoeopathic
Pharmacy

INTRODUCTION TO HOMOEOPATHIC PHARMACY

OPERATIVE PHARMACY relates to the various aspects of standardization, manufacturing, retail and also includes administrative and hospital pharmacy.

The business aspects of pharmacy involve manufacturing, wholesaling and retailing.

WHOLESALE PHARMACY is the link between the manufacturer, institutional pharmacist and the community pharmacist and plays a vital role in assuring the community pharmacist and institutional pharmacist of a quick and convenient source of supply from a multiplicity of manufacturers.

PHARMACY ADMINISTRATION deals with the principles and practices of business and law as they apply to pharmacy practice.

PHARMACIST

A Pharmacist is a person, who is skilled or engaged in pharmacy, one who prepares or dispenses medicines, one who is legally qualified to sell drugs.

- A pharmacist should hold the health and safety of patients to be of first consideration.
- A pharmacist should never condone the dispensing, promoting or distributing of drugs or assist therein, which are not of good quality, which do not meet the standards required by the law or which lack therapeutic value for the patient.
- He should not engage in any activity that will bring discredit to the profession and should expose, without fear or favor, illegal or unethical conduct in the profession.
- A pharmacist should seek at all times only fair and reasonable remuneration for his services. He should never agree to or participate in transactions with practitioners of other health professions or any other person under which fees are divided or which may cause financial or other exploitation in connection with the rendering of his professional services.
- No attempt should be made to capture the business of a contemporary by cut-throat competition, by offering prizes or gifts or allurements to physicians.
- A pharmacist should strive to provide information to patients regarding professional services truthfully, accurately and fully and should avoid misleading patients regarding the nature, cost or value of the pharmacist's professional services.

INTRODUCTION TO HOMOEOPATHIC PHARMACY

The pharmacist should possess the following qualities:

- Knowledge of pharmacy, regarding collection of drug substances, preparation, preservation, handling and dispensing.
- Knowledge of pharmacopoeia.
- Qualified, honest, humanitarian, trustworthy and must be aware of his / her responsibilities.
- Proper skill in performance.
- He or she must exercise painstaking care and accuracy in every step of preparation, handling and dispensing.

Since the Homoeopathic physician has to depend almost entirely on infinitesimal doses, it is essential that the medicinal preparation must be absolutely accurate and dependable. As there are no available tests to see if the medicines are genuine, one has to depend entirely on the pharmacist.

SPECIALITY AND ORIGINALITY OF HOMOEOPATHIC PHARMACY

Homoeopathic Pharmacy stands unique and special as it is based on a philosophical background and a scientific application. Hence homoeopathic pharmacy is both an art and a science. Homoeopathic Pharmacy deals with a specialized system of art and science having uniqueness in its mode of preparation, administration and modus operandi. Homoeopathy is based on holistic and individualistic approach of disease and this principle is true for homoeopathic pharmacy that takes care to preserve the individual nature of the remedial agents.

»t» Theory of Dynamization

Homoeopathic dynamizations are processes by which the medicinal properties that are latent in crude substances become aroused and enabled to act in an almost spiritual manner in our life. This discovery that the subdivision of crude substances and their diffusion through an inert vehicle, developed in them new and previously unappreciated curative powers, when properly administered, is a feature that is a signature of homoeopathy. Homoeopathic pharmacy demonstrates the power or capacity of an infinitesimal small dose.

Homoeopathic Pharmacodynamics

Every drug becomes a part of the Homoeopathic Materia Medica after a complete study of its pure effects in deranging health in healthy human beings. Homoeopathic drugs are tested on healthy persons in both males and females in different ages and the subjective symptoms are noted with great importance. The introduction into medicine, of drug provings for the purpose of ascertaining the pure specific action of each article upon the healthy organism and thus of enabling the practitioner to apply his remedies in disease knowingly and efficiently is a unique feature in modern medical science. Homoeopathic Drug Provings have a philosophical base and conducted in a scientific, standardized controlled method that is verified by repeated trials and clinical confirmation.

Single, simple remedy

The old system makes use of complex mixtures of medicines, each containing several ingredients in considerable quantity and which require much time to compound as well as a skill in the preparation that the physician does not always possess; that the right to dispense medicines was by law conceded to the apothecary for these reasons. In Hahnemann's time a prescription contained four classes of components

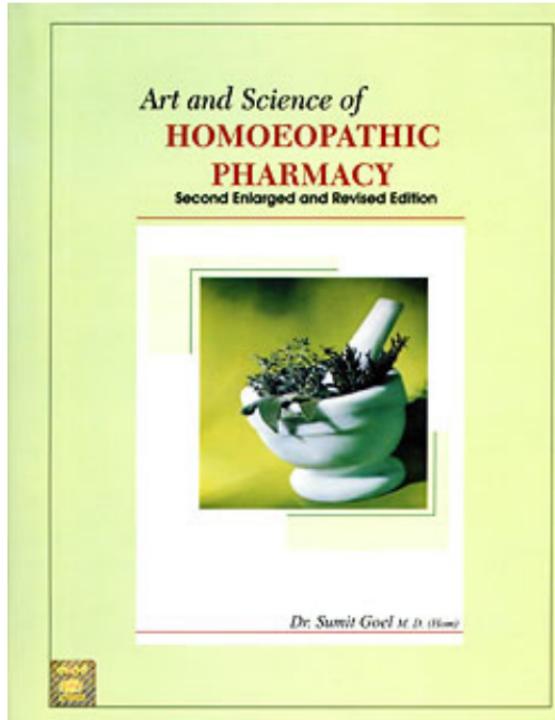
- (a) The Basis - the effective or main medium
- (b) The Adjuvans - the supporting medium
- (c) The Constituents - the vehicle giving the necessary (liquid or solid) body to the whole
- (d) The Corrigenes - the complement, added for certain auxiliary purposes of smell, taste, colour

In 1797, Hahnemann made a strong attack on mixtures of medicines in his essay: 'Are the obstacles to the attainment of simplicity and certainty in Practical Medicine insurmountable?'

Homoeopathy has no compound prescriptions for the apothecary, but gives in all cases of illness one single simple medicinal substance in an unmedicinal vehicle.

In-process Quality Control

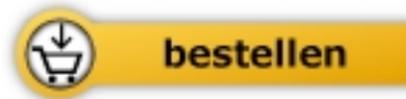
Proper quality control measures are employed right from the identification and collection up to the finished product. Freshness of materials used is also an important feature in homoeopathy.



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526 Seiten, geb.
erschienen 2007



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