



# Homeopathy in elephant practice

P.K. Naveen

*Dr. P.K. Naveen, M.V.Sc.  
Retd. Joint Director (AH),  
Navaneeth, Chalakudy*

**H**omoeopathic system of healing is based on the principle, "SAMAM SAMENA SAMYATHI" otherwise known as USHANAM USHANENA SANTHI. This system was founded by German Allopathic Practitioner Dr. Samuel Hahnemann in 1790. Presently Homoeopathic drugs have been proved in healthy human beings. Proving a drug means studying symptoms it can produce in healthy body. Crude drugs from vegetable and animal kingdom, minerals, chemicals or synthetics are potentised by a process of dilution either in Alcohol or Lactose and subjected to trituration or succession (jerk, shaking) at fixed time and frequency. Thus medicines are available in two forms 1) Powder or Tablets prepared in Lactose (sugar of milk) by trituration and (2) Dilutions (liquids) in alcohol prepared by succession.

Homoeopathic treatment is gaining popularity in the treatment of Elephants. Being free from bad taste and smell, these drugs can be administered to elephants with ease as they readily accept them. Homoeopathic drugs are safe to use without any reactions and cure has been found to be gentle, rapid, reliable and permanent. The smallness of

the dose and acceptability of the drug cause minimum annoyance to the patient. Homoeopathic drugs are highly economical when compared to the increasing cost of Allopathic and Ayurvedic Medicines.

Selection of the drug is most important for the effectiveness of the remedy. For this the symptoms shown by the patient at every stage of the disease have to be matched with the symptoms of the drug described in the Homoeopathic Materia Medica. The Veterinarians can analyse the totality of the symptoms exhibited by the animal by close observation and examination of the sick animal and select the appropriate remedy.

Homoeopathic remedy does not act on the material body of the animal. The weight and size do not decide the dose of the remedy. 15 to 20 drops of an indicated remedy has been found to give good results in Elephants.

Dilutions of Tinctures as such or mixed with small quantity of water (10 to 20 ml.) can be poured on the tongue. Drug can be diluted in 100 to 200 ml. of water and drenched. Fifteen to twenty drops of the dilutions can be mixed with 5 ml. of Dist. Water and administered by subcutaneous injections. Triturations or powders can either be smeared over the tongue or given as an electuary.

It will be best to start the treatment of impaction at the onset of the disease to guard against severe pathological changes like inflammation, gangrene or rupture of the intestine at the site of obstruction. I have used Homoeopathic drugs alone as well as with Allopathic remedies with good results.

Number of drugs like Aconitum napellus, Alumina; Causticum; Calcaria phos; Bryonia Alba; Belladonna; Cinchona off; Colchicum, Lycopodium clavatum; Pulsatilla, Plumbum Met; and Zincum Met have been found to be useful in reducing the inflammatory process, reducing intestinal tympany, stimulating liver function and bringing about normal peristaltic movements of intestines.

It will be worthwhile to conduct elaborate trials with Homoeopathic drugs in the treatment of Elephants.

