

# Colocynthis

## **Bitter cucumber**

*Remedy picture as described in traditional homoeopathic texts.*

This remedy is pre-eminently used as an acute remedy, it resonates with physical complaints that are colicky, crampy and neuralgic in nature. All ailments are worse from unexpressed anger and indignation with symptoms worsening between 4-5 pm. A characteristic symptom for this remedy is agonising pain in the abdomen which causes the person to bend double and is better for hard pressure.

### **Mental/Emotional symptoms**

People displaying a Colocynthis state become easily angry when questioned, they don't want to talk, to answer or to have company. They are greatly affected by the misfortune of others which manifest along with some of the physical symptoms of this remedy. Symptoms when anger is 'swallowed', the pent up emotions then come out with the pain.

### **Physical symptoms**

**Head:** Vertigo when turning head to the left quickly, pains which are better for pressure and heat; soreness of the scalp; frontal headaches worse for stooping, lying on back and moving eyelids.

**Face:** Soreness in left side of face better from pressure; neuralgia with chilliness; sounds that re-echo in ears.

**Eyes:** Pains that are sharp and boring which are better for pressure; sensation 'as if eyes would fall out' when stooping.

**Stomach:** Very bitter taste in the mouth and tongue feels rough and scalded. Extreme hunger. Severe cutting pains which make the person double over, the person is restless, twisting and turning to obtain relief; colicky pains with cramps relieved by hard pressure, lying face down and heat. Pains are worse after eating or drinking. Vomits from the pain.

**Female:** Boring pain in ovary causing them to draw up doubled over with great restlessness; bearing down cramping better for pressure. Pain felt all over abdomen on urinating.

**Extremities:** Contraction of muscles; all the limbs are drawn together; cramp like pain in hip; stiffness of joints and shortening of tendons; sciatic pain in left side; crampy pain in hip or shooting pain down whole limb, hip, thigh and into knee better for pressure and heat. Cramps in the thighs or calves.

**Pains:** Neuralgic, cramps and twitching which is nearly always relieved by pressure.

### **Keywords**

- Violent, spasmodic abdominal pains
- Pains come in waves
- Pains can be digestive, uterine or renal and may cause vomiting
- Vertigo and fainting with pains
- Extremely irritable and impatient when in pain
- Wants to be left alone
- Bitter taste and sore red tongue

### **Exciting causes**

- Symptoms come on after anger, grief or resentment

### **Modalities**

Better: Firm pressure; doubling up; heat; passing stool or wind

Worse: Food and drink; rest; anger or irritability, 4-5 pm.

Desires: Beer; bread; cold food; thirstless or constant desire to drink

Aversions: All foods; water

**Compare to:** *Bryonia, Staphysagria, Lycopodium, Mag Phos, Nux Vomica, Chamomilla.*