

Animal Like Behaviour

Thinking back to a previous Understanding homoeopathy article we learned that the majority of remedies used in Homoeopathy come from plant, mineral or animal sources. People who need remedies from animal sources will have different characteristics and types of symptoms from people who need remedies from mineral or plant sources. They tend to be instinctual, more cunning and able to hide or cover up. It's about survival and the main theme is competition. The behavioural characteristics and idiosyncrasies of the animal are reproduced in someone needing the remedy.

Animal people are animated, expressive and full of life. They are alert and quick to act and react. They make contact easily with other people. They can be aggressive, pushy and competitive, and may attack if provoked. Jealousy and envy is strong in animals. They compete for social position and will stop at nothing to be the best. Animal-like career choices are often adventurous, competitive and designed to show off their best attributes, or why their products or services are superior. They usually dress attractively, choosing distinctive colour or design and jewellery that attracts attention. Their handwriting looks striking, distinctive, sharp and aggressive.

Animals have issues of domination and being dominated, if they are not 'making it' they can have feelings of inferiority and worthlessness. Animals fear loss of power, mates and territory, isolation, neglect and rejection. They are complex and can have a lot of issues going on at the same time with multiple modalities. They often crave meat, fish and milk.

Using Margaret Roys descriptions we will look at and talk about 3 commonly prescribed animal remedies; Lachesis, (Bushmaster snake), Tarantula (spider) and Cantharis (Spanish fly or Blister beetle).

Lachesis: This remedy comes from the bushmaster snake and famous homoeopath Kent said that everyone needs a dose of Lachesis at some time to get rid of the venom in their heart. The bushmaster snake in particular is known for its 'striking' nature. They can appear warm hearted, loving and gushy and have intense emotions. They thrive when they get lots of attention and reassurance that they are loved, seen and especially heard and do well when they get it. Alternatively, they can easily feel lonely and abandoned and express this with a venomous tongue, very loquacious, sarcastic, jealous have a fear of being poisoned. They can be very dictatorial and extremely talkative, aggressive and territorial.

Physically there are issues with blood and coagulation. They are better once the menstrual flow starts so can tend to have problems with menses and at menopause such as hot flushes, burning headaches, haemorrhages and haemorrhoids. Circulatory disturbances, varicose veins, varicose ulcers and high blood pressure. There is vulnerability around the neck, cannot bear anything around the neck. Aversion to tight clothing. Venomous tongue, very loquacious, sarcastic, jealous, fear to be poisoned. Sticks out the tongue, inclined to flick it about and lick the lips.

Like a snake they don't care much for heat. Worse slight touch and better firm pressure. Worse after sleep, lots of symptoms are aggravated after sleep. Left sided symptoms or starting on the left and going to the right. Eating and digestion can be affected, lump sensation in the chest or abdomen. Worse after eating, sluggish during digestion.

Tarentula: Constant moving, so restless, they can't stop. The restlessness is very noticeable in acute problems and in children. Fidgety and hurried – spiders move fast, the limbs twitch and jerk. Restless legs, they want to walk. They can run better than they can walk – rhythmic movements. Sensitive to rhythm and to music, it makes them dance. Industrious, capable and efficient – the restlessness is channeled into work.

They are impulsive, cunning, devious and discontented. This can show in the way that they

manipulate. They can feign illness and even fainting to get what they want. Worse from disappointed love, bad news, scolding. Alternating moods and changeable behaviour – there is a rhythm to this and it can alternate between passionate or intense activity and then quietness. There can be a sexuality to this passion and they can be quite shameless. There can be a strong aversion to green, red and black; especially if they appear together.

This is a remedy for difficult children who become agitated, disobedient, quarrelsome, violent breaking things and feign illness and injury. The only thing that calms them down is music. They can have a feeling of being like a slave controlled by the pull of a string. They do not realise that the rules imposed by educators and society are not bonds meant to hamper their freedom thereby reducing them to slavery.

Excellent at organising, like a spider in a web. Suits jobs like air traffic controller or harbourmaster.

The spine is very sensitive and so are the tips of the fingers. Burning stinging pains, and numbness with prickling. Crave spicy food, raw food and cold water. Chilly yet desires to be in the open air. Aversion to touch but better from rubbing. This is more a remedy of inflammation and irritation than sepsis.

Cantharis: Frenzy, inflammation. A remedy of violent irritation producing heat, burning pains and oedema. The fly produces irritating vesicles when touched. It creates much excitement in the system with urticaria and oedema.

Burning, tearing and stinging pains in the mucous membranes of cavities and hollow organs such as the intestines, urethra and anus. Burning pain with an urge to urinate. Eruptions burn on touch and can become black and necrotic. Watery discharges can be excoriating and corroding. Burning thirst but averse to liquids. The sight of or even thought of water can produce spasms. Retention of urine with spasm in the bladder, worse from drinking water. Anxious at the sound of running water.

Confusion, excitement, frenzied rage. There can be amorous frenzy and a strong sex drive. Constantly attempting to do something but achieve nothing as they cannot settle. They are rarely passive, the energy of the remedy means that stress becomes anguish and dissatisfaction.

After a burn the pattern is like Belladonna initially but then there are ‘nips and smarts’ which break down and produce exudate. On the skin this is contained in blisters on mucous membranes it produces mucous. The next stage is a tightening of the skin with the accompanying spasm and the final stage, not seen these days, is gangrene.

Cantharis people have a high sex drive which tends to increase during illness. They have volatile, even violent tempers and are frequently intolerant. Children can be insolent and demanding.

Cantharis is prescribed for conditions that deteriorate or escalate rapidly. The patient deteriorates very rapidly and general symptoms are typically a total loss of appetite, sore throat, burning pain when urinating and constant, persistent thirst accompanied with an aversion to drinking as swallowing is painful and so is the build up of liquid in the urinary tract. Most pains are described as burning.

Click to refresh on the nature of [Animal, Plant and Mineral Remedies in homoeopathy](#).

Next month we will explore three **Nervous Remedies**.