

TOPICS IN MODERN HOMEOPATHY

HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

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DYNAMIS – THE VITAL FORCE

If you take 43 kg oxygen, 16 kg carbon, 7 kg hydrogen, 2 kg nitrogen, 1 kg of calcium, phosphorus and a handful of other elements and mix them together, and you have the chemical makings of a human being. Well almost – except for the most important part, life!

Without the animating force of life, a body is no more than a pile of chemicals. Hahnemann called this the 'vital force' or 'dynamis.' It is responsible for movement, sensation, function, homeostasis and health – life in general. When the vital force leaves, the body dies.

Most cultures and systems of medicine recognize some type of energy or force involved in health; Qi (China), Ki (Japan), Prana (Ayurvedic), Ruah (Hebrew), Sekhem (Egypt), Mana (Polynesia), Spirit (Native American) and Auras, just to name a few. Proof of the existence of these forces is difficult to come by, and even more difficult to link to healing events.

It is the disruption of this vital force that is responsible for what is commonly called illness or disease. In the eyes of the homeopath, then, disease is not a set of symptoms, but an indication of a deeper disruption of the vital force. Health is the natural state. Through a dynamic flow, the vital force maintains the balance of health unless acted upon by some morbidic or injurious influence, such as a miasm, bacteria or even negative thinking, which introduces an impediment to the flow, causing an obstruction.

At that point, the vital force is said to become deranged, and it is this derangement which the body eventually experiences as disease. Since the vital force is immaterial, it is rational to think that something immaterial must be used to reestablish the harmonious flow and the resultant health.

Enter homeopathy. Homeopathic remedies are said to be 'energetic,' for lack of a better term. Everything has energy (remember $E=mc^2$), but it is what is stored in and transmitted by the homeopathic remedy that communicates with the vital force of a living organism, creating a balancing of those energies and, thus, alleviation of the related symptom picture. It is the black box of healing, we understand the 'if' and the 'then,' but not the 'how.'

Theory is fine, but is there any evidence that the vital force actually exists? In 1939, Kirlian photography discovered a way to record an energetic image surrounding living organisms. It was believed to be evidence of either a light body or an aura, although the scientific community has largely ignored the implications.

The statements in this newsletter have not been evaluated by the Food and Drug Administration. These products are not intended to diagnose, treat, cure or prevent disease. Seek professional help if a condition worsens or lasts more than 7 days.

“The vital force is the innate intelligence of the organism that is constantly striving to maintain an internal homeostasis in the face of continuous environmental change ... the aim of our system of medicine is to nurture and strengthen this vital force and to remove all agents that impede its action within the organism.”

- Peter Morrell

Today, science boasts a highly sensitive magnetometer - SQUID (superconducting quantum interference device) - that has been able to detect almost imperceptible fluctuations in biological magnetic fields in response to energetic therapies. Some have postulated that torsion fields can operate at a distance, and can transmit information without energy. More research is underway, but as the complexities of this field are uncovered, is this proof of a vital force, or just a field normally generated by living tissue?

Models, even if they aren't completely accurate, can provide a map which helps us navigate the terrain. The concept of the vital force allows us to work with something that we don't entirely understand and keeps our mind open to deeper possibilities.

Fortunately it doesn't matter whether we understand it or not. Science will always seek to understand the how behind any phenomenon, and we have confidence that eventually, with the advances in science, eventually homeopathy will be explained.

Post-note: It may be unusual for us not to mention one of the Mediral products in our newsletters, but I feel that understanding this concept is crucial to effectively using homeopathic remedies. I trust you agree.