

**TITLE : EXPLORING THE ROLE OF MIASM AND ANTIMIASMETIC MEDICINES  
IN THE MANAGEMENT OF RINGWORM**

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**Abstract –**

Ringworm presents its manifestation locally in skin, hair and nail. Ringworm presents a significant challenge in healthcare. Traditional homoeopathic philosophy emphasizes the concept of miasms, inherent disease tendencies impacting susceptibility. Understanding the miasmatic background aids in selecting appropriate antimiasmatic medicines to address the root cause of ringworm. This abstract explores the relationship between miasms and ringworm while evaluating the efficacy of antimiasmatic remedies in its treatment. Additionally, it highlights the potential of personalized homoeopathic approaches to effectively manage and alleviate ringworm manifestations.

**KEYWORDS :** Miasm , Ringworm , Antimiasmatic medicine

**INTRODUCTION :**

Ringworm is an important public health problem worldwide. It is more prevalent in geographic areas with hot and humid climate. Such climate of India makes ringworm a very common fungal

infection.(1) In India , 1-12 cases out of every 1000 patients are found to have fungal infection.(5) Ringworm is a type of contagious fungal disease , that spreads by direct or indirect contact.

### **ETIOLOGY :**

Ringworm infection can be superficial or , less commonly , deep. Dermatophyte infections ( Ringworm ) are extremely common and usually caused by species of fungi and other factors such as follows; (4)

- Microsporum species
- Trichophyton species
- Epidermophyton species
- Unhygienic life style and low socio-economic background

### **TYPES :**

Ringworm is classified on the basis of the main affection area by the fungi. Such as follows; (4)

1. Tinea corporis ( skin affection )
2. Tinea cruris ( groin affection )
3. Tinea pedis ( foot affection )
4. Tinea capitis ( scalp affection )
5. Onychomycosis ( Nail affection )

### **SIGN AND SYMPTOMS :**

Ringworm generally affect the skin , groin , foot , scalp , nail and any other part of the body . It causes following sign and symptoms; (4)

- Itching
- Burning
- Scaling
- Redness
- Erythematous and annular lesions with well defined edge and central clearing

## **DIAGNOSIS :**

We may diagnose ringworm by skin examination using **black light view** of the affected area, depending on the type of fungus, it may sometimes fluoresce (glow) under black light. confirm diagnosis is done by **skin biopsy or fungal culture and by Koh examination.**(4)

## **MIASM IN HOMOEOPATHY :**

According to organon of medicine , § 5 states that the fundamental cause of all chronic diseases is nothing but the MIASM. To achieve the permanent cure, the fundamental cause must be removed.<sup>2</sup> In homoeopathy, miasms are considered as underlying predispositions or diatheses that contribute to the development of chronic diseases. They are deep-seated, inherited tendencies that influence an individual's susceptibility to illness. Homeopaths believe that addressing miasms is crucial for complete and long-term healing. Samuel Hahnemann gives basic three fundamental miasms , which are PSORA , SYCOSIS AND SYPHILIS.

## **PSORA MIASM :**

There is no life process free from psora. Every zone or centre may be involved and besides , it readily combines with any other miasms. Psora is the "Mother Miasm". Hahnemann had said that " If there is not presence of psora in the organism, the organism could not become affected by any other disease , not even sycosis or syphilis. " It is the bond of acceptance that it induces the life force to receive disease. It is the gateway of reception, the doorway wherein disease entereth. Disease can enter in no other way. Psora has power to assume a latent condition to itself. Neither sycosis nor syphilis seem to have this feature. Even if syphilis and sycosis ever becomes dormant , it will reappear as a psoric expression or in combine with psora.(3)

## **PHYSICAL GENERAL SYMPTOMS ;**

- Thermal relation : chilly
- Craving for sweet , sour , fried things and fat food
- Ravenous hunger especially in morning
- Aversion to bath, unclean and dirty habits
- Better by natural discharges and secretions

## **CHARACTERISTIC SYMPTOMS ;**

- Burning and sweating of palms and soles
- Periodical hot flushes felt in eyes, face, ears etc.
- Redness of mucus membrane of lips, nostrils
- Frequent congestion in throat with accumulation of much phlegm
- Vertigo < when walking
- Long standing headache like migraine
- All symptoms of acidity and dyspepsia, nausea , vomiting and hiccough
- Various skin diseases

## **TUBERCULAR MIASM :**

Tubercular miasm was first introduced by **J.H.Allen**, in his book " The chronic miasms." He said that , when a suppression of psora takes place, frequently seen when psora and syphilis are perfectly combined by hereditary transmission, the Tubercular is the result of such union. He also named it as "**pseudo-psora miasm.**"(3)

## **INDICATIONS OF TUBERCULAR MIASMETIC STATE :**

- Lean and thin constitution. ( Fatness without fitness )
- Cosmopolitical habits
- Even changing symptoms
- Complaint from change of weather or atmosphere
- Tendency to cough and cold. ( Catches cold easily )
- History of tuberculosis or lung disease
- Chronic inflammation of glands and tonsils.(7)

## **SYCOTIC MIASM AND RINGWORM :**

Dr.J.H.Allen in his book on chronic miasms- "some of skin diseases like **tinea sycosis and tinea barbae are sycotic origin**. In fact all form of facial skin diseases that are contracted from barber shops, due to the sycotic taint or to a form of that miasm. Circular patches in ringworm commonly met with and mentioned by Dr.burnett as having a tubercular origin, proves quite clearly to me this theory of mixed miasm. **Tinea cicrumscripta which causes a form of**

**alopecia and which responds readily anti-sycotic treatment.**In fact all forms of ringworm, we see this specific sycotic element running all through the manifestations of these very mysterious lesions, of which little known.”(3)

### **MIASM IN RINGWORM :**

Ringworm generally produces itching, scratching or even burning after scratching. Most of ringworm's pathology are included in **Psora miasm**.<sup>10</sup> According to Hahnemann, if there is itching only in spring time or in the month of March , it is sign of **Latent Psora.(10)** According to H.A.Robert , P.S.Ortega and P.N.Banerjee , it also include **Syphilitic miasm** if there is itching without eruption, violent itching or itching on becoming in warm bed.(11)(9)(12) According to J.T.Kent , it also includes **Sycotic miasm** , if there is itching with tearing.

### **HOMOEOPATHIC APPROACH :**

The conventional treatment can not offer cure by merely applying external ointment. It suppress the external manifestation but internal derangement is continuing. This suppression leads to recurrence of infection with more intensified symptoms and do not get permanent cure. Homoeopathy believes in understanding the holistic causative factors while treating the disease. Homoeopathy treats the root cause of disease and helps to achieve permanent cure. Some remedies are explained below;

**BACILLINUM :** It is important remedy for ringworm especially on face, scalp, beard and trunk. The typical appearance is white scales. Falling of hair in spots on scalp and face. Itching intense, aggravated at night when undressing. Oozing behind the ears, in the hair, in folds of skin with rawness and soreness; fiery red skin.(8)

**JUGLANS REGIA :** Tinea favus especially in the scalp behind the ear, itching is intense at night so that the patient has difficulty in sleeping. Various rash symptoms with late onset and chronic course.(6)

**SEPIA :** on skin brown spots, circular tetter. Pustular eruption, deep cracks worse from washing in the water ; itching eruptions , burning after scratching, dirty yellow and scurfy skin.(6)

**SULPHUR** : Terribly itchy Tinea cruris ; red and irritated at folds of scrotum and thigh. Lesion: fungal nails. Burning athlete's feet- must leave them uncovered. Location - face, feet, trunk, toe, nails.(6)

**TELLURIUM METALLICUM** : Tinea lesion may cover the whole body or only single parts. Lesion: circular patches ; sometimes intersecting circles. Barber's itch, hair falling in spots. Offensive garlic or fish brine odours from skin. Location: face, beard, head, trunk, scalp, ears, abdomen, scrotum, perineum.(6)

## **CONCLUSION :**

Homoeopathic system of medicine is very efficacious in treatment of Ringworm and permanent cure is ensue especially when medicine is prescribed with emphasis and consideration of underlying miasmatic background of patient along with proper modification of present accessory circumstances.

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