

# The Biggest Mistake in the History of the Drug

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## Abstract

In the beginning of the article, the author gives a brief historical overview of the drug and the two therapeutic methods used in medical practice - allopathy and homeopathy. Then, the positive and negative aspects of the two methods are analyzed. A large chapter is reserved for commenting on the biggest mistakes in the history of medicine - separation, opposition and rivalry of two therapeutic methods. The article ends with possible solutions to mitigate the consequences of this mistake and/or its removal.

Keywords: allopathy homeopathy, allopathic pharmacology, homeopathic pharmacology

## Rezumat

Autorul realizeaza pentru inceput, o scurta prezentare istorica a medicamentului si a celor doua metode terapeutice folosite in practica medicala, alopatia si homeopatia. Analizeaza apoi aspectele pozitive si pe cele negative ale celor doua metode. Se rezerva un capitol amplu pentru comentarea celei mai mari greseli din istoria medicinei, separarea, opozitia si rivalitatea celor doua metode terapeutice. Articolul se incheie cu solutii posibile pentru diminuarea urmarilor greselii si/sau inlaturarea lor.

Cuvinte cheie: alopatie, homeopatie, farmacologie alopată, farmacologie homeopata

## Introduction

The history of medicine begins with the first humans that existed on earth, who cared for each other in case of illness, based on intuition and observation of the surrounding nature. Since then, medicine has seen

a constant evolution in parallel with large and small discoveries of the human spirit, assimilating all it could be useful and came to possess into the 21<sup>st</sup> century, a huge amount of knowledge on the human body,

diseases of their treatment. Simultaneously, it made its own discoveries, equally valuable.

It should be noted that in the history of medicine, the drug field held a special significance. It should also be noted that **in addition to successes and progress, like any human activity, medicine and the drug field also recorded many mistakes and failures**, for various reasons. The fact is that many of them could have been avoided in the first place, if the laws of nature and of logic came first.

#### **A great discovery, the second type of drug, the homeopathic one**

It is very difficult to assess the value of each discovery which illustrated history of medicine. A valuable criterion would be the importance of the consequences that followed a discovery on the scale of medicine. From this point of view, I believe that in the drug field, **Hahnemann's discovery of the second type of drug, the homeopathic one, is one of the greatest discoveries of all time**. This claim is motivated by the fact that the influence of the drug, as an instrument of the therapeutic method, is reflected in all medicine, is used in all fields of medicine, with consequences on all humanity. A discovery can rarely echo so widely.

I emphasize and insist that Hahnemann made his discovery, set forth as the *law of similitude*, which is

an expression of a law of nature, the **diphasic antagonistic action law**, which was not known in his time and which became known a few decades later, as the *Ardnt-Schulz law*<sup>[1]</sup>. In turn, diphasic antagonistic action law is the expression of universal natural law, the law of duality, which will be discussed in this article. And noteworthy to remember is that although the diphasic antagonistic action law is very important for physiology and pharmacology, even since its early days, the law was and is silenced, in a deliberately and distinctly anti-scientific and anti-human way, specialized books do not mention it, almost no one knows about it. And because of a single reason. It has been and can be a scientific argument, objectively justified, to advocate for the existence of homeopathy.

#### **A short historical overview of the drug**

The ultimate goal of the complex medical activity is mainly treating. Among the means of treating disease, drugs are of paramount importance. Drugs as we know them in the early 21<sup>st</sup> century, experienced the first developments late 18<sup>th</sup> century, early 19<sup>th</sup> century. At the time, "medicinal substances" were used for the treatment of illness, which are described in a book called "*Materia Medica*". The drug term was not discovered. Herbal drugs were empirically used (mostly), but also animal products, and minerals (less). Therapeutic means of the time

involved bleedings, leeches, gargling, emollient poultices, diaphoretics, laxatives, enemas, and so on.

In a same historical period, late 18<sup>th</sup> century - early 19<sup>th</sup> century, out of *Materia Medica*, two therapeutic methods were born as two sisters, allopathy and homeopathy. Ever since beginning, some differences between them became apparent, which have increased over time.

Allopathy, which already existed in empirical forms, developed, first slowly, then explosive, assimilating the progress of the medical sciences and the fundamental ones. The most important fact that would ensure its supremacy in medicine for the next 200 years until today, is that it secured its own scientific basis, by the appearance in the 19<sup>th</sup> century of a medical science of the drug, pharmacology. This automatically drew a logical and quick progression. There was a gradual move from using whole plants to using total extracts from plants, then the identification, isolation, purification and identification of the chemical structure of active substances (principles) from plants and extracts, introduction of pure substances in therapeutics, obtaining through chemical synthesis of substances first isolated from plants, then after their model, new structures, unknown in nature, and nowadays in obtaining drugs through biotechnology.

In the end, Pharmacology (allopathic) to dominate the drug

therapy (pharmacotherapy) in all medical specialties and in all developed countries and even some developing ones. In poor countries is still dominated by phytotherapy, an initial, empirical form of allopathy.

A very special mention must be made on the role of allopathic medicine as a research tool, as a chemical scalpel which entered the privacy of physiological and pathological processes at the molecular and cellular level. Together with chemical reagents, drugs brought invaluable benefits for medicine and biology, representing some indispensable tools that have enabled for "medicine to enter the cell". Unimaginable discoveries were made possible, such as chemical mediators, modulators, numerous types of receptors, ion channels, and so on.

In the same period, more than 200 years, homeopathy has retained unchanged many of the initial fundamental ideas, which were very valuable for beginning times, but which should have been adjusted, along the evolution of science. These data became dogma, with significant share in the stagnation of homeopathy. This enormous mistake homeopaths could have been avoided if they had admitted the next logical thinking. Hahnemann's discoveries and ideas, many of them brilliant, can be divided into two categories. The first one couples the ideas that, without Hahnemann being aware were corresponding to the

laws of nature, which are perennial and unchanging. Their validity will be eternal. In the second category unites ideas inspired by Hahnemann medical knowledge of his day, in most cases changed over time, by the evolution of medical science knowledge. These ideas were so outdated and they should have been gradually abandoned, but this never happened. Many homeopaths believe today that trying to make a critical thinking of Hahnemann's ideas is an impiety. This shows a naivete, an intellectual immaturity on their part.

### **Drug therapy, a great success and a great drama of medicine**

#### **Allopathy**

It is obvious that allopathy brought great benefits to humanity, contributing substantially to increasing life expectancy, improving the quality of life and so on. If the list of benefits is quite long, as long and heavy is the list of negative aspects.

Exaggerated and illogical investments in research and production led to the existence of an inadmissible large number of molecules of chemical synthesis, scientifically unjustified for the needs of medical practice. A worryingly high number of side effects was reached, some serious or very serious, with huge costs for patients and society. Huge mistakes were made in economic terms. Drugs, as instruments of therapeutic methods, include two components, one

medical, scientific and the other financial, economic. Logically, since the first component expresses the rationale of a medicine, it must be dominant in its appreciation. The economic component is incidental, a necessary evil but an indispensable one, which should have a secondary role altogether. These considerations advocates the idea that medicine is not a commodity but a very special product. In fact, for a long time now, the development of allopathic pharmaceutical industry led to the reversal of values in the prevalence of medicines and the prevalence of the commercial side. In all developed countries the costs of drugs are ever growing and existing funds are never sufficient.

#### **Homeopathy**

It appeared as a weak response to the therapeutic effects of allopathic medicinal substances of the era. From the beginning, the positive therapeutic virtues of homeopathic medicines were strongly stated, clearly exceeding the results of allopathy. For example, in 1849 the Royal London Homeopathic Hospital was founded. At that time, London has experienced an outbreak of cholera. In the homeopathy hospital mortality was 16%, while at other London hospitals, who did allopathic treatments, mortality reached 53%<sup>[2]</sup>.

**As a tribute to the limitations imposed by the low level of medical knowledge of his time,**

**Hahnemann developed homeopathy as a therapeutic method.** The lack of a scientific methodology in conducting provings has resulted in a huge volume of data on homeopathic effects, of which only less than 20% reliable. Unfortunately, the design of homeopathy as a therapeutic approach resisted until modern day, totally omitting the existence and role of homeopathic medicines. Thinking of the logical link allopathy – allopathic medicine - allopathic pharmacology, it is clear that homeopathy had stalled because it lacked the homeopathic medicine in its focal point. Persisting only as a simple therapeutic method, totally lacking the contribution of the science of medicines, the only engine of progress, homeopathy has selfcondemned to stagnation.

It is surprising and incomprehensible that no one noticed for over 200 years, that the essence of homeopathy is the homeopathic drug, the *sine qua non* of the existence of homeopathy. It had to reach early 21<sup>st</sup> century, for myself, a professor of pharmacology to discover this truth. There is no doubt that the stagnation of homeopathy at the initial stage, as a therapeutic method, results in the perpetuation of a first phase of development, the immaturity and sentencing to stagnation, of maintaining it out of the boundaries of medicine. Although it is the subject of hundreds of books and dozens of societies, with no apparent scientific basis, homeopathy, which remained

outside of medicine, is considered “*alternative medicine*”. This is an incomprehensible situation, because homeopathy is not another (*alternative*) medicine, but *true medicine*, addressed at informational level, that belongs to the future of medicine. For this it is imperative that homeopathy has to become what it really is, a branch of *homeopathic pharmacology*. Thus, homeopathy will reach maturity and will be a perfect analogy, up to symmetry, with allopathy. At the same time, the proximity of the two pharmacologists will be a serious argument that the drug phenomenon is one, that pharmacology is one, that the two therapeutic methods should be considered together, complementing each other. We may act in two directions. First, by using the law of similitude on molecular and cellular scale, as in my discovery, described in a separate article published in the same issue of this journal. Secondly, besides the numerous therapeutic virtues, homeopathic medicines can be used as research tools, with a difficult to predict potential.

### **The biggest mistake of medicine**

As a general statement, it can be said that in the drug field, instead of normality and tolerance, abnormality and intolerance were chosen. Therefore, I think that reporting this mistakes is essential for the 21<sup>st</sup> century medicine.

**The mistake is that the two methods of treatment, allopathy and homeopathy, were always seen as two opposing, antagonistic entities, they were mutually exclusive, became rival and were at constant war.**

**In reality, they are analogous, equivalent and complementary, like the two halves of a whole.**

A fundamental fact, compulsory to be considered, these are not the result of fanciful ideas, or even theoretical ones, temporary valid. **They are the expression of a universal law of nature, so very precise and perennial: duality law.** Therefore, certainly, their opposition is a huge mistake. With the same certitude we can say they are permanent, excluding the disappearance of any one of them. With this statement I wish to draw the attention of the rivals and detractors of homeopathy, that their efforts are futile, doomed to failure, because they are against the laws of nature. Being firmly convinced of the objective necessity of the existence of homeopathy, her rivals should know that inventing rival critics, will not maintain it within the drug domain, but will continuously cause further invaluable damage to the health of humanity.

Duality is a fundamental constituent phenomenon of the realities of many things and phenomena of nature, which have two opposable states (components),

that are inseparable, but coexisting. It's a quality of those things that are double or have a dual nature. The two components are part of the thing or phenomenon, they always exist together but, in some circumstances, only one of the components manifests itself. Duality reveals that what we see at some point is, in reality, at the same time, and one and the other of the components and only apparently are one or the other. Among the many examples of duality we mention: rest - movement, anion - cation, acid - alkaline oxidation - reduction, positive-negative electrical charges, depolarization - repolarization, excitation - inhibition, attraction - rejection, and so on.

For those who want to take notice, I will share a very valuable teaching that was given to me as a life experience. Namely, every problem has at least one valid solution, provided the problem to be formulated properly and data entered in the statement to be justified. If there is a problem for which no solution is found, it means that the statement was not formulated correctly or the problem is false. A prominent example of objection is that some homeopathic medicines are not effective because they do not contain active substances. The statement is based on the idea that all actions on living matter must be related to the existence of material substances. This idea is false, since it is well known that there are frequent cases of disorders related to psychic stress, emotional or traumatic factors,

without the intervention of any chemicals or germs.

The objective reality shows that allopathic pharmacology and homeopathic pharmacology are closely linked. Allopathic pharmacology is based on the favorable effects of therapeutic doses, on pharmacodynamics. It is drug applied physiology, in pharmacological physiology or physiological pharmacology. All body functions can be known using drugs as research tools. Allopathic therapy is based on the fact that the drugs' mechanisms of action are the result of effects on the same tissue components, but are opposite to those produced by the pathogen.

**Allopathic therapy is a coercive therapy.**

Homeopathic pharmacology is based on the toxicological effects of substances, it is physiopathology applied to the medicines or pharmacological physiopathology or physiopathology pharmacology. All diseases can be reproduced artificially by drugs, which can serve to better know pathogenic mechanisms of disease. Homeopathic therapy is based on mechanisms of drug action are the result of the effects on same tissue components, but in the same direction with the effects of the pathogen, with the exception that the artificial disease (caused by medication) is weaker, the processes are carried on a lower energy level and the body, through its mechanisms of self-regulation, chooses the lowest energy level.

**Homeopathic therapy is a reactive therapy.** From the above, it can be concluded that each of the two pharmacologies illustrate each one of the two possible facets of drug action.

The facts exposed above are important for the therapeutic practice. Contrary to a opinion holding no scientific support, arguing that the two types of drugs may not be associated, since their mechanisms of action are synergistic, their effects actually complement very well and mutually reinforce each other. Therefore, if a condition can be treated well with a single drug, allopathic or homeopathic, it makes sense to be treated as such. In severe cases that can not be solved using a single type of drug, it is logical and scientific to resort to the combination of the two types, allopathic and homeopathic. Certainly, the effects will be superior.

**As a general conclusion, allopathy had a spectacular development because it was not designed as a therapeutic method but was primarily focused on the instrument of the method - the drug - and it has developed a science of the drug, pharmacology (allopathic) and asimilated continuously its progress and those of the fundamental sciences. All advances in allopathy are due to pharmacology, therefore due to the drug, the instrument, not the therapeutic method, which is a practical clinical application of the**

properties of the instrument. Inevitably, it also recorded the negative aspects of these developments. **So, allopathy represents a great success of the human spirit but a stinging and painful one, heavily paid.** For those who carefully observe the history of allopathy, it seems clear that it matured, close to the maximum limits of development, or saturation, with fading opportunities to maintain a high pace of innovation and progress.

In turn, homeopathy was marked by extremely valuable therapeutic results and, despite those, through stagnation and the total lack of assimilation of the progress of medicine and the fundamental sciences. **Homeopathy represents a great success, but a disappointing one, an impressive therapeutic potential but with many unfulfillments.**

**The biggest mistake of medicine, on a tremendous scale, was and remains the total separation of the two therapeutic methods, allopathy and homeopathy, followed by deliberate cultivation, although obviously unjustified, of the differences between them, their placement on opposite, antagonistic, rival sides, triggering a true fratricidal war, lasting for over 200 years.** And of course, as any war brings nothing constructive but always destructive, it brings loss and misfortune and it had negative consequences on the health of the

humanity, with inestimable detriments, experienced by all the people of the planet, without them having any fault.

### **What is to be done**

Repairing the mistake, that exists for over 200 years, is simple in theory but very difficult in practice. As soon as it will be acted upon, and as firmly as possible, the contribution of medicine to the health of humanity will substantially increase. It is left for the mistake to be recognized and to exist the willingness and determination for it to be removed.

Obviously, the mistake should first be recognised by the international medical community (academia and university institutions, physicians, national and international health bodies and organizations, professional societies and associations of physicians)

It is essential and paramount for everyone to abandon the secular rivalry between allopathy and homeopathy, to recognize them as equal entities in the drug field. This historical achievement of mankind, awakened from hatred narcosis, will open new and unsuspected horizons in the history of medicine and humanity. It will be worthy if there will be a constructive coexistence. It would be ideal to reach a collaborative plan on scientific research and on the therapeutic practice. Specifically, all mentioned above could and should:

- accept the equal status existence of the two therapeutic methods, allopathy and homeopathy;
- accept homeopathic pharmacology as a medical science of the homeopathic drug and introduce it as a compulsory subject in the curricula of all faculties of medicine;
- within homeopathic pharmacology, revise current classical contents of classic homeopathy, removing outdated ballast and the introduction of many new elements specific to pharmacology;
- prescribe, without distinction, allopathic and homeopathic medicines by all physicians, ambulatory or in hospital practices, and only on the basis of scientific evidence.

Achieving these objectives could cover several years. Some will be easier to achieve, for example, homeopathic pharmacology introduction to all the faculties of medicine.

An action that could be very useful would be to create, using European Union funding, an International Institute of Homeopathic Pharmacology. It should have as a priority the drafting of a treatise of homeopathic pharmacology. I published the first two chapters of the future treatise, the general part and the respiratory pharmacology<sup>[3,4]</sup>. Around 10 other chapters should be drafted and published. I expected the treatise to be structured on the basis of

allopathic medicines ATC classification adopted by the World Health Organization for all its documents of the drug field.

As a lifelong servant of the drug, I noticed for a long time now, both smaller and bigger mistakes of allopathy and homeopathy mentioned in this article, as well as the biggest mistake of medicine of all times and have been wearing them in my being like an heavy burden, because I realize their size and that they cause immense damage. It makes me suffer I can not do anything concrete to minimize them or eliminate them.

However, I can not limit myself to remain astounded that such mistakes occur daily, frequently and throughout the world, but no one sees them and, therefore, there is no question of their removal.

Therefore, in the latest painful attempt, I dared to write this article, hoping that maybe people and authorities, national and international, will see and act.

I can only conclude this soul article by stressing firmly that if separation, rivalry and war between allopathy and homeopathy have been and continue to be the biggest mistake of all time in the history of medicine, the shame of medicine, then quitting separation and their reconciliation, giving equal status to both in research and medical practice, and why not, their

collaboration, will be certainly the greatest achievement of medicine ever.

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