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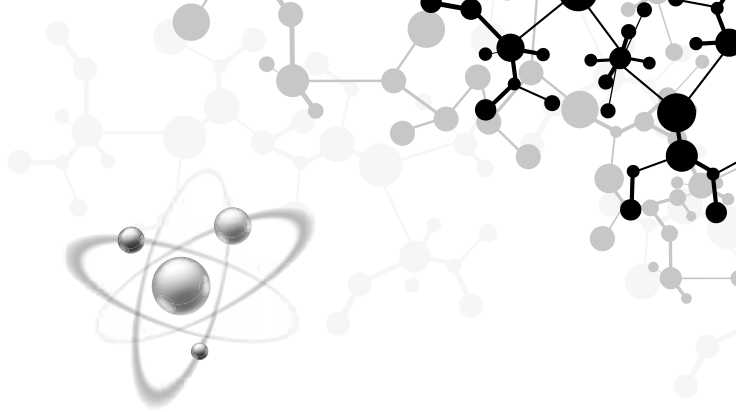
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Forward

I like this book by Patricia Le Roux very much. It illustrates the strength of element theory very nicely. And it explains very well how it works in practice. One can see Patricia Le Roux's talent in applying the theory on children's cases where there are often fewer symptoms than in adults. Even when the available information is sparse, she is able to analyze the case and see the essential topics. She manages to perceive the themes of the Series and Stages very well.

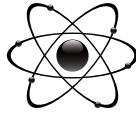
Therefore, this book shows very well, how the themes play out in paediatrics. It extends our knowledge of Actinides by illustrating their expressions in real life.

A significant theme of the Uranium series, the Actinides, is old age: the years before death. In the casework, we see this expressed by the fact that many children are raised by their grandparents rather than their parents. These children are more exposed with old age and the fragility that goes with it.

Another recurrent theme in the cases, is death of family members. The deaths are often violent and include accidents and suicides. Early in life, these children are confronted with death and disintegration. The disintegration is also expressed in the family's own disintegration after such violent deaths. Death and disintegration are typical expressions of the Uranium series.

I can recommend this book to all homeopaths and not just paediatricians. It shows that the Uranium series is much more common than one would think at first. These remedies are needed more than they are being prescribed today. We can be thankful to Patricia Le Roux for making the pictures more precise, more alive and thus, easier to apply. This book is a very nice guide for the Actinides.

Jan Scholten



Thorium oxydatum

Conceptual Analysis of Thorium oxydatum

○ **Series and Stages**

- It belongs to the seventh series (Uranium series). According to Scholten, the following themes characterise this series:
 - *Energy, disintegration, sense of responsibility; they attempt to act in spite of their doubts.*
 - *Sense of duty and control, very strong energy which must be channelled or it becomes destructive, causing breakage and fragmentation.*
 - *High level of psychological maturity, old beyond their years, intuition.*
- It belongs to stage 4 and is the second element in the Actinides series. According to Scholten, this stage is characterised by the following: **They attempt to take the first step and fail.**

○ **Group Analysis**

- The elements in this stage are: **Titanium (Ti), Zirconium (Zr), Hafnium (Hf), Cerium (Ce), Thorium (Th).**
- They have the following symptoms in common: The theme is the foundation, the first step. They are starting to establish themselves; they join the group, they are amazed.

○ **Themes of the Actinides**

- Energy – disintegration. Life and death.
- Intuition, magic, miracles.
- Serious illness, death, devastation, immortality.
- Intergenerational and cultural abuse.
- Explosion, decomposition.
- Breaking glass.
- Loss of power and function.
- Precocity, old beyond their years.

○ Oxydatum Element According to Scholten

Selfishness, demanding. They try to use their energy to obtain respect. They are very selfish and try to control this. Often, they can be tough and resistant, in denial of their needs.

Low self esteem. They must display their energy, in spite of their handicap. They do this to gain respect, as they feel mentally and physically diminished.

Abused, victim. They must display their energy, especially if they have been a victim in childhood.

Lazy, neglected, tramp (clochard).

They hide their inner world.

Characteristics of Thorium oxydatum

They take the first step even though they are fragmented, in a thousand pieces; they are selfish and demanding as well as being a victim. They are lazy and adopt a marginal lifestyle, in spite of their maturity.



Clinical Case: Thorium oxydatum

In 2008, L., age 13, is brought in for a depressive state that began at the start of the school year. He comes from a family of three children, two boys and a girl.

The family history is extremely difficult. His father was retired, 20 years older than his mother when the boy was born. Since the age of three this boy has suffered repeated sexual abuse by his father, who also abused his sister. When the abuse was discovered, the parents divorced and the father was required to seek psychiatric help (**theme of Oxydatum: corruption**). In spite of this, the father committed another offence, and took his own life in 1999, undoubtedly due to a deep sense of guilt. The family indeed endured a series of horrific events! The family went through a subsequent period of disintegration. After some time, the mother managed to rebuild her life with a very courageous man who embraced the family, taking her and her three children under his wing, wounded and disintegrated as they were.

It is December, 2008, nine years after the father's death, and young L. is covered with eczema, which began at the start of the school year. At night, the itching torments him; his marks are going down, and the school alerts his mother. This child is normally smiling and positive, full of energy and vigour (**theme: actinides**). But now, any challenge seems enormous; the most minor test or exam appears to be insurmountable to him. He does not even want to try (**theme: the first step, stage 4**).

In addition, he is sinking into a destructive process; he feels victimised, and suddenly becomes very dependent on others, relying on help from them (**theme: oxydatum**). Moreover, although he previously was quite aware of his physical appearance, he is now letting himself go; he wears dirty clothes and looks as unkempt as possible. He has difficult relationships with children of his own age, yet he communicates well with adults and people older than himself (**theme: old beyond his years**). He is not interested in anything. Socially, he is totally withdrawn; he is grumpy and in a permanently bad mood.

His food desires are not specific; he likes everything, but has been eating less for some time.

○ **First Prescription and Follow-Up Consultations**

The patient is given **Thorium oxydatum** 200C.

- Two months later, February 2009: The eczema has disappeared completely. He is back to being clean and wearing good clothing. He is no longer unkempt. The school sent home an encouraging note for the second trimester. He receives a dose of **Thorium oxydatum** 1M.
- June 2009: He moves up to the next grade as usual.

○ **Reasons for the Prescription**

- Seventh series:
 - Sense of duty, very strong energy, full of energy and very dynamic. A strong notion of family disintegration is present, along with severe pathologies, suicide, and corruption.
- Stage 4: He cannot take the first step.
- Actinides:
 - Energy – disintegration. Life and death.
 - Intuition, magic, miracles.
 - Serious illness, death, devastation, immorality.
 - Intergenerational and cultural abuse.
 - Explosion, decomposition.
 - Breaking glass.
 - Loss of power and function.
 - Precocity, old beyond their years.
- Oxide radical:
 - Mentality of dependency.
 - Notions of corruption, sexual abuse, victimisation.