Editorial

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Different aspects of homeopathic research

In this issue there are four articles, three of which are experimental, and one is a systematic review, showing different but complementary aspects of research in homeopathy.

Two articles deal with experimental models in vivo. In one of them, anti-hyperglycemic metabolic effects of three homeopathic medicines (*Insulinum* 6cH, *Pancreatinum* 6cH and *Uranium nitricum* 6cH) are associated with several metabolic parameters, showing the systemic effects of the studied drugs. Such a pre-clinical approach provides rational support for the execution of future clinical studies of high hierarchical degree of evidence, which are still rare in homeopathic science given the current infrastructure limitations. In the second article, anxiolytic-like behavioral effects are shown in rats, but with statistical limitations that bring up an old discussion: the probable dissociation between the mechanisms of action of homeopathic medicines and those of allopathic medicines, in a way that highlights the construction of experimental designs suitable for each cases. Studies with negative results, like this one, give a great contribution to this reflection.

The third article is also focused on basic research, but on a bio-physical model, showing changes in the endo / exothermic activity of specific enzymatic sites after exposition to homeopathic potencies. Such an experimental model opens doors for many future studies, with a view to a refined understanding of the homeopathic dilutions effects on organic processes.

Finally, the fourth article, organized by members of the ministry AYUSH, India, provides an overview on research in homeopathy and viral diseases and launches an interesting discussion on the importance of observing this background for carrying out clinical-epidemiological studies involving the use homeopathy as a plausible prophylactic and/ or therapeutic additional resource for the control of Covid-19 (since it does not replace vaccins).

From the enzyme to epidemiology, this is just a sample of the broad spectrum of research possibilities in homeopathy and high dilutions field.

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