

HFA CASE – Treatment of radiation side effects – cancer patient

Case: 33 yo Male first seen on November 6, 2012.

He presented with a history of multiple cancers since a teenager. Original tumor was a synovial sarcoma in his left axilla which was golf ball size. He only noticed it after he bumped the tumor on a steering wheel one day.

He was treated with surgery, chemotherapy and radiation. It was gone for 11 years, then recurred. He again had chemotherapy and radiation and another surgery. The tumor came back in 2006 and they amputated his left arm from the shoulder. He did not receive chemotherapy or radiation.

After this he was diagnosed with a noncancerous tumor in his left ear- in the internal ear so it was considered a brain tumor. The only symptom he had was a decrease in hearing. He was sent to an EENT who discovered the tumor which was treated with a gamma knife. His hearing loss of 90% in left ear never returned.

A few years ago, during cancer screening, they found a spot on his right lung. He had surgery in early 2011. When he presented to my office, he said he had 4-5 spots on the right lung. His only symptom is a little pain in the right chest area on very deep breathing. Otherwise, he is the picture of health, has energy, sleeps great, has no sense of urgency about his condition because he feels and looks so well.

There is no history of an injury before the first tumor or any major stressor physically or mentally before then.

He has 2 large, hard deposits on his left scalp area. They are about the size of quarters. He has had others removed in the past. He also has a lot of moles.

Besides the tumors, his health history shows that he was born with hydrocephalus. His cousin was born with the same condition. He had a shunt put in. He also had his tonsils and adenoids removed for chronic ear and throat infections.

He uses vicodin for back pain occasionally - since his amputation, he does everything with his right hand and he feels his back gets twisted and painful after work- which is painting and tile work, especially after standing for long periods. His legs are edematous from knee down which came on during the last chemotherapy. He gets over acute illnesses quickly.

His family history shows a grandfather with leukemia and a grandmother with cancer. His twin has asthma.

He used to drink a lot of soda pop 4-5xday but not anymore. Craves sweets.

I was surprised by this patient because I did not expect someone with lung cancer to come in looking and feeling so vital and energetic. Besides the amputation, he looked and acted in very good health and

spirits. It was a little difficult to choose rubrics because he only had one symptom from his cancer and no other complaints at the time.

Rubrics: Generalities, cancerous affections

Head, hydrocephalus

Head, tumors

Generalities, side left

Chest pain, general, inspiration,during agg

FACIAL ANALYSIS 1

In my original facial analysis, I came up with a blue (syphilitic) analysis:

Yellow 3	Red 6	Blue 8
Eyes size	Bridge shape	Hairline height
Lips size	Nose size	Forehead shape
Hairline shape	Nose cleft	Bridge shape
	Teeth shape	Eyes position
	Chin cleft	Teeth angle
	Chin marking	Chin shape
		Asymetry
		Asymetry

I perceived he needed a blue remedy and from my repertorization, Conium was the first blue remedy that covered all my rubrics, and it seemed to fit the stony hard scalp tumors. I gave him Conium LM1 to take once a day unless the symptoms were markedly changed- then stop. I told him to call me in one week or sooner if he had any questions or any symptoms changed.

I did not hear from him for a few months. With all the holidays and travel I figured they might be busy or decided natural medicine was not for them. He had been convinced to come in by a client of mine, and many people with serious problems shop around. Then the client of mine who originally talked him in to coming, brought her daughter in and said she had been urging them to call me back for a long time. The cancer patient had been admitted to the hospital in November diagnosed with pneumonia. He was in the hospital for a while and they took 2 ½ liters of fluid off his lung. He felt better and they released

him. Then in mid-December he started having labored breathing and pain in the chest. He was hospitalized. His wife finally called, saying he was in extreme pain, could I call him in the hospital. I did call that day on January 2, 2013, but he was in so much pain, even on Morphine, he could barely talk. He was moaning and sounded like he was talking through clenched teeth. The only thing I could get from him was that the pain was not in the right lung. It was between the left scapula and the spine. The doctors told him it was from the fluid on his right lung. They told him the fluid last month had not been from pneumonia but from the tumor. They had started to drain the fluid from the right lung again but determined the fluid was from the tumor and stopped. It may have turned out that it was not fluid but solid tumor on x-ray, it was unclear. An x-ray showed the lung was basically collapsed from tumor. I called his wife to get some details. She said he had trouble breathing, had the pain and a cough. Anything strenuous and he was short of breath. The pain was worse with the cough. The cough was dry, but he had bloody mucus for 1 day a few days ago. Appetite was down but thirsty for cold drinks. It was hard to swallow food- fruit and yogurt were better. He also has nausea- feels he will throw up, but he will just bring up air and then the nausea is better. Feels a lot of pressure of air in stomach which is worse after eating or drinking. He is pale she says. He is very restless with the pain, can't get comfortable. The pain is better heat but then heat makes him itchy. Leaning forward to stretch the spine is most comfortable. Trouble breathing- must sleep upright. He is very frustrated, emotional, sad- he will cry easily since last hospital visit in November. He sounds desperate for relief, and he is calling his wife all the time when she is not in the hospital.

My overall impression was that he was barely able to tolerate his condition. He was desperate despite the pain meds, and it was using up his energy fast. I redid his facial analysis and added in full smile, so I thought he was Purple. I sent his pictures in to Louise and Grant (HFA research – Victorian College of Classical Homeopathy Melbourne Australia) because I felt I really needed to be sure. They agreed he was Purple. Here is their analysis (note 1 sycotic feature was added and 1 removed making the sycotic total the same – 1 asymmetry and 1 eyes position was removed , 1 facial line ? was added make the syphilitic features 1 point less = syco-syphilis) :

FACIAL ANALYSIS 2 (from VCCH)

<u>Yellow 2-3</u>	<u>Red 6</u>	<u>Blue 6-7</u>
Lips	Nose size	Hairline height
Forehead lines??	Chin marking	Asymmetry
Hairline shaved	Cleft chin	Chin shape
	Teeth shape	Teeth angle
	Brow	Forehead shape
	Bridge depth	Bridge shape
		Facial line?

Rubrics used:

Generals, cancer

Generals, tumors

Head, hydrocephalus

Eruclatations, amel.

Side, left

The top Purple (Syco-Syphilitic) remedy is Lachesis which is also the first purple remedy on my original repertorization. I only had a few Lachesis pellets, so I gave Lachesis LM1 to my client who referred them, so she could give it to the wife to administer as soon as she could- I didn't know if she would wait until he was out of the hospital.

Follow up by phone the next day - She gave him a dose of the Lachesis that night and that was the last time he needed morphine! The next day he felt much better and was released in a day or two. What a fast and pronounced reaction! They scheduled him for radiation which he wanted to try. I told him to continue the remedy once a day and let me know if any changes.

He had the radiation for ten days and was in horrible pain from his throat. He could not swallow from the burning and was losing more weight fast. He was very weak. He could not even drink water, only a few drops, but could suck on a frozen popsicle for a little bit. I recommended she get some aloe vera juice and freeze it into ice cubes and have him suck on that to help heal his burned throat. His wife said he tried that a few times. I also contacted Grant and Louise to see if he should stay on Lachesis or switch to Radium bromatum to give him some relief. They suggested taking the Lachesis more often before trying the Rad-br.

I had him take the LM, keep the dilution cup, stir it again and take another teaspoon every few hours. In a day or two his wife let me know he was able to swallow much better and was beginning to eat again. All in all he had lost about 30 pounds between the hospital visits and the radiation time.

I saw him February 6, 2013. He was very emaciated and weak and his mood was much more sober. You could tell he had been through a lot of suffering. His appetite had come back full strength and he was eating a lot. He still had a cough from the tumor. After the radiation, there was a moderate amount of fluid around his heart which did not have to be extracted because, after adding in the some proteolytic enzymes at this time, or from remedy, the fluid reduced to very little. He still has shortness of breath the flatter he lays, but now can lay at 15-20 degrees.

He had started on some anti cancer herbs. He had also opted to go in for experimental chemotherapy since they didn't have any other treatment for him. He started hallucinating in the first 24 hours which is a known side effect and the medicine had to be stopped immediately. The hospital staff said he was

different from most patients with the side effect in that he realized he was hallucinating. He was better after 3-4 days, but very weak. When he came in I was shocked by the emaciation, he looked like a totally different person and very weak from all the crises he had been through. He was given Lachesis LM2.

I was worried about him and told him to call if anything happened, any acute winter illness that might set him back. I did not hear from him for quite a while, and when he did make an appointment, it was postponed twice, so I was not sure how things were going.

He next came in April 23, 2013. I was relieved. He had put on a good portion of weight, he was energetic, color in his cheeks and a good mood. He says he can move around a lot more and feels he is still improving. He can stand for 20 minutes now. He can walk about 100 yards or more without having to rest. He states last month it was half that. A month and a half ago visiting an aunt he was pretty much confined to wheelchair. He is on Lachesis LM3 now. He feels good if he still takes it 4 times a day even though I had said he could try to reduce it, so I am not messing with his dosage. He is still on the enzymes and cancer herbs a few times a day. He said he did have a bad cough a few weeks ago, so bad he hurt a rib, and it was very painful that it affected his sleep, but he did not call. A few days ago he said he was sick with more of a cough and had bloody expectoration about 4 times that day of bright red blood. Today it was dark brown instead, but he still feels like he is improving overall still.

His lung has not been evaluated since he was in the hospital. He was considering finding out about a drug trial, and his lungs would be evaluated before that, but he does now realize how much the radiation and chemotherapy have put him into crisis and feels he may not try anything else besides the natural medicine from now on because it has helped him most. His rebound in the last 2 months has been dramatic. He was given Lachesis LM4 to start when he ran out of LM3.

Summary: His first reaction to the very first dose of the remedy was so dramatic, and its subsequent quick relief to acute situations was very successful. He is on some enzymes and cancer herbs, which may be helping as well, but they usually take more time than his quick response to the remedy. He also was not on the cancer herbs until after his throat healed from the radiation. It was amazing to me how the remedy seems to help all the aggravations from his other elected treatments. I am curious to see how his lung status is, but am afraid if he goes in to talk about a drug trial, he may be convinced to try it and be set back again. The improvement in the last 2 months is quite marked.

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