ULTIMATE PRISMA COLLECTION

Synoptic Reference 1

Second Edition

505 remedies

FRANS VERMEULEN





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H

HYDROPHIS CYANOCINCTUS

SUBSTANCE

Hydrophis cyanocinctus. Annulated sea snake. Black-tailed hydrophis. Family Elapidae, subfamily Hydrophiidae. Order Squamata. Class Reptilia.

Hydrophis cyanocinctus is a sea snake from the family Elapidae. Sea snakes comprise approximately 70 species, 50 of which are members of the family Hydrophiidae. Sea snakes are characterised by laterally compressed bodies and vertically flattened tails and nostrils with valve-like flaps, giving them an eel-like appearance. Their most characteristic feature is a *paddle-like tail*, which increases their swimming ability. They *propel* themselves by moving the tail back and forth. Sea snakes mainly live in the *upper* levels of the sea, but they can also dive to deeper levels, in which case they close the nostrils located above the snout. Adaptations of sea snakes for marine life include a single lung that reaches almost to the tail, gas exchange through the skin when underwater and lower metabolic rate to consume less oxygen while submerged. *Salt glands* surrounding the tongue help maintain osmotic balance in seawater.

The body of the annulated sea snake is variable in colouration, but usually bears 50 to 75 black bands or rings on a yellow or olive background, the bands being broader towards the upper surface of the body and usually tapering to a point on the flanks. The species is one of the longest of all sea snakes, with a maximum length exceeding 2 m [6.6 ft]. The female is larger than the male. The annulated sea snake is found in the Arabian Gulf east to Indonesia, the Philippines, and China. The range extends south to northern Australia and Papua New Guinea. It can be found in shallow seas over muddy bottoms and in soft bottom habitats. It feeds mostly on *eels*, but also takes gobies and marine invertebrates. It is often captured in trawl fisheries. The 'comically small' head of H. cyanocinctus is designed for nosing around in sand eel burrows.

The nostrils of snakes in the Hydrophis group are dorsally located and can be closed with valves. Although they spend much of their time underwater, they must surface regularly to breathe.

Sea snake copulation takes place underwater and takes such a long time that the couple must come up for air. The female *controls* the timing of these immersions and submersions. Since the male is stuck firmly inside the female until fertilisation is finished, he must gasp for a breath when she does. All sea snakes are viviparous, except for a single genus, Laticauda with 7 species, which come to land to lay eggs. Young can swim and feed immediately.

Like all snakes, sea snakes are cold-blooded creatures. Consequently, their distribution is restricted to warm waters and thus they are only found in the Indo-Pacific region, along the coasts throughout the Pacific as well as on the east coast of Africa and in the Persian Gulf. There are no sea snakes in the Atlantic Ocean, in the Caribbean or along the North American coast north of Baja.

Sea snakes are generally deemed to be non-aggressive and to have a gentle disposition. They are thought not to bite humans unless provoked. They typically do not actively pursue swimming prey. Only when taken out of their natural element, water, have sea snakes been noted to become quite aggressive, exhibiting erratic movements and striking anything near them that moves.

The clinically relevant toxins in sea snake venom are *neurotoxins* and *myotoxins*. Typical envenomation symptoms include *muscle* aches, pains, stiffness, tenderness and weakness. The muscles of the neck, trunk and the proximal parts of the limbs are

principally affected. Muscles are painful on active or passive movement. Symptoms may progress rapidly and complete recovery may take weeks or even months. Paralytic symptoms may begin with blurred or double vision and ptosis and progress, as with classical elapid neurotoxicity, to external ophthalmoplegia, a thick feeling of the tongue, slurring of speech, inability to swallow, breathlessness and respiratory muscle paralysis. The pupils become dilated and sluggishly reactive to light. Paralysis of the lower limbs affects gait. Asymmetrical lower motor neuron type paralysis has been described in the bitten limb or elsewhere and can involve the cranial nerves. More usually there is generalised flaccid paresis with the 'broken neck sign' resulting from weakness of the neck muscles.

The materia medica lists 2 more sea snakes in addition to Hydrophis – Laticauda colubrina and Pelamis platurus. Terrestrial elapids with which Hydrophis should be compared include species of Bungarus [krait], Dendroaspis [mamba], Micrurus [coral snake], Naja [cobra] and Oxyuranus [taipan]. All elapids are neurotoxic, in contrast to the predominantly haemotoxic pit vipers [Bothrops, Crotalus, Lachesis]. The musculoskeletal effects appear to be rather specific for the sea snakes.

Symptoms from a proving by Raeside [UK] with 6c and 30c on 2 female and 8 male provers in 1958. Clinical observations from Mangialavori [Italy; M]. Symptoms marked • from Degroote's Dream Repertory.

AFFINITY

CNS. Musculoskeletal. Eyes; vision. Circulation. Left side.

SYMPTOMS

- M Depressive, clouded mental state, weepy, esp. during menopause. Disgust for life.
- **M** Feel as if living under a heavy dark cloud. Depressed. Disinclination to do anything. Sad thoughts, singing sad songs. No joy in life. [2 pr.].
- **M** Disgruntled, lethargy, < before menses.
- **M** Irritable, tearful > alone, < consolation.
- **M** Horrible things, sad stories affect her profoundly. Oversensitive when hearing of cruelties.
- M Suspicious and mistrustful. Jealousy. Forsaken feeling. [M]
- M Jealousy, interrupts others. Aversion being laughed at..
- **M** Affectionate, returns affection. Consolation >.•
- M Euphoria # sadness.
- M Likes to climb.
- M Desire for the colours black and rusty red. Aversion to white.
- M Fears: Lightning, Riding, Death, fear she will die if she goes to sleep.•
- M Dictatorial. Children possessive of parents.•
- M Boys who like to wear girls' clothes. Mannish habits in girls.
- M Desire to hide by lying face-down on belly.
- M Feels unfortunate.
- M Vanity. Talks loudly; loud voice.•
- **G** The true place of this remedy is probably in cases of neuromuscular disease, surely poliomyelitis because of the striking clinical similarity, but also perhaps in muscular dystrophies.
- **G** Pains in singular groups of muscles.
- **G** Left side <.
- **G** Sleep light, restless, disturbed; waking from nightmares with fear, waking between 3 and 5 a.m.



- **G** Sleeps surrounded by stuffed animals in bed.•
- **G** Sleeplessness when travelling.•
- **G** General coldness frequently observed after bites, but not in the proving.
- **G** Warmth [proving] <. Open air >.
- **G** Ailments from or < exposure to sun. Sun = Heavy head, headache. Sun = Erythema.
- G Sea air <.
- **G** Profuse perspiration.
- **G** Appetite increased before menses.
- **G** Thirst for cold drinks.
- **G** Wrapping up external throat and nape of neck >.•
- **G** Faintness on stooping and/or on washing face.•
- **G** Flushes of heat upward from abdomen or from feet.•
- **G** Ticklish. Likes to be rubbed.•
- **S** As if walking on air; as if gliding in air.
- **S** Tight band round head, & beating in temples.
- **S** Movements of foetus feel like those of a snake under her skin.•
- **S** Sensation of suffocation, < lying down. Ribs as if compressed.
- **S** Chest as if compressed by an iron armour, & dyspnoea.•
- L Pain occiput, < laughing [making fun]: < lying on back.•
- L Eyes and vision: Itching of eyelids. Heaviness eyelids; can't keep them open; can't open them in morning.
- L Sudden dimness of vision. Hemiopia; left half lost; left side of faces disappears.
- L Dryness of throat [5 pr.]. < Waking; before menses; while speaking.
- L Eructations and flatulence on turning in bed at night.
- L Vomiting of undigested food.•
- L Pain hypogastrium, in the act of sitting down. Pain extending upward.•
- L Constipation before menses; > during menses.•
- L Urinary retention in presence of strangers.•
- L Hoarseness. < Morning; after speaking.
- L Pain chest on swallowing.
- L Pain axillae on raising arms.•
- L Pain right side of cervical region < raising left arm. Pain cervical region after overlifting.
- L Numbness fingers in morning on waking.•
- L Cramps calves on turning in bed.•
- L Coldness feet, < night.

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR

Mind • *Clairvoyance. Concentration* difficult, impossible. *Consolation* <. *Fear* on waking from a dream. *Indifference*, to life. Lack of *initiative. Sadness*, after euphoria; > when alone; during menopause; desire to weep. *Weeping*, < consolation.

Dreams • Being attacked. Eels. Insects.

Head • Dull *pain*, > open air; during heat. *Pain*, increasing suddenly.

Eves • *Hot* tears. *Paralysis*, upper lids.

Hearing • *Impaired*, left.

Nose • *Catarrh*, > open air.

Face • *Pain* joints of jaws, < chewing.

Throat • *Pain* tonsils, before menses; < talking; < walking.

Stomach • *Nausea*, on brushing teeth. *Pain* epigastrium, < after eating.

H

Abdomen • Gnawing *pain*, right hypochondrium. Gnawing *pain* hypochondria, < after eating.

Urine • Colour, black; red.

Female • Menses dark, scanty, too short, daytime only. Menses heavy, excessive, red.

Larynx • *Voice,* hoarseness, morning; from exertion of voice; < talking.

Chest • *Pain* left side, < lying down. Stitching *pain* heart region, < lying. *Palpitation*, on waking.

Limbs • *Cracked* skin, hands. *Dryness*, hands. Left foot *hot*, right foot cold.

Sleep • *Waking* after midnight, 2.30 a.m. – 4.30 a.m.

Generals • *Heaviness*, morning on waking. *Lying* on left side <. Stitching *pain*. *Poliomyelitis*. *Septicaemia*. *Warmth* <.

FOOD & FLUID

Aversion • Coriander.º Fruit; bananas.º Pancakes.º Vegetables; leek; stewed celeriac [knob celery]; stewed chicory.º

Desire • Bread, toasted.° Chocolate. Cold drinks. Crunchy, cornflakes.° Dairy; goat cheese°; milk. Fat.° Fish; salmon.° Fruit; apples; figs; grapes; melon; raisins; tangerines; tomatoes; tomatoes, warm.° Meat; chicken; chicken, skin.° Muesli.° Nuts; chestnuts, roasted.°

Better • Cold drinks.

° Additions Filip Degroote [Belgium].

PLUS GROUP

No joy in life; as if living under a heavy dark cloud

- + Sea air <: sun <
- + Warmth <
- + Neuromuscular
- + Pains in singular groups of muscles
- + Left side more affected

HYOSCYAMUS NIGER

SUBSTANCE

Hyoscyamus niger. Black henbane. Family Solanaceae. Order Solanales.

Hyoscyamus niger is a coarse, herbaceous annual or biennial, erect and hairy, to 1.2 m [3.9 ft] high, with oblong, coarsely toothed leaves. It has greenish-yellow or yellowish-white flowers with a purple throat and veins. It is a *foul*-smelling plant. The smell is produced by the compound tetrahydroputrescine, which is reminiscent of that of *rotting flesh* and probably attracts pollinating insects. It is native to Europe and naturalised in North America, particularly in north-eastern parts. It inhabits dry soils, roadsides, and waste places.

This *sinister*-looking plant, German toxicologist Gustav Schenk explains, "seems to live exclusively on human refuse, on the *corpses* in the cemetery or the offal that lies around human dwellings. Black henbane seems to suck up and retain within it all the poisonous matter from its habitat."



H

Solanaceous plants commonly produce poisonous alkaloids. Due to high contents of tropane alkaloids, genera such as Atropa, Datura, Hyoscyamus, Duboisia, Brugmansia and Mandragora have narcotic and hallucinogenic properties. The reason of the very similar symptomatology of such drugs as Belladonna, Stramonium and Hyoscyamus is that their chemical compositions are nearly alike. Tropane alkaloids are *anticholinergic* agents, acting as competitive inhibitors. The effects of an overdose of such alkaloids are quite well known. Clinical signs and symptoms are those of the typical peripheral anticholinergic syndrome seen in any atropine poisoning such as dilated pupils, dry mucous membranes, rapidly beating heart, fever, flushed dry skin, urinary retention, confusion, disorientation and hallucinations. [See Belladonna.]

Hyoscyamus contains the tropane alkaloids *scopolamine* and *hyoscyamine*, the latter being an optical isomer comprising atropine. The pharmacokinetics of hyoscyamine [l-hyoscyamine] and atropine [dl-hyoscyamine] are generally considered similar. Hyoscyamine reduces the fluid secretions of many organs and glands, such as the stomach, pancreas, lungs, saliva glands, sweat glands and nasal passages. Hyoscyamine, often in the form of the sulphate, is today used to provide symptomatic relief to various gastrointestinal disorders including spasms, peptic ulcers, irritable bowel syndrome, pancreatitis, colic and cystitis. It has also been used to relieve some heart problems, control some of the symptoms of Parkinson's disease, as well as for control of respiratory secretions in palliative care.

Side effects of hyoscyamine include dry mouth and throat, eye pain, blurred vision, restlessness, dizziness, arrhythmia, flushing and faintness. An overdose will cause headache, nausea, vomiting and CNS symptoms including disorientation, hallucinations, euphoria, inappropriate affect, short-term memory loss and possible coma in extreme cases.

The plant converts hyoscyamine by enzymatic action into scopolamine. Scopolamine levels are dependent on a number of factors. They increase under the influence of *light and warmth*, and decrease with the plant's age. Scopolamine and plants containing the alkaloid tend to cause CNS depression, manifested as drowsiness, euphoria, amnesia, fatigue and dreamless sleep. At one time it was used to manufacture 'truth serum'. In 1902 it was introduced as an agent to alleviate the pain of child-birth, inducing the so-called 'twilight sleep'. Under this form of anaesthesia, the pain of childbirth was neither experienced nor remembered although consciousness was maintained throughout the event. In the early 1920s scopolamine came to be regarded as the most effective treatment for the tremor characteristic of the *Parkinsonian* syndrome, which developed as an after-effect of encephalitis lethargica. During World War II large quantities were required as a sedative including its use in presurgical anaesthesia and for the management of shell shock. In modern medicine scopolamine has 3 primary uses, which are the treatment of nausea and *motion sickness*, the treatment of intestinal cramping and for ophthalmic purposes.

"Pliny calls this black Henbane a plant of ill omen, employed in funeral repasts, and scattered on tombs. The ancients thought that sterility was the result of eating this sinister plant, and that babes at the breast were seized with convulsions if the mother had partaken of it. Henbane was called Insana, and was believed to render anyone eating it stupid and drowsy: it was also known as Alterculum, because those that had partaken of it became light-headed and quarrelsome. According to Plutarch, the dead were crowned with chaplets of Henbane, and their tombs decorated with the baneful plant, which, for some unknown reason, was also employed to form the chaplets of victors at the Olympic games. Hercules is sometimes represented with a crown of Henbane. Priests were forbidden to eat Henbane, but the horses of Juno fed on it; and

to this day, on the Continent, Henbane is prescribed for certain equine disorders. In Piedmont, there is a tradition that if a hare be sprinkled with Henbane juice, all the hares in the neighbourhood will run away. They also have a saying, when a mad dog dies, that he has tasted Henbane. In Germany, there is a superstitious belief that Henbane will attract rain. The English name of Henbane was given to the plant on account of the baneful effects of its seed upon poultry, for, according to Matthiolus, birds that have eaten the seeds perish soon after, as do fishes also." [Richard Folkard, Plant Lore, Legends, and Lyrics; 1884]

Proving by Hahnemann with 7 provers, without further details. Self-experimentations by Schneller [Austria] with the extract in the 1840s; by Lindermann [Germany] with tincture, 3x and 15x in the 1870s; and by Mills [USA] with tincture in ca. 1900. Additional symptoms from poisonings and clinical observations. Clinical observations from Mangialavori [Italy; M]. Symptoms marked • from Degroote's Dream Repertory.

AFFINITY

CNS. Mucosa – eyes; mouth; throat. Gastrointestinal. Cardiovascular.

SYMPTOMS

- **M** Jealousy and [paranoiac] suspicion. Jealousy + rage. Delusion would be poisoned, murdered, watched, injured. Thinks everybody deceives, cheats, tricks him.
- **M** Delusion partner is unfaithful; obsessively controls everything. Claiming; constant accusations that other people are favoured [e.g. in children].
- **M** Strong desire to be close to somebody; sensation of being an outsider.
- M Loquacity. Mocking, slandering, gossiping. Incessantly and hurriedly. Lively and elegantly. Associatively. With absent/dead persons.
- **M** Can be silent for hours, just sitting and staring into space.
- **M** Violent outbursts. Evoked by jealousy, suspicion or after disappointed love ["without sexual gratification"]. Wants to kill everyone he sees; wants to kill the guy who did it after a love disappointment. [Hyos. can kill in cold blood, Stram. in blind anger, Hep. only threatens to kill.]
- **M** Strong sexual element: nymphomania, exhibitionism [plays openly with genitals], lewd talk and songs, defiant. Children who deliberately use foul language and laugh foolishly. Or the reverse: very shameful and strong aversion to undressing [e.g. taking a shower after sports]. Aversion to men because all they want is sex.
- **M** Plays antics; grimaces; foolish behaviour.
- **M** Constantly fumbles with hands [Kali-br. more wringing]. Picks at fingers, face, lips, clothes.
- M Grasps, gropes, clutches, clings, claws.
- **M** Delusion that body is breaking up or dissolving.
- **M** Dreams of being attacked by furious cats.
- **M** Hydrophobia, cannot swim die to fear of water. [M]
- **M** Too much coquettish. Affectation. [M]
- M Feeling of not being loved since divorce of parents.•
- **M** Craves attention, even negative attention. Possessive of parents' attention. Noisy, shrieking or beating. Pinching others.•
- M Desire to be carried, cheek against cheek, or hand against cheek.
- M Likes the colour yellow. Likes to climb.•
- M Want of self-confidence & desire for flattery.•
- **M** Meddlesome and jealous; child disturbs parents when they are talking.•
- **G** Chilly. Sensitive to cold.



- **G** Great dryness mouth, lips, throat. Thirst.
- **G** During menses < mania, diuresis, perspiration. Menses preceded by incessant loud laughing.
- **G** Headache, nausea and profuse sweating at beginning of menses.
- **G** Spasms [convulsions] & watery diarrhoea, diuresis, coldness of body.
- **G** Epilepsy. Preceded by ringing in ears, empty sensation in stomach, restlessness or vertigo. During fit grinding of teeth or tendency to laugh. Epilepsy from fright.
- **G** Swimming >.•
- **S** Heat in blood vessels.
- **S** Weightless; as if walking through and on air; head light.
- **S** Brain as if shaking and water swashing in head when walking.
- **S** All things appear scarlet-red, red as fire, or golden yellow.
- **S** What is small seems very large; he takes a lark for a goose and a drop of water seems a lake.
- **S** Letters seem to move when reading, looking like ants crawling about in a heap.
- **S** Something obstructing ears on clearing throat.
- **S** Middle of tongue numb, as if burnt by hot food, < talking and inspiring air.
- **S** Teeth as if falling out when chewing.
- **S** Teeth as if too long and loose on biting.
- S Tightness across chest as if caused by too great exertion in talking or running.
- **S** Neck muscles as if too short on bending head forward.
- **S** Muscles of back and chest near shoulder-joint as if too short on raising arm.
- **S** Hot feeling in lumbar region and sacrum.
- **S** Sacrum as if bruised when lying on back, and when walking.
- **S** Warm air as if blown up arms.
- L Strabismus or visual disturbances after [or since] prolonged fever, convulsions or brain affections.
- L Frequent change of colour of face, from pale or bluish to red and swollen.
- L Protrudes lower jaw when angry.•
- L Dry, hacking or spasmodic cough, < lying down, > sitting up, < at night, also after eating, drinking, talking or singing.</p>
- L Cramps calves during sexual intercourse.•

RUBRICS STRANGE, RARE & PECULIAR

Mind • Affectation in gestures and acts. Ailments from jealousy. Anger, & jealousy. Answering, imaginary questions; in monosyllables, no to all questions. Aphasia, after fear. Desire to attack others. Avarice, generosity towards strangers, avarice as regards his family. Avarice, but squandering on oneself. Bites everyone who disturbs him. Bulimia, # refusal to eat. Cheerful, before menses. Complaining of imaginary injury. Delusions: Persons are animals; devil is after her; being possessed of a devil; being injured by his surroundings; having offended people; being poisoned; body is separated from soul; being watched; having no weight; wife is faithless; having suffered wrong. Dirty, urinating and defecating everywhere, in children. Embraces everyone. Wants to set things on fire. Makes gestures as if groping in the dark. Gossiping. Grief, & jealousy. Hiding himself on account of fear. Imitation. Insanity, immobile as a statue; lascivious, loquacious, malicious; during menses. Intriguer. Jealousy, driving to kill; wants to take revenge; vindictive. Jesting, erotic. Desire to kill everyone he sees. Laughing, # desire to be quiet. Loquacity, during menses. Malicious, insulting. Meddlesome. Mocking, passion to ridicule. Mutilating one's body. Wants to be naked, during drunkenness; exhibitionism; due to hyperaesthesia of skin. Quarrelsome, from jealousy. Rage, during menses;



with increased strength. Does not recognise his relatives. Religious affections, talking on religious subjects. Revealing secrets. Sadness, > urination. Shameless, exposes the person. Speech loud, each word louder. Desire to strike.

Dreams • Wild animals. Angry cats.

Vertigo • From *odour* of flowers. With muscular *spasms*.

Head • Beats head against bed. Motions, shaking or swaving the head to and fro. Pain. > shaking head. Pain, # pain in nape of neck. Pressing pain vertex, on turning head. Waving sensation, after stooping.

Eves • Dryness, < reading, Fiery eyes. Glazed. Lids wide open. Photophobia, after convulsions; during rage. Turned downward.

Vision • Blurred, before headache. Coloured circles around white objects, Colours, everything looks golden. Dim, < during stool. Diplopia, & convulsions. Words jump when reading. Objects seem large. Sparks, before epilepsy.

Ears • *Noises*, before epileptic fit. *Pain*, > pressure of hand.

Hearing • *Impaired*, during delusions. *Lost*, after apoplexy.

Nose • Visible *twitching*, root of nose.

Face • Discolouration bluish, during maniacal rage. Lockjaw, during menses. Protruding tongue <. Twitching, during pregnancy; when protruding tongue.

Mouth • Biting tongue, when talking. Lameness tongue, after fright. Tongue feels like burnt leather. Motion, tongue lapping to and fro. Numbness tongue, after fright. Stammering speech, pronouncing every word loudly. Speech wanting, from fright.

Teeth • Clinched firmly, Grinding, during maniacal rage. Pain, < emotional excitement. **Throat** • *Choking*, on swallowing liquids.

Stomach • Appetite ravenous, before epileptic convulsions. Emptiness, before epileptic convulsions. *Hiccough*, & convulsions; after abdominal operation. *Nausea*, at beginning of menses; > stooping. *Nausea* felt in throat, by tight fitting collar.

Abdomen • *Flatulence*, during urination. *Pain* as if sprained, muscles.

Rectum • Diarrhoea, during or after delivery. Involuntary stool, from excitement, although solid; after delivery.

Bladder • Pressing pain, & retention. Forcible retention seems to paralyse bladder. Urinary *retention*, > sound of water. Involuntary *urination*, during menses.

Urine • *Copious*, night, before menses.

Male • Handling genitals, in public. Excessive disposition to masturbation, at every opportunity; since childhood; in public.

Female • Disposition to masturbation, in public. Metrorrhagia, bright red, after abortion. Labour pain ceasing and convulsions coming on. Bearing down pain uterine region, < cold. Violent sexual desire, in girls.

Larynx • *Voice*, lost, < fright; lost, from head trauma.

Respiration • *Difficult. Gasping, Panting,* as from running rapidly.

Back • Sore pain, < lying on back; < walking. Drawing pain lumbar region, < before

Limbs • *Heaviness* knees, < ascending stairs. *Incoordination* upper limbs, < walking. Motion, bizarre; irregular; rhythmic; throwing about of limbs; hands clutching. Trembling, < before and/or during menses. Trembling hands, < after exertion; during menses.

Sleep • Deep, after epileptic convulsions. Position, on back, # sudden sitting up, then lying again. Sleeplessness, from business worries or imaginary cares.

Perspiration • *Profuse*, before and/or during menses.

Skin • *Burning*, where hand has lain on.

Generals • *Convulsions*, begin in face; after grief.

