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Homeopathic Drug Proving with drug substance gained from *Bacillus firmus* (*Bacillus firmus e volumine cellulae* C12)

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Introduction

A homeopathic drug proving was conducted with Bacillus firmus e volumine cellulae C12 in accordance with the guidelines as defined in the consensus paper HAMP of the German Central Association of Homeopathic Doctors (DZVHÄ) as well as in the Homeopathic Drug Proving Guidelines of the European Committee for Homeopathy (ECH) [1]. During the same HDP additional präparations of *Mycobacteriun phei*, *Bacillus cereus*, *Propionibacterium avidum* and *Grifola frondosa* in the C12 potency were examined (data not shown). The principal investigator was Prof. Dr. med. Iwan Rolik, and the proving was coordinated by Ms. Elena Tschzljkina, both from Moscow, Russia [2, 3].
Bacillus firmus e volumine cellulae (lyophil., steril.) (DSMZ no. 4816) is the active ingredient in the remedies Recarcin® 4X / 6X. The aim of this homeopathic drug proving (HDP) was to determine to what extent the application areas, known from empirical medicine to date, can be confirmed and if other subjective and objective symptoms could be determined which could lead to an expansion of the range of therapeutic application.

Material and Methods

Proving substance: Bacillus firmus e volumine cellulae (lyophil., steril.) (DSMZ no. 4816). *Bacillus firmus* is a gram positive, mobile, facultatively anaerobic, apathogenic rod-shaped bacteria. It produces, inter alia, phyto hormones and fibrinolytic enzymes [4]. In vitro tests revealed that *Bacillus firmus* exhibits immuno-modulatory effects [4,5]. For this HDP, a sterile filtered lyophilisate from soluble components of *Bacillus firmus* (DSMZ no. 4816) was used as mother tincture (HAB 5a) from which C12 globules were produced (HAB 10).
Participants: Homeopaths over the age of 18 volunteered as probands for this proving (table 1). Prior to the HDP they were clinically examined and questioned with regard to the respective inclusion and exclusion criteria. All probands were approved for the proving.
Execution: After a 1-week preparatory observation period, the taking of the proving drug commenced over the course of one day; the dosage was 6x 9 globules every 2 hours. The subsequent observation period was 4 weeks.

For the entire duration of the proving, the probands thoroughly journalized all occurring symptoms and documented them following the head to tow schema.
After conclusion of the proving, during the discussion of the symptoms with the probands and with their approval, the principal investigator and his assistant generally entered detailed definitions of the symptoms in the diaries.

	Probands	Sex distribution of probands	Age in years	average age	Proving symptoms total	Average proving symptoms , proband
***B. firmus* C12**	11	F 10 M 1	18-71	34	140	12,7

Table 1: Proband population and number of symptoms (F = female; M = male)

Results

Within the framework of the proving with Bacillus firmus e volumine cellulae (lyophil., steril.) (DSMZ no. 4816) C12, the probands noted a total of 140 symptoms, the main portion of which - 40 mentions (28.6%) - occurred in the area of the gastro-intestinal tract. 12 symptoms occurred at the extremities = 8.7%, 11 were involving larynx and trachea = 7.9%, 10 in the area of the mouth = 7.2% and 8 at the neck = 5.7%. There were 8 descriptions of general symptoms (5.7%) (Figure 1).

Individual body symptoms:
Beyond these, there were individual body symptoms in the area of the male and female genitals, the head, the skin, the eyes and ears as well as in temperature sensation. In the area of spirit and mind there were 4 mentions (4.9% of test symptoms).
There was no case of early termination in the HDP. The incurred symptoms were mild and all of them were reversible.

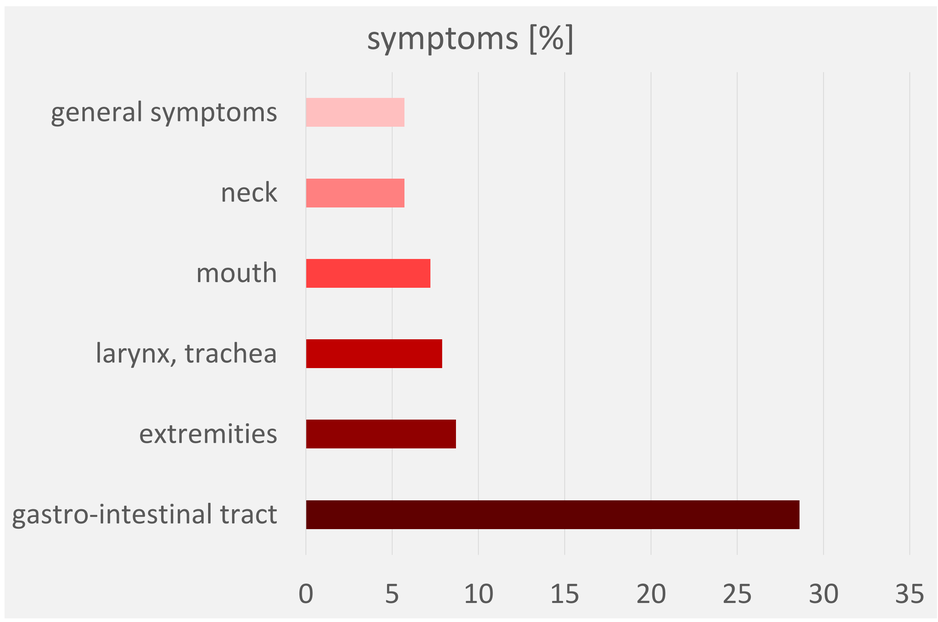

Figure 1: Proportion of proving symptoms in regions

Conclusion and Discussion

Among the known areas of application of Bacillus firmus e volumine cellulae 4X and 6X (Recarcin®) are:
- chronic inflammation of the serous membranes such as disturbances of the thyroid gland, pancreas, ovaries (in connection with dysmenorrhea or primary and secondary amenorrhea).
- chronic inflammation of the different mucous membranes like the oral and nasal mucous membranes, the middle ear, the airways (chronic bronchitis) [9], the gastro-intestinal tract (gastritis, colitis syndrome, Ulcus ventriculi et duodeni) [6].
- rheumatism, sciatica
- arthritis, osteoarthritis [7]
- for immuno-modulation [8]

In the context of this HDP, many of the already known application areas of the remedies Recarcin® 4X and Recarcin® 6X could be confirmed. These include inflammations, particularly in the areas of the respiratory tract, the gastro-intestinal tract and in joint diseases.

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Publication: 3rd Global Summit on Herbals & Traditional Medicine, Japan 2017