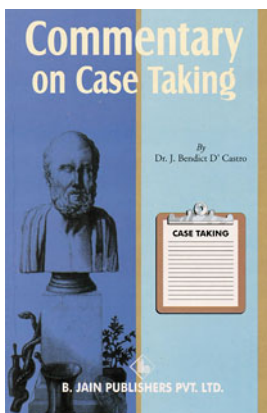


# J. Benedict D'Castro Commentary on Case Taking

Reading excerpt  
[Commentary on Case Taking](#)  
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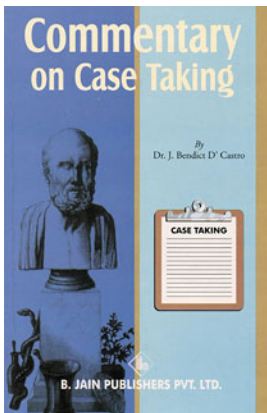
**COMMENTARY  
ON CASE  
TAKING**

Read Organon of medicine - the only guide the master left for us to surmount all the obstacles that we may come across in our day-to-day struggle in alleviating the suffering.

Keep Organon of medicine and Kent's repertory handy while reading the commentary, so that you may refer to them every time a reference is made.

tain set of symptoms (effect) and only by studying these symptoms we can trace the beginning, or the cause leads to certain symptoms. If we treat the cause, the symptoms will be removed or by treating the symptoms, the cause will be removed. This is what we call tracing from the beginning to the end and back from the end to the beginning. Thus a particular cause leads to a particular set of symptoms (effects) and that particular set of Symptoms leads to that particular cause. So the symptoms are the language of the disease. If a true picture of the symptoms is obtained, the medicine chosen will act upon the disease, we there by not only remove the effect but also the cause. What is important is that one must be well versed with the art of case taking.

Hahnemann says that in acute disease chief symptoms remain very prominent and become evident to the senses more quickly. All detailed instructions given in aphorisms 84-99 are not indicated while dealing with an acute disease, for it will not only be a waste of time but also confusing and misleading. Acute diseases and acute manifestations of chronic diseases are to be treated alike and both of them should be considered as acute diseases. I shall explain the acute manifestations of chronic diseases after explaining what is chronic disease. Hahnemann states that "Chronic diseases are those in which the symptoms are difficult to be ascertained". In other words, any disease whose chief symptoms are not prominent enough to enable the physician to prescribe a medicine without asking various questions, should be considered as a chronic disease. More details are asked until the physician is satisfied and he is able to prescribe a correct medicine. Chronic diseases are those which are caused by Psora, Syphilis and Sycosis, and/or a combinations of two or all the three miasms, which gradually progresses for several years. The symptoms grow insidiously, and are difficult to ascertain. A general weakness, loss of appetite, sleeplessness, indifference to everything around, aversion to mental work etc. are the common symptoms which a chronic patient will often narrate, any they do not help the observing physician to make any prescription. Such cases need to be thoroughly investigated and more details about his



J. Benedict D'Castro

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64 pages, pb  
publication 2001



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