

Robin Murphy

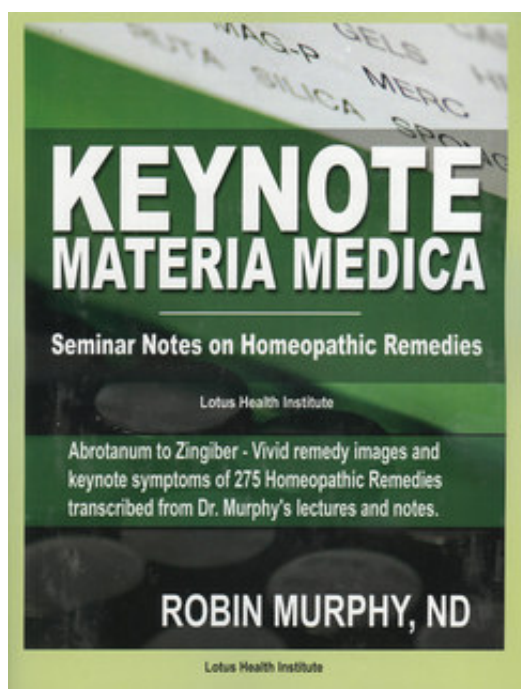
Keynote Materia Medica

Reading excerpt

[Keynote Materia Medica](#)

of [Robin Murphy](#)

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BELLADONNA

Skin is dry and hot like fire. On being spoken to flew into a violent rage. Cina 200c had ameliorated. Belladonna 100,000c cured permanently.

Corresponds to the symptoms of "air-sickness" in aviators. Given as preventive. Belladonna has cured a very severe headache in a nervous man occurring whenever he was exposed to tobacco smoke.

Constitutions: It is suited to plethoric persons with red face and to conditions where there is local plethora, that is inflammatory states with pain, throbbing, shiny redness as in acute gout. Is suited to the bilious, lymphatic temperament. Light hair and complexion, blue eyes. It grows in dry limestone soils and is the acute correlative of Calc. Its influence is felt more in intelligent and plethoric persons who are jovial and entertaining when well, but violent when sick, therefore a great children's remedy. Hematoma. **Planets:** Mars, Sun, Moon. COMMENTARY - High fevers, sudden onset, flushed face, and dilated pupils. It's very, very highly indicated when you see a red face with a fever.

The person is very hot to the touch, where you jerk your hand back and say, "Wow!" Hot, dry, red skin. Aconite can be just as hot, but it's more pale. Ferrum phos. looks like Belladonna, but the skin is cooler to the touch. Meningitis, strep throat, ear infections, heat stroke - anything that can bring out those keynote.

Another keynote is worse from a jar. Bumping the bed or something, vibrations, they get aggravated. They're very photophobic because Belladonna has atropine, and that's what the doctors put in your eyes to dilate your pupils to see the retinas. The homeopathic use is the same as the physiological use.

We just took Kachina to see a doctor here, and he put the atropine in and it stayed in, and he said that it would be down in two to four hours (the pupils will go back). We waited two hours, we waited four hours, we waited eight hours, and by the twelfth hour we decided to give a remedy - no, it was the whole next day!

The next day it was still totally dilated where you couldn't even see the color of the eye! She was going around with sunglasses. We gave her Belladonna and it went down - the first dose took it down about 20%, the second dose took it a little more, and then the third dose, I guess she's not used to medications or something!

Another keynote for Belladonna is delirium with fevers, especially with kidney infections. When you have these cases where strep goes to the kidneys and everyone freaks out, we often see Belladonna work excellently.

BELLADONNA

Belladonnas have delirium, and they start making noises and moaning and seeing things and hallucinating, and there's a wild look on their face and their face is flushed, and you have to hold the child down - that's all a late stage Belladonna state.

Another keynote is that all the symptoms come and go quickly. It's a very good remedy for that. The child is fine, and all of a sudden WHAM! They're in the bed and have a red face and they're moaning and have a high fever, and then suddenly an hour later it's gone. Then it comes back again.

Coming and going quickly is the nature of Belladonna. Baptisia comes fast and stays, Belladonna comes fast, goes away fast, and comes back fast and goes away fast.

There are all kinds of neuralgias and cramps. It's also a good acute remedy if you don't know what to do for someone in convulsions. We often have the chronic epilepsy cases taking their chronic remedy, which might be Causticum or Calcarea carb. or something like that.

We have the parents or the person himself carry Belladonna 30c around with them, and at the first sign of the aura they take it or the parents will give it, and we see that we can abort some of them. Sometimes it cures, but usually it's an acute management remedy.

Migraine headaches, vascular headaches, where all the blood rushes to the head.

Another keynote is throbbing pains, no matter where they occur in the body. If you injure your knee and it swells up and becomes red, hot, throbbing, worse from the least jar or motion, then think of Belladonna. If it's in the throat, and the head, the ears pulsate, hot, and the whole side of the head is hot, and the child has a high fever, then Belladonna. It has a tendency toward the right side of the body.

Student: In Boericke's materia medica here it says that it's good for "*the extreme of thyroid toxemia.*" Have you ever used it for that?

RM: I've never seen it for extreme thyroid toxemia. I imagine the symptom is that the thyroid swells up all of a sudden or something like that. I don't know. I've only used the iodines and Sepia. The best remedy for this, for both acute and chronic hyper thyroid or some of these, is Iodine, and even Spongia is a good one.

Student: Did you say something besides migraine headaches?

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RM: Vascular headaches. If the headache is vascular and they have the throbbing pains and the photophobia, then you have the keynote of Belladonna. This is right next to Glonoine and some of the remedies we've already talked about with the flushed face and dilated pupils.

Belladonna is our primary remedy for the blood orgasm. All that means is that all the blood rushes to one part of the body and becomes hot and throbbing. They've used it for appendicitis, the whole area is hot and throbbing and sensitive to a jar. If it's stinging pain and feels swollen, then it's Apis. If it's hot and throbbing with a high fever, and it came on fast, we think of Belladonna. This has been used for acute pancreatitis - high fever, abdominal pain, and all this.

Student: If you smash your finger with a hammer and it starts to throb and gets red and swollen, would you consider Belladonna?

RM: Yes Belladonna after Arnica and Hypericum. It's always a debate, right? Etiology versus symptomatology. Get rid of the shock and the pain first, and then you'll see that this is a very good trauma remedy.

It's similar to Aconite (and we didn't talk about this with Aconite) for eye injuries - when you get something in the eye, the body goes crazy - inflammation, pain, photophobia. Aconite is our primary remedy for this, and Calendula and Belladonna are also used, where you get a foreign object in the eye and the pupils are dilated and the eye is red and hot.

When Aconite and Calendula have failed, then Belladonna is in there. It's a very good photophobia remedy.

It's also a mania remedy. The three classic remedies are Hyoscyamus, Stramonium, and Belladonna. That's for acute mania. What's mania? Someone just freaks out and becomes wild, and they're talking or violent.

Stramonium and Belladonna look a lot alike, but Stramonium is more violent. Stramonium is the Datura plant that's in the Carlos Castaneda books.

In Stramonium, the face is red and the pupils are dilated, and the child or the person is like an animal - they make barking noises, they speak in other languages, and they're violent, and they have to be restrained in a straight jacket. Belladonna gets that way more with fevers. Hyoscyamus is what's called the "*passive mania*" - they act stupid, foolish, they expose themselves and all this stuff.

BELLADONNA

This is a main remedy for rabies. There are two ways that you have the remedy name "*rabies*" in homeopathy one is Lyssin, which is potentized rabies (the saliva of a rabid dog), and some books refer to it as "*Hydrophobinum*" for hydrophobia, which is the fears of water.

What does fear of water have to do with rabies? They have a fear of water. They can't explain that physiologically, can they? And shiny objects. It's like the old folklore where you put a mirror in front of a vampire and they freak out. We have remedies that confirm that folklore! Stramonium and Lyssin can't stand to see shiny objects.

One case in the literature tells of a person taking his carriage down a country road, and there's a tree-lined roadway and behind it is a lake. He's hitting the horse and riding, and he looks over to the lake. The sun hits the lake and shimmers and that triggers epilepsy. It's epileptics that are aggravated from strobe lights - that's Belladonna and Lyssin.

We use the term "*Lyssin*", but a lot of people still use "*Hydrophobinum*". The thing is that the mention of water the sound of water, or the attempt to drink water, gags and chokes them or brings on a panic attack. It's a symptom of rabies. We can use this prophylactically for rabies. If you have a child that's been bitten, we give them Belladonna 30c. Or after rabies shots. If that doesn't work, then you go right to Lyssin itself, or Hydrophobinum.

Student: I understood that it was important to use Belladonna early in this process. Could you clarify that?

RM: The question is, and this is the same with Aconite, Belladonna, Oscilloccinum, that the books say you have to use it early for it to be effective. I haven't found that to be true. If it's a Belladonna state, then it will work. What they're really saying is that it comes on fast, and if you catch it fast, then you prevent the whole thing.

But it's a chronic mania remedy, it's a chronic strep throat remedy. I treated people in Santa Fe that had had strep throat for one or two weeks and they were on antibiotics and they still had the fevers and redness (the throat being really red is a keynote of Belladonna), we gave Belladonna a week later and it still worked.

Student: How about kids' ear infections?

RM: Yes. Kids' ear infections that are delayed and they're on antibiotics - it's the same thing. It's still Belladonna and it will still work. It's not as dramatic, but it still works. They're saying it comes on fast - these are fast-acting remedies, you want to hit it fast.

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That's not true. Fast or slow, if it's the right remedy, it'll work. Don't not give Belladonna - if you have a perfect Belladonna case and you don't give it because it's the second or third day, then that's wrong. That's a major mistake, which I learned the hard way. You give Belladonna.

In tonsillitis, the whole back of the throat and the tonsils are bright red. That's a keynote of Belladonna. In strep throat, you're looking at Belladonna and Arsenicum.

This is a major remedy and I could go on and on, but we have a few more remedies to cover!

BELLADONNA 2

Belladonna is from the deadly nightshade family (Hyocymus and Stramonium also); tobacco, tomatoes, potatoes, eggplant - some people get arthritis from eating these foods. It's not the food that causes arthritis but the predisposition to it (Capsicum, Dulcamara, Mandrake is also in that family). The flower is a bell shape.

Belladonna means beautiful lady because in Italy and during the Middle Ages the women would take the Belladonna juice and put in their eyes to dilate their pupils, to make them look more beautiful.

Psychological studies have proven over and over again that if you have two pictures and one person's eyes are dilated the observers will say that picture is more beautiful but they don't know why.

If you are talking with someone whose pupils are dilated, they are interested, attracted to you, etc. If you are talking with someone and they are smiling but their pupils are not contracting then something is wrong.

It's a poison and has atropine in it. This is one of the three fates in Greek mythology called Atropa. Lachesis is one of the others. These drugs all affect the autonomic nervous system - the sympathetic system (the fight-or-flight reaction).

The main idea is that you get a congestion - a sudden congestion hyperemia, which means that all of a sudden tie blood rushes somewhere. Imagine a pool of bright red blood and all of a sudden something touches the blood and it runs to one area, raises up and throbs.

Once you have that idea of Belladonna, no matter where in the body that happens, you'll think of Belladonna.

All the blood rushes to one part and all the symptoms of that will be there. You'll get congestion and heat in the area; inflammation, throbbing because the blood vessels are throbbing and pulsating.

BELLADONNA 2

You talk about a person who has appendicitis and all the blood rushes to that area and there is throbbing and all these things come on fast, very similar to Aconite. Aconite is turmoil in the person, but Belladonna is more turmoil in a part of the body but that part may be the whole head.

Someone injures their knee and the knee swells up, becomes red and hot and throbbing with inflammation, heat and congestion. Someone else may be out in the sun too long and all the blood rushes to their head and they may start having a heatstroke with throbbing and aching of the head. All the blood will rush to one part.

A woman, during her menses, who has cramps and all the blood will rush to the uterus and the uterus will be hot and throbbing - it's the same idea.

Fevers: it's one of the main remedies along with Aconite for sudden onset of fever. Things come on fast out of nowhere. It also has a lot of rashes. It's specific for scarlet fever - bring, red shiny rashes on the skin that come on fast. These are also plethoric types of people - people who are strong and vital.

Usually they are Calcarea carb. underneath. People who are constitutionally Calcarea carb. will tend to get Belladonna illnesses.

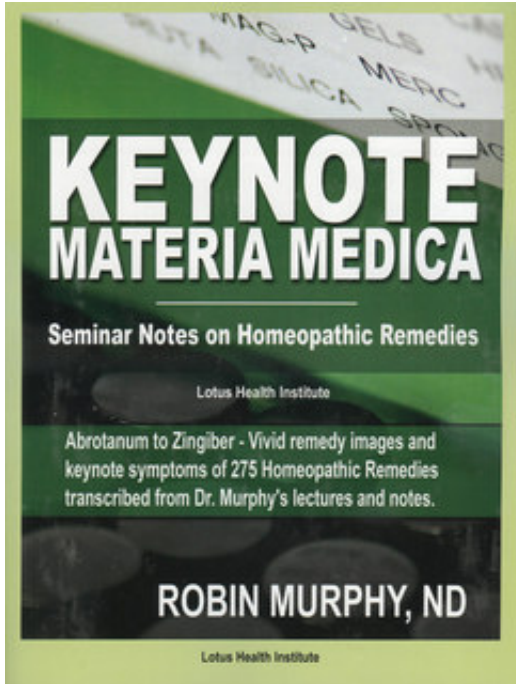
Belladonna has a very, very strong affinity for sore throats. It's one of the first remedies that you think of for sore throats, especially in children. They will have a high fever and their throat will be sore. You look in their throat and you'll see bright red.

The glands may be swelled enormously and the throat is red. There may be a very high fever, up to 104 or 105 degrees. The child has glassy eyes and may have a strep throat. You give Belladonna and then you may have to give Calcarea carb. to follow up on those sore throats, and to prevent them.

The etiology is similar to Aconite with a sudden exposure to cold air or the sun. They've been out in the sun too long and get a sun headache - that's Belladonna.

Belladonna is indicated for headaches, dealing with the circulation. Everything involves the blood vessels in Belladonna - it's that throbbing and heat and blood rushing somewhere.

If someone gets angry and upset and is out in the sun too long, all the blood rushes to the head and they will have cold hands and feet and their head will be congested and hot. You touch the skin of these children and they are hot.



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