

Homeopathic Treatment of Incipient Cataracts

The best review article on the treatment of cataracts is The Homeopathic Treatment of Incipient Senile Cataract, with Tabulated Results of one hundred cases by A. B. Norton, M.D., published in the North American Journal of Homeopathy, 1891. This was a Retrospective Study looking at the homeopathic treatment of cataracts in 295 Patients. 100 Patients were under treatment for longer than 3 months. Results: Improvement in 58% of cases, no change in 42% , Slight decrease in 26%, Significant decrease 19%. The best indication of success is the level of vision before treatment. Dr. Norton looked at two groups. Vision better than 15/50 the results were as follows: decided increase in 14%, slight increase in 26%, no increase in 60%. With vision worse than 15/50 the results were as follows: decided increase in 29%, slight increase in 26%, no increase in 45%. In sumamry, the earlier you treat the cataract the better the results.

Excerpts From a 1982 Clinical Study:

The Effects of Three Topical Agents on Posterior Subcapsular Cataract Progression in Royal College of Surgeon (R.S.C.) Rats

Three substances are currently reported to possess cataract retardation properties: Scenecio Maritima, N-dimethylglycine, and Conjunctivisan A. To test their potential in retarding cataract progression, Royal College of Surgeon (R. C. S.) rats were selected as the experimental model. This strain of rats develops posterior subcapsular cataracts secondarily to an inherited retinal degeneration. At birth, the rats were divided into four groups. The ten rats in each group received twice daily topical instillation of saline, Scenecio Maritima, N-N dimethylglycine, or Conjunctivisan A for eight weeks. Analysis of serial slit lamp evaluations showed a significant delay in cataract progression in the rats receiving any of the three agents compared to the saline control. This suggests that there might be an alternative to surgery in cataract treatment.

Scenecio Maritima

Succus Cineraria Maritima (SCM) or Scenecio Maritima are trade names for an herbal extract from the plant Cinereria Maritima. The sterilized juice of the plant is employed for the treatment of capsular and lenticular cataracts of the eye. Its use is recommended before resorting to an operation. Cinereria Maritima or Dusty Miller is a plant found most on the shores of the Mediterranean region. Cinereria means "ashy grey", depicting its mixture of black and white coloring, which contrasts against its yellow flowerheads. The juice from the leaves is believed to contain a cataract retardant. When applied to the eye, it is thought to act as a lymphagogue, increasing circulation in the intraocular tissue and also stimulating collateral circulation and normal metabolism.

A pilot study has suggested retardation of cataract development in Royal College of Surgeon (R.C.S.) rats treated with Scenecio Maritima as compared to placebo controls. A recent pharmaceutical laboratory study was conducted investigating the use of SCM on the retardation of artificially induced cataracts in albino rats. Significant differences in light transmission values of the lenses between treated and non-treated animals were found. SCM has also been used in a study involving ophthalmologists instilling drops of SCM in human cataracts with favorable results.