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## CASE STUDY

# HOMEOPATHIC TREATMENT OF PEDICULOSIS CAPITIS: A CASE STUDY

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### ABSTRACT

Pediculosis capitis, a common scalp condition caused by infestation with *Pediculus humanus capitis* (head lice), frequently affects preschool and elementary-aged children, with females being more prone than males. A 45-year-old female presented with severe lice and nits infestation due to lack of hair her hair became matted, causing intense itching and an offensive smell, ultimately leading to the need for head shaving. Homeopathy offers effective treatment for pediculosis capitis, using gentle remedies to achieve a lice-free scalp without harsh chemicals.

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## INTRODUCTION

Pediculosis capitis (PC), or head lice infestation, is a global condition primarily affecting school-aged children, especially girls. Spread through direct contact or sharing personal items, PC is not linked to poor hygiene. Lice go through three life stages: egg, nymph, and adult, with females laying nits close to the scalp for warmth. Symptoms include severe itching, rash, and secondary infections from scratching, sometimes leading to lymphadenopathy and iron deficiency anemia. PC can cause social stigma, psychological distress, and missed school or work due to discomfort and embarrassment

## CASE PROFILE

A 45-year-old female, with no history of diabetes, hypertension, or thyroid disorder, presented with complaints of severe itching and thick crust formation on the scalp for the past six months. Her scalp is heavily infested with lice and nits, with itching worsening at night and during perspiration. Excessive scratching has led to excoriations and ulcerations, causing bleeding when crusts are removed. She experiences a bloody odor from the scalp when showering, along with burning pain, generalized itching (pediculid), disturbed sleep, fever, malaise, and cervical lymphadenopathy.

### Examination

Scalp: Excoriated and ulcerated with sticky, offensive discharge.  
Nits: Numerous, firmly attached to hair shafts in frontal and vertex areas.

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Hair: Tangled and matted together.

Neck: Cervical Lymphadenopathy present.

### Physical Generals

Diet	Good
Appetite	Normal, desire for lukewarm water
Desire	Nothing specific
Aversion	Nothing specific
Thermal Reaction	Ambithermal
Thirst	Good
Stools	Regular and satisfied
Urine	Regular and satisfied
Perspiration	Generalized, perspiration triggered the itching
Sleep	Disturbed
Dreams	Not to be recollect

**Mental Generals:** The patient has been experiencing significant emotional distress following her husband's six-month battle with meningitis. Although he is now conscious, he remains disoriented, and she has been solely responsible for his care during this time. This has left her feeling abandoned, as their relatives have not provided any physical or financial support. She struggles with a deep sense of loneliness and insecurity about the future, fearing the uncertainty of her situation. Despite these challenges, she is naturally kind and compassionate, but she often broods in solitude. Her sensitivity makes her easily affected by contradictions or disagreements, which lead her to feel both irritable and tearful. The combination of emotional strain and lack of support has compounded her feelings of isolation and vulnerability.

**Past History:** NA

### Family History

Father- diabetic on treatment

**Case analysis**

Repertory used	Rubrics selected
Complete repertory	Head- lice
	Head-eruption- crust- scabs
	Head-eruption-crust- scabs- moist
	Head-eruption-crust- scabs-bloody
	Head-eruption-Excoriating
	Head-eruption-itching
	Head-eruption-Moist

**Screenshot t**

Remedy Name	Psor	Graph	Sulph	Merc	Hep	Calc
<b>Totality</b>	15	14	13	12	11	10
<b>Symptom Covered</b>	5	5	5	5	5	5
[C] [Head]Lice:	2	1	1	1		
[C] [Head]Eruptions:Crusts, scabs:	3	3	3	3	2	2
[C] [Head]Eruptions:Crusts, scabs:Bloody:						2
[C] [Head]Eruptions:Crusts, scabs:Moist:	3	2			1	2
[C] [Head]Eruptions:Excoriating:	2	3	3	3	3	2
[C] [Head]Eruptions:Itching:	2	2	3	3	2	
[C] [Head]Eruptions:Moist:	3	3	3	2	3	2

**Selection of Remedy**

Remedy	Reasons
Constitutional Ignatia 200 - 1 dose	Recent grief Sensitivity, delicate Broods in solitude
Acute Vinca minor 30-	Corrosive itching of scalp Plica polonica, irresistible desire to scratch Oozing moisture, matting hair together
Intercurrent Psorinum 1M- 1 dose	Intolerable itching, offensiveness, eruption on scalp with itching, offensiveness, hair matted,

**Miasmatic approach**

Symptoms	Psora	Sycosis	Syphilis	Tubercular
Itching, eruption	More at night			
Miasmatic predominance	Psora			

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

Complete Repertory

**RESULTS**

Month	Progress	Prescription
1st month	- Itching and eruptions slightly improved - Generalized itching feels better - No other specific complaints - Sleep improved	- Psorinum 1M – once monthly - Vinca minor 200 – 1-0-1 after food - Thuja Mother Tincture – Local Application
2nd month	- Scalp eruptions completely resolved - No nits or lice - Clear scalp, no sensitivity - Hair fall controlled - Feeling confident	- Psorinum 1M – once monthly - Vinca minor 200 – 1-0-1 after food - Thuja Mother Tincture – Local Application
3rd month	- Hair fall better than before - No scalp eruptions - No further nits or lice - No scalp itching	- Sac Lac

**DISCUSSION & CONCLUSION**

This case highlights the effectiveness of homeopathy in treating scalp infections and infestations, such as lice and nits. The patient experienced significant improvement, with complete resolution of symptoms, including itching, lice, and scalp eruptions. Alongside good personal hygiene, homeopathic remedies successfully restored scalp health and overall well-being. This demonstrates the holistic potential of homeopathy in managing such conditions.

**The transformation**



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