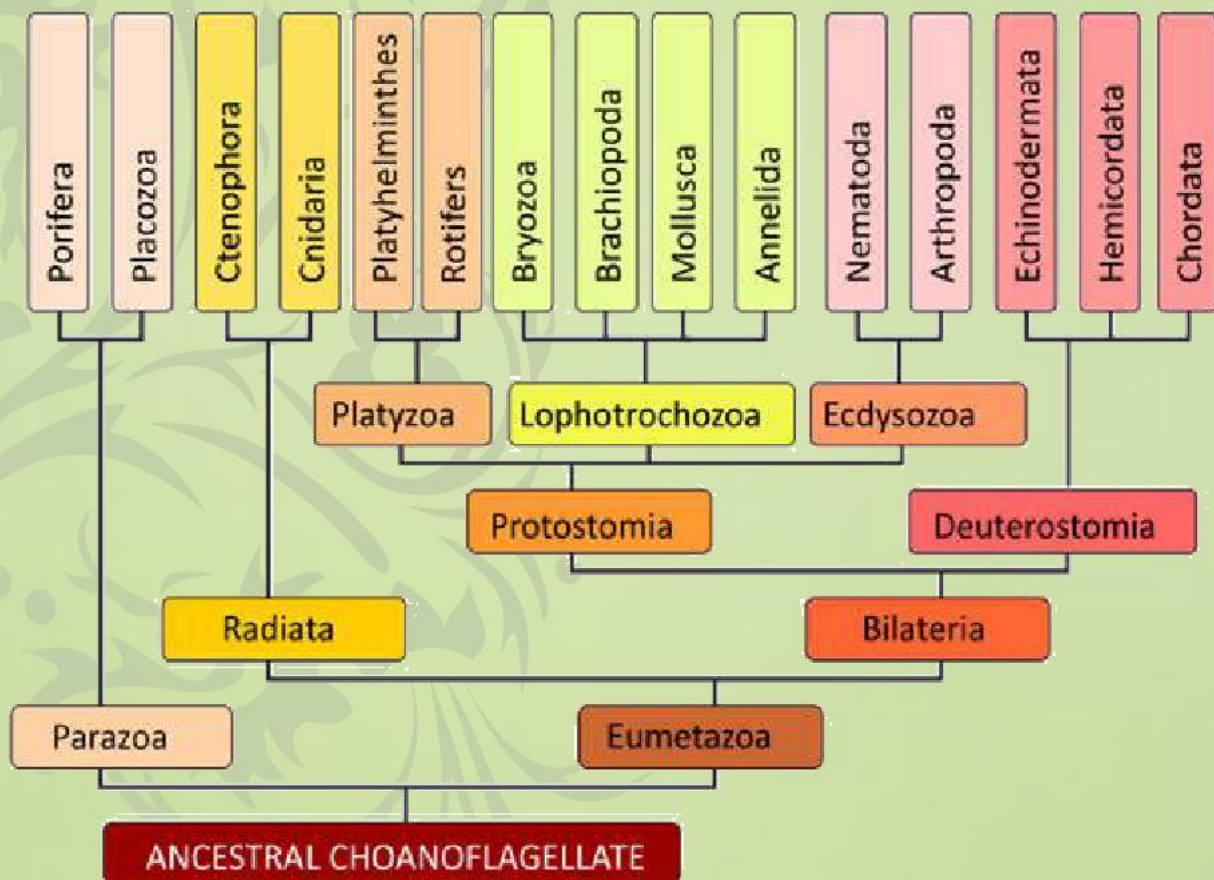


Invertebrates in Homeopathy

Ghanshyam Kalathia



INTRODUCTION

First of all I would like to share my journey of 'understanding Invertebrates'.

Work on invertebrate remedies is not new to the homeopathic world. Many homeopaths such as Massimo Mangialavori, Jo Evan, Rajan Sankaran, Shachindra and Bhawisha Joshi, Mahesh Gandhi and Jonathan Hardy have written and shared about Invertebrates in their books, articles and seminars. So, here my presented ideas and thoughts are not new it is not my research or discovery but better to say it is kind of compilation of what I have learnt and understood from my teachers and my clinical experiences. I have only tried to give shape to shapeless invertebrates.

We have some good literature on invertebrate remedies, but our learning and understanding about invertebrates is still at a primitive stage. We know very little about them compared with other remedy groups like snakes, spiders, insects and mammals. Our journey about this group of remedies began with Dr. Rajan Sankaran's book "Survival - The Mollusk" and Jo Evan's "Sea Remedies: Evolution of the Senses".

I started my learning about invertebrate remedies in 2014. I needed to learn them because whenever I had an invertebrate case I was helpless, I could not find the exact medicine. All the cases looked like mollusks because I know only mollusks. I found that even when I asked senior homeopaths and teachers about these remedies they knew no more than me. So I decided to make a collective study of all the invertebrates. I was surprised when I started to collect information about them because there are nearly 60 remedies from eleven phyla. Then when I started studying the information I found it very confusing because there was so much information and I really didn't know how or where to start. However once I started studying the phyla or groups one by one I began to see a pattern running through.

First of all I saw a clear pattern of general themes of all invertebrate remedies. Some characteristics are shared by all invertebrate remedies like vulnerability, sensitivity, primitiveness etc. But this is a holistic or generalized understanding about invertebrates and it didn't help me to differentiate individual invertebrate

remedies. This was my prime concern.

However, when I studied the natural history of all phyla of the invertebrates I began to see a pattern. All invertebrate species are stuck at an evolutionary process and, from sponges to crustaceans each phyla gets stuck at specific level of development and this forms a clear-cut evolutionary ladder. This kind of evolutionary ladder is beautifully explained by Michel Yakir and Dr. Mahesh Gandhi regarding human developmental stages. It goes from the womb to old age. Then I tried to understand the correlation of human developmental stages with the evolution of invertebrates. In this way I had a tool to differentiate the phyla. For, example sponges get stuck at womb stage hence their vulnerability is fetus like while crustaceans are stuck at teenage years hence their vulnerability is about teenage issues.

When I checked another pattern of the invertebrates I saw that each phylum evolves from previous phyla and step by step as they evolve they have something more in them. Those additional characteristics make them unique. I was then successful in finding similar unique characteristics in their homeopathic themes. For example the mollusk has the unique characteristic of a hard shell or covering to protect a soft and vulnerable body and the mollusk personality tries to withdraw into a protective support system. So, in short the 'shell' is the unique theme of the mollusk. In this way each phylum has something unique. So then I had a second tool to differentiate invertebrate remedies by their unique themes.

Step by step I have tried to give shape to shapeless invertebrates, but this is just the beginning. I honestly confess to my readers that in the book I have done my best to create a complete pattern of each phyla with a systematic step by step explanation of my understanding of them. Somehow though, I still feel it is not complete. I strongly believe these ideas are still in an evolutionary stage and there is plenty of scope for this to evolve and there is plenty of space to make changes and modifications. This is the first step towards a 'collective understanding' of the invertebrates.

Now I will introduce you to the structure and contents of the book. The book has twelve chapters and in each of the last eleven chapters I explore one particular phylum.

The first chapter is about the general themes and concepts of the invertebrate group as a whole. Phyla chapters are written according to evolution, moving upwards from the less evolved to the more evolved. Thus chapters progress like a stairway of evolution. Each builds on the other. All the chapters are similar in structure and contents.

Each chapter has (1) General information (2) List of remedies (3) General themes of phylum (4) Materia medica of phylum's remedies (5) Cases of phylum.

(1) General information

In this section we try to understand the natural history of each phylum along with an introduction of the order, suborder and species of the phylum. All introductory chapters are written with the help of information from Wikipedia. In this natural history section we only collect information which will help us correlate it with the homeopathic point of view of the phylum and species. This helps us to understand the characteristics, unique qualities, special adaptations, behavior and various defenses of each phylum and species.

(2) List of remedies

The list of remedies belonging to any particular phylum is taken from two sources. From the series of books 'The Table of Animals' by Paul Theriault and <https://www.provings.info> website by Jorg Wichmann. Here there is a list of remedies written according to the orders of phylum. Each proved medicine in the list is written in Bold.

(3) General Themes of Phylum

This section describes the phylum as a whole from the homeopathic point of view. The general themes have three different sections. The first is about understanding the 'evolutionary age of the phylum'. It describes the development level of the phylum, its vulnerability, how it survives and compensates its vulnerability and what kind of support system it expects from others. In short it sums up the vulnerability and level of need from the support system the phylum requires.

The next section is about the general unique qualities of phylum. For example

passivity is unique in sponges while sensitivity and reactivity is unique in jellies and anemones.

The next is about the sensations of the phylum. We can understand this by looking at how animals survive in nature - their adaptations, behavior and defenses. We will see the sensation of any phylum in the form of vital sensations, physical sensations, reactions and defenses.

The end of this section gives a compact chart or schema of general themes for easy access.

(4) Materia medica of phylum's remedies

This is most beautiful section of entire book for me because it helps immensely to sort out each particular medicine. It starts with general information which includes the natural history of the substance and details of the source of the materia medica. Mainly the sources are provings, materia medica, and cases. For reference to materia medica I have used...

'Sea Remedies: Evolution of the Senses' by Jo Evans

'Notes Session-1' and 'Mangialavori's Additions' by Massimo Mangialavori

'Survival - The Mollusk' by Rajan Sankaran

Homeopathic Mind Maps - Remedies of the Animal Kingdom by Alicia Lee

The Table of Animals: The Sponges, Cnidarians, Ctenophores by Paul Theriault

The Table of Animals: The Lophotrochozoa by Paul Theriault

The Table of Animals: The Ecdysozoa: Nematodes and Early Arthropods by Paul Theriault

Encyclopedia of Pure Materia medica by T. F. Allen

Keynotes of Materia medica by H. C. Allen

Pocket manual of Homeopathic Materia medica by William Boericke

Synoptic key of Materia medica by C. M. Boger

Phatak's Materia medica by S. R. Phatak

In each remedy after the general information we have the 'personality'. This is a description of how to map the personality of the remedy. It is nothing but an overview of the personality along with the general qualities of the personality. This helps us to judge how much potential the person has and what kind of resources he/ she possess.

Firstly in any remedy personality we have a polarity so here I have described the personality with a polarity. For example... either the person is weak, vulnerable

and panicky or confident and assertive. Secondly, I have explained the compensated and uncompensated stages of the personality and this helps us to match the remedy more easily. This is my understanding of the remedy from different angles.

Next, we have 'general characteristics' and this is nothing but the GENIUS of the remedy. It is about general qualities, general sensations, physical generals, general modalities, thermal type (Hot or Chilly), prominent affection of side, prominent locations, general affinities or sphere of actions and miasm.

Next, we have mental and physical symptoms.

(5) Cases of phylum

In this section we have cured cases.

Clinically this is a very important section, but I want to suggest a few things. This book contains lots of theories, concept and ideas and as per my experience, generally we get overwhelmed with concepts, so please do not follow them religiously. Do not follow them with fixed ways. The concepts are just a guideline and they are not everything. So, please try to understand everything with an open mind and apply them as needed in each case.

First of all it is not necessary to have all themes in each and every case. Second thing, it is not necessary to have all themes of phylum, order and remedy together. Some cases have clear themes of invertebrates and some cases have a clear picture of the phylum and some cases have a clear picture of the remedy. So, according to the presentation of themes and symptoms we need to match them. Suppose a case looks like an invertebrate case and during repertorisation an invertebrate remedy comes up strongly then it's not necessary to conform exactly to the phylum themes in the case. I mean follow the rhythm of the case rather than make a deliberate collection of themes and symptoms. I believe spontaneous information has 1000 times more value than rigidly collected information.

In my practice I divide collected information into two sections. One set of information helps me to initiate the case and the rest of the information I use for confirmation. Generally with the help of clear, strong and solid information I get firm-footed in the case and the other information I use as confirmation. Sometimes the themes are strong and clear and I use materia medica and rubrics for confirmation and sometimes materia medica and rubrics are strong and perfect so I use themes for confirmation.

Now, enjoy your journey of the Invertebrates...

CONTENTS

1. Invertebrates general themes and concepts

General information	2
Evolution in animals	4
Diagram of evolutionary tree of animals	7
Evolution and human developmental stages	8
Invertebrates general themes	14
Marine themes	18
Parasite themes	22
DD of vertebrates and invertebrates	26
Guide for how to select medicine from invertebrates	27

2. Porifera (Sponges)

General information	31
List of Sponge remedies	32
Porifera general themes	33
Materia Medica of Sponge remedies	40
<i>Euplectella aspergillum</i> (Glass Sponge)	40
<i>Spongia tosta</i> - <i>Euspongia officinalis</i>	41
<i>Badiaga</i> – <i>Spongilla lacustris</i>	43
Porifera case	46

3. Ctenophora (Comb jellies)

General information	51
List of Ctenophora Remedies	54
Ctenophora general themes	55
Materia Medica of Ctenophora remedies	59
<i>Mnemiopsis macrydi</i> (Warty Comb Jelly)	59

4. Cnidarians (Anemones, Corals, Hydrozoas and Jellies)

General information	62
List of Cnidarian Remedies	64
Cnidarian general themes	64
Materia Medica of Cnidarian remedies	73
<i>Physalia physalis</i> (Portuguese-Man-of-War)	73
<i>Anthopleura xanthogrammica</i> (Giant Green Sea Anemone)	75
<i>Heteractis malu</i> (Hawaii Anemone)	77
<i>Stichodactyla gigantean</i> / <i>Stoichactis kenti</i> (Giant Carpet Anemone)..	78
<i>Corallium rubrum</i> (Red coral)	79
<i>Corallium nigrum</i> (Black coral)	82
<i>Diploria clivosa</i> (Brain coral)	82
<i>Medusa</i> / <i>Aurelia aurita</i> (Moon jelly)	84
<i>Chironex fleckerii</i> (Box Jellyfish)	86
Cnidarian case-1	89
Cnidarian case-2	92
Cnidarian case-3	95

5. Platyhelminthes (Flatworms)

General information	102
List of Platyhelminthes Remedies	105
Platyhelminthes general themes	105
Materia Medica of Platyhelminthes remedies	110
<i>Stylochus ellipticus</i> (Oster Shell Flatworm)	110
<i>Echinostome cercariae</i> (Intestinal fluke)	111

6. Bryozoa (Moss Animals)

General information	116
List of Bryozoa Remedies	117
Bryozoa general themes	118

Materia Medica of Bryozoa remedies	121
<i>Pachydictya flabellum</i> Luechtenberg (<i>Pachydictya fossil</i>)	121

7. Brachiopoda (Lampshells)

General information	124
List of Brachiopoda Remedies	125
Brachiopoda general themes	126
Materia Medica of Brachiopoda remedies	128
<i>Lingula ovalis</i> (Lampshell)	128

8. Mollusks (Clam, Oyster, Snail, Cuttlefish, Octopus)

General information	131
List of Mollusk Remedies	132
Mollusk general themes	135
Bivalvia themes	139
Materia Medica of Bivalvia Remedies	141
<i>Mytilus edulis</i> (Common Mussel)	141
<i>Calcarea carbonica hahnemanni</i> (<i>Ostrea edulis</i> / edible Oyster)	143
<i>Conchiolinum</i> (Mother of Pearl of Oyster)	146
Pearl Immersion (<i>Pictada maxima</i> Pearl)	147
<i>Venus mercenaria</i> (American Clam)	149
<i>Pecten jacobaeus</i> (Scallop)	151
Gastropoda themes	154
Materia Medica of Gastropoda remedies	156
<i>Patella vulgata</i> (Common Limpet)	156
<i>Cypraea eglantina</i> (Cowrie Snail)	158
<i>Murex purpurea</i> (Purple Fish)	161
<i>Conus geographus</i> (Geography Cone)	163
<i>Helix pomatia</i> / <i>Helix tosta</i> (Toasted Edible Snail)	165
<i>Helix aspersa</i> (Garden Snail)	167

<i>Cepaea hortensis</i> (White-lipped Banded Snail)	170
<i>Planorbarius corneus</i> (Great Ramshorn)	170
Cephalopoda themes	173
Materia Medica of Cephalopoda remedies	175
<i>Nautilus spec</i> (Nautilus)	175
<i>Sepia officinalis</i> (Cuttlefish)	178
<i>Octopus vulgaris</i> (Common Octopus)	182
<i>Eledone cirrhosa</i> (Small Octopus)	184
<i>Hapalochlaena maculosa</i> (Southern Blue-ringed Octopus)	186
<i>Onychotheutis banksii</i> (Squid)	187
Mollusks case-1	190
Mollusks case-2	195
Mollusks case-3	201

9. Annelida (Earthworms, Ragworm, Leech)

General information	206
List of Annelida Remedies	208
Annelida general themes	209
Materia Medica of Annelida Remedies	214
<i>Arenicola marina</i> (Lugworm)	214
<i>Lumbricus terrestris</i> (Common Earthworm)	217
<i>Helodrilus caliginosus</i> (Common Field Worm)	220
<i>Hirudo medicinalis</i> (Leech)	222
Annelida Case	225

10. Nematoda (Roundworm)

General information	232
List of Nematoda Remedies	234
Nematoda general themes	235

11. Crustacea (Crabs, Lobsters, Shrimp, Krill, Barnacles, Wood-lice)

General information	239
List of Crustacean Remedies	241
Crustacean general themes	242
Materia Medica of Crustacean Remedies	248
<i>Astacus astacus/ fluviatilis</i> (Crawfish)	248
<i>Homarus gammarus</i> (European Lobster)	250
<i>Euphasia superba oleum</i> (Antarctic Krill)	252
<i>Armadillidium vulgare</i> (Pill Woodlouse)	254
<i>Oniscus asellus-millepedes</i> (Wood-louse)	256
Crustaceans case	257

12. Echinodermata (Starfish, Urchin, Dollar, Sea Cucumber)

General information	262
List of Echinoderm Remedies	263
Echinoderm general themes	264
Materia Medica of Echinoderm Remedies	269
<i>Asterias rubens</i> (Red Starfish)	269
<i>Acanthaster planci</i> (Crown-of-thorns starfish)	273
<i>Toxopneustes pileolus</i> (Flower sea urchin)	276
<i>Holothuria edulis</i> (Edible Sea Cucumber)	279
Echinoderm Case	282

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Invertebrates General Themes and Concepts

Invertebrates General Themes

Every Invertebrate phyla share these general themes, but there is a chance to modify them according to their developmental stage.

Suppose porifera's vulnerability is fetus like while Nematode's vulnerability is adolescent like. However each phylum presents one or two themes which are very prominent for example Porifera and Cnidarians are extremely vulnerable while Mollusk's main focus is support and protection. It is certainly not necessary to have all the themes in all the Invertebrates.

Vulnerable

They are non-evolved animals, so mostly they are lacking a sophisticated body, a well-developed body plan and a well-developed system and organs. They have no firm structure so they are soft bodied. Most have fewer defenses and have under-developed senses. They do not possess sophisticated senses and they have to rely on chemical signaling or electro-magnetic signaling. Because of their soft body, fewer defenses and non-developed sense they are very vulnerable. Their vulnerability is expressed homeopathically in the following ways:

- They have a variety of fears, a lot of anxiety and tremendous fright.
- They feel incapable of defending themselves and feel panicky.
- They lack self-confidence and easily get frightened in the smallest adversity.
- The smallest thing is too much for them.
- They feel the world is harsh and dangerous.
- They feel small and weak and incapable of defending themselves.
- They feel they cannot survive and that something bigger and stronger is smashing, cutting, crushing, killing or destroying them.
- They have tremendous anxiety that something bad going to happen and it makes them very nervous and panicky.

The vulnerability is in varying in degrees in different phyla. The more underdeveloped the phyla the more vulnerable.

Expression words: *Soft, Soft-bodied, Small, Weak, Formless, Thin-skinned, Panic attacks, Scared, Frighten, Startling, Danger, Smashing, Cutting, Crushing, Killing, Destroying, Making pulp, Squeezing, Constricting, Incapable, Helpless, Fear of something going to happen, Undefined fear, Over powering fright or fear, Issues of life and death, Sudden death, Fear of darkness, Fear of disaster (Huge natural forces – Storm, Earthquake, Tsunami etc), Fear of unfamiliarity, Feeling of insignificant*

Need Support – Dependent

Because of their soft body and fewer defenses they seek support from others. They are dependent on somebody. They lack self-confidence so others decide for them or support them or they seek security and safety from others. Their need for support is varied, for example... it might be starting from total care like a fetus in the womb, or nurturing like an infant, or supporting like a small child or back-up support like a teenager. They need total care, nurturing, feeding, guidance and assurance and appreciation from others according to their phyla (development). Without support they feel weak, helpless, defenseless, incapable and doubtful. Personality wise they look weak willed soft hearted, have low self-assurance, and are doubtful and dependent.

***Expression words:** Support, Dependent, Insecure, Weak-willed, Incapable to defend, Low self-confidence, Low self-assurance, Doubting own-self, Need somebody to guide you, Need somebody to assure you, Need somebody to appreciate you, Need someone in back ground, Need someone who protect you, Need total care, Need of care and nurturing, Need of Armor, Shield, Shell, Covering, Home and Cocoon, Need of family, friends, parents or partner*

Primitive – Underdeveloped/ Immature

Because of their low self-assurance and low self-confidence they look immature. They are grown up age wise but actually they get stuck at fetus, infant, child, toddler or teenage level. During their narration they do not have confidence in how they talk, so they repeat words or use unusual pauses and make mistakes in their speech. Sometime their speech is trembling, stammering or hesitating. Their personality is timid, bashful or cowardly according to their phyla. They are simple and naïve and we do not observe any complexity in them. The way they speak is also straight forward.

***Expression words:** Immature, Underdeveloped, Arrested development, Growing up, Low self-confidence, Inferiority, Making lot of mistakes in work and in speech, Awkward, Indecisive, Non-assertive, Irresolute, Hesitating, Timid, Bashful, Cowardice, Simplicity, Naivety, Childish, Foolish*

Withdrawing, Escaping, Hiding

They are weak and because of their lack of defense their first reaction to danger is to escape or withdraw. Usually they are talking of two worlds, the inner world and outer world. The inner world is their own world (home, family, friends, parents and their near and dear ones) which is their familiar world and it is comfortable, warm, cozy,

protective and safe while the outer world is dangerous and harsh. Whenever they need to face the outer world they have a strong desire to retreat or withdraw into their familiar world. Superficially it looks like homesickness, but when we probe deep we can find their reality.

Expression words: *Withdrawing, Escaping, Hiding, Running away, Retreating, Pulling in, Curling up, Become smaller, Contracting, Become a ball, Go back to your home, Defenseless, Inner world and outer world, Need to be safe and Secure, Fear of being exposed, Fear of being pulled out, Fear of being catch, Fear to be open up and left vulnerability to seen*

Highly Sensitive

Here the sensitivity is in not perceiving the environment through the senses and reacting appropriately as plants do. These are soft bodies, underdeveloped animals so all senses are highly sensitive. This additional sensitivity is expressed in the following ways...

(1) Altered and exaggerated senses and perceptions

They do not have sophisticated senses because of their primitive and underdeveloped nervous system. They sense chemicals from water and electromagnetic changes from the environment so they have additional sensitivities.

They have a primary and undeveloped method of perception for their surroundings. In patients we can see they are highly sensitive to noise, touch, smell, hearing etc. They have exaggerated sensual perceptions as well as various images for their body. For example they might say I can sense the person, I can sense the environment, I can sense the bad intention, I can sense the aura etc. They have exaggerated body perceptions they say I can sense the changes in my body, I can sense my internal organ, I can sense each cell of my skin, I can sense each fiber of my muscles. They also have various altered images of body parts for example legs are very big or very short, hands are large and swelled up, my body is flexible and it has no bones etc.

(2) Altered reactions

Because of their sensitivity they are very reactive. The reactivity is in various degrees according their phyla. Mostly the reactivity is expressed in emotional reactions or behavioral expressions e.g. they are emotionally touchy and easily affected or disappointed or they get aggressive, angry, rude, abusive and abrupt.

Their altered reaction pattern is attributed to their primitive and unsophisticated nervous system and underdeveloped brain. Because their sensory system is less well-developed their life is governed either by instinct or impulse, hence the personality is very impulsive or instinctive. They react without thought; hence they are prone to be

hyper in their responses to each and every stimulus. They are not able to keep a balance between action and reactions and that is why it frequently turns out as a panic attack or a psychological break down. Their reactions are extreme in adverse situations, so they are prone to have extreme mood swings.

Expression words: *Highly sensitive, Highly reactive, There is no balance, Highly changeable, Variable, Sudden change, Sudden burst out, Unpredictable, Impulsive, Instinctive, Sensitive to noise, Sensitive to touch, Sensitive to smell, Sensitive to hearing, Exaggerated perceptions, Touchy, Aggressive, Angry, Rude, Abusive, Abrupt, No sense of right and wrong*

Invertebrates	Summary of Themes
<u>Support system and Dependency</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support, Dependent, Insecurity, Protection - Need somebody to guide you/ assure you/ appreciate you - Need of care and nurturing - Need someone in back ground - Need of family, friends, parents or partner - Need of Armor, Shield, Shell, Covering, Home and Cocoon
<u>Sensations</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soft, Soft-bodied, Thin-skinned - Small, Weak, Vulnerable (Awkward, Indecisive, Non-assertive, Irresolute, Hesitating) - Incapable, Helpless, Weak-willed, Incapable to defend, Low self-confidence, Low self-assurance, Doubting own-self - Immature, Underdeveloped, Arrested development, Growing up (Timid, Bashful, Cowardice, Naive, Childish, Foolish)
<u>Physical Sensations</u>	Smashing, Cutting, Crushing, Killing, Destroying, Making pulp, Squeezing, Constricting, Drilling, Burning, Smarting, Tingling, Numbness
<u>Reactions and defenses</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Panic attacks, Scared, Frighten, Startling, Sense of Danger - Sensitive, Impulsive, Irritability, Angry - Mood swings - Withdrawing, Retreating, Pulling in, Curling up - Escaping, Hiding, Running away - Become smaller, Contracting, Become a ball

DD of Invertebrates and Vertebrates

Invertebrates	Vertebrates
Primitive	Evolved
Stuck at specific level of development, so look like fetus, infant, small child, toddler, adolescent or teenager.	Fully developed so look like an adult or old age stage of human development (With exceptions)
Self-centered so "I" is important. They hardly look beyond "I".	Leave the "I" and try to mingle or merge or correlate with others. So, "We" is important in the form of relationship, comparison, competition, jealousy, revelry, revenge etc (We = society, group, family etc)
Fear of losing self is strongest fear, hence "sudden death" is core fear in many cases	Fear of losing the other is the strongest fear, hence fear of losing company, friends, relationship, and family is core in many cases
Unsophisticated	Sophisticated
Weak in judging right and wrong so hardly able to maintain human civilization rules and regulations. No sense of right and wrong, naïve, rude, crude and shameless in expressions and behavior.	Look mature and able to understand society rules hence they have a sense of morality. Moral understanding is higher in compare to invertebrates.
Purpose of life is to fulfill the basic requirement of life like food, shelter and sex.	They evolve from the basic needs in life hence their requirement in life is care, nurturing, name, fame, relationship and spirituality.
Mono-faceted. Mainly materialistic so, their life is focused on money, food and sex and their own body. (Sensitive to pain, suffering, injury and illnesses and other health issues)	Multi-faceted or multi focused but higher purpose is self-evolution or self-development or self-awareness hence interested in spiritual aspect of life



Dr. Ghanshyam Kalathia , a master teacher in the art and science of homeopathy, has given the world another gift again *Invertebrates in Homeopathy*. A practicing homeopath with a busy online clinic based in Ahmedabad/ India, author of his acclaimed publications in world-reputed homeopathic journals like Homeopathic Links, Homeopathy International UK, Similia Australia, Hpathy.com and Interhoemopathy.org passionately continues teaching students from all over the world with his current four international video master courses and his “ Journey with Dr. Kalathia Series”. His systematic approach regarding the understanding of case studies merges the spiritual and practical aspects of homeopathy into a synergy of true and lasting healing. The *invertebrates* are animals without a backbone or bony skeleton comprising 97% of all animal species on this planet. Dr. Kalathia’s book not only will enlighten us about this unique group of animals and their remedial qualities but also serves us a gentle reminder of healing the “spinelessness” and lack of courage within ourselves. A “must-read” for everyone interested in the art of homeopathy.

Dr. Angelika Maria Koch DNM RShom HNHIr -USA