

The Comprehensive Repertory for the New Homeopathic Remedies: A Guide to Strategic Prescribing
By Colin Griffith
Watkins, London 2015, 376 pages, hardback, from £35
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Reviewed by Francis Treuherz.

Aha, a new repertory! In my library of some 10,370 books on homeopathy I have 885 repertories. I have become very excited by this repertory. I can hear you say, "... What a fool is this, excited by a repertory? Get a life!" I know little of meditation, but I think I know about repertories. The last new one I reviewed was a veterinary repertory¹ so a comparison might be possible.

In the introduction: "This repertory is based on the materia medica of remedies proved through meditation practice...". I have two volumes of *New Materia Medica* by Colin Griffith² and two volumes of *Meditative Provings* by Madeline Evans³. I am uncertain whether all their remedies are in this repertory. It is interesting to see the development of new approaches to proving, especially when there is congruence between the new and the original provings carried out by the classic methods, and when there are published cases showing how the new remedies work out in practice. I look forward to more publications. This repertory is a welcome development to enable more use to be made of these remedies. It contains brief materia medica summaries of some new remedies, information on miasms, usage in pregnancy, and some useful explanations. I have tried to use the repertory in real life, but so far this has not led to a prescription.

The problem is that the *New World Veterinary Repertory* is crystal clear to use – with the chapters according to the *Schema* from top to toe, from Mind to Generals - and the *New Homeopathic Remedies Repertory* I found confusing. Let me start with crystal as an example. I had some trouble locating the Mind chapter which was not at the beginning, it was on page 173, and so I looked at the rubric **Confusion** as I was confused. There was an intriguing new sub-rubric '**Confusion** <miscalculating approach toward opposite sex, after⁴: and the remedy abbreviation name 'CQ'. I located a list of abbreviations of the new remedies on page 325 and CQ is *Clear Quartz*. Quartz is Silicon dioxide which surely has a Latin name, *Silica*. So to cut a long explanation short, the repertory does not name all remedies in Latin as is our convention, and does not have the second part of binomials in lower case so Lat-M instead of Lat-m for *Latrodectus mactans* (which I do not think of as a new remedy – so there is confusion between the old and the new). I wonder what role our pharmacies play in keeping to these conventions. For many rubrics there is a useful selection of 'old' remedies listed for comparison. There is insufficient reference to the original publications of the materia medica which might accompany the index of abbreviations. The layout has gaps after rubrics, and the sub-rubrics are in the same font as the remedy names; a tighter format is more usual. The divisions between chapters are rather subtly marked by grey pages.

I have a conservative approach to repertory layout and usage, but an open mind to new information. Clarity is required to access this new information. My suggestion would be to edit the contents and submit to peer review and then for addition as an independent repertory inside the software applications *MacRepertory*TM and *Radar*TM; or integral to the *Complete Repertory* (Roger van Zandvoort) and the *Synthesis Repertory* (Frederik Schroyens), which will surely lead to wider usage and acceptance of the new remedies.

¹ Richard Pitcairn: *New World Veterinary Repertory*, 2013, Narayana Publishers, Kandern.

² Colin Griffith: *The New Materia Medica*, 2 volumes, 2017 & 2011, Watkins, London.

³ Madeline Evans: *Meditative Provings*, 2 volumes, 2000 & 2005, Rose Press, York.

⁴ The symbol < is used for 'worse for' or 'aggravated by'.

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A GUIDE TO STRATEGIC PRESCRIBING

Colin Griffith, MCH

"a gifted teacher of the principles and practice of homeopathy"
Positive Health