## **EDITORIAL**

## Dear Readers,

The two sciences namely medicine and psychology have independently accumulated considerable amount of information in their area of application. In past few years, some progress has been made towards understanding of how these two fields could be systematically correlated. But the concern is that diagnosis of a disorder as psychomatic, still implies the absence of "organic disease", that real physical difficulties may have a "real" psychological cause behind is seldom considered.

DSM-IV criterion defines Somatization disorder as a case where a history of many physical complaints beginning before the age 30 years that occur over a period of several years and result in treatment being sought or significant impairment of functioning. Each of the following criteria must have been met, with individual symptoms occurring at any time during the course of the disturbance: 4 pain symptoms, 2 gastrointestinal symptoms, 1 sexual symptom, a history of at

least 1 sexual or reproductive symptom other than pain or 1 pseudo-neurological symptom. It further says, either after appropriate investigation, each of the symptoms cannot be fully explained by a known general medical condition or the direct effects of a substance or when there is a related general medical condition, the physical complaints or resulting social or occupational impairment are in excess of what would be expected from the history, physical examination, or laboratory findings and the symptoms are not intentionally produced or feigned.

The point is that even today it is still is not recognised that the cause of illnesses developed other than defined in somatization disorder can have a psychological aspect attached to it as an underlying cause and thus making a person susceptible for any disorder. Homeopathic literature identifies that maintaining factors or the triggering factors can be the environment, causative factors or genetic but the underlying cause which makes one person

susceptible to any disorder is the basic inherent nature and stresses which person takes to him/herself. As Edward C. Whitmont has put it "a detailed study of Homeopathic Materia Medica, which is compiled by collecting these artificial drug pictures and clinical corroborations shows that every such drug effect is characterised by specific alteration of the total personality, namely by emotional and mental changes which arise in addition to the disturbance of the general vitality and of the organs." Homeopathy special considers all the psychological aspects in a person's evolution as a person and his disease evolution and prescription is based on a combined evaluation of these facts. It is time initiate research and study in this direction so as to explain the correlation of specific physio-pathologic and psychological aspects in different diseases, and thus enabling us to predict the facts and connections not yet discovered.

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