

**Guest Speaker Conference at the 58° Congress of Liga Medicorum Homoeopathica
Internationalis Graz, Austria, April 23, 2003**

**Placebo Symptoms in Homoeopathic Pathogenetic Trials:
Quantitative and Qualitative Study of Placebo Symptoms in the Research of
Loxosceles laeta and *Geranoaetus melanoleucus melanoleucus* with the
Double Protocol of Homoeopathic Pathogenetic Trial**

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Abstract

In the Homeopathic Pathogenetic Trials (HPTs), the desire to determine with more precision which are the genuine, true, reliable and valid symptoms of the tested substance has led to the introduction of placebo as part of the research methodology in these studies. However, the usefulness and need of placebo in HPTs is still a source of controversy nowadays and is frequently questioned. The Double Protocol of Homoeopathic Pathogenetic Trial (DPHPT) represents the performance of two small-scale studies that includes high methodological quality standards [triple and double blind; placebo intra-individual control and controls in each phase; defined criteria of inclusion and exclusion of volunteers and of selection of symptoms; quintuple and triple randomization process; classification of symptoms according to their previous existence and intensity] and three types of intervention: different supervision (close vs. moderate), different dynamizations (12 CH, 30 CH, 200 K, M, and 10M), and different doses (single doses vs. increasing and repetitive doses). The aim of this work is to study the results obtained as a consequence of the quantitative and qualitative analysis of the symptoms reported with placebo by using the DPHPT in the *Loxosceles laeta* (brown spider or killer spider) and *Geranoaetus melanoleucus melanoleucus* (black-chested buzzard-eagle)'s HPTs, to analyze the clinical implications of these results and to provide important information for future research works.

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Keywords: Homoeopathic pathogenetic trial; proving; protocols; methodology;
placebo; *Loxosceles laeta*; *Geranoetus melanoleucus melanoleucus*.

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