

# **A GROUP ANALYSIS EVALUATION OF THE CLASS ARACHNIDA IN TERMS OF KNOWN MATERIA MEDICA**

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the Master's Degree in Technology: Homeopathy in the Faculty of  
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## **DEDICATION**

To the powers of nature that balance life in so many miraculous ways. As I discover more about each constituent of our natural world through observation, remarkable pictures have been revealed to me which guide my knowledge of healing.

“The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quiet, alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles.”

Anne Frank

## **ABSTRACT**

Two centuries ago it was possible to practice with only 100 remedies. Today with the constantly expanding materia medica, complexity itself tempts the homeopath to remain inside this range of remedies. It is due to the pioneering work of authors like Scholten (1993) and Sankaran (2005) that the vast materia medica of today can be summarized and understood through a method like group analysis which links naturally related substances via their common symptomatology. This not only offers new aspects to well known remedies, but highlights the smaller, not so well known remedies, resulting in a more comprehensive understanding of the materia medica.

Relatively few homeopathic remedies derived from the Araneae order are extensively utilized for the homeopathic treatment of patients. Therefore the spider remedies represented in the literature of Mac Rep computer program® were subjected to the group analysis method in order to extend the overall knowledge of this particular group of homeopathic remedies. The spider remedies were first analyzed in terms of their quantitative representation in the repertory (amount of rubrics) and then a sample group was chosen. This selection was screened for common sensations using the above mentioned computer program. The significance of a common sensation was confirmed by cross-checking the materia medica of all 16 homeopathic spider remedies listed in Mac Reference® computer software for its occurrence. The findings were interpreted within the backdrop of the established animal characteristics of homeopathic remedies (Sankaran, 2005:24-31).

The primary sensations extracted and confirmed in the rest of the Araneae group were stinging, stitching, shooting, sensitive, sore, cold, faint, paralytic, twitching and full. Significant synonyms of the first order analysis were heaviness, spasm, cramp, numbness and weakness. Second order and third order analysis not only provided symptoms of the mind, but led to the proposed themes common in spider remedies. The majority of themes like hyperactivity, restlessness, increased sexuality, impulsive violence and aggression, the periodicity of complaints, heightened sensitivity to music and the love for dancing are comparable to Mangliavori's (2004) clinical findings and to Sankaran's (2005) proposed spider characteristics.

A miasmatic differentiation of each member of the sample group was performed according to Sankaran's extended miasmatic model (2005:7). *Araneus diademus* was found to belong to the sycotic- as well as malarial miasm, *Latrodectus hasseltii* to the syphilitic-, *Loxocoles reclusa* to the leprous- and *Tarentula hispanica* and *Theridion curassavicum* to the tubercular miasm.

Pathological tendencies of the Araneae remedies were found to involve the nervous system, eyes, heart, muscular – skeletal system, sexual organs and the mind. Examples of diseases common in Araneae remedies were found to be: mental disorders like anxiety neurosis, ADHD, depression, mania, sexual disturbances, STD's, neurological disorders, angina pectoris, myocardial infarction, spinal irritation, migraines, meningitis etc.

The results of this research were found to support group analysis methodology as outlined by Sankaran (2005). However additional knowledge drawn from Sankaran's

2008) most recent research into animal remedies and from the natural history of spiders was necessary to be able to interpret the results correctly and to illustrate an in-depth picture of the common characteristic features of the Araneae remedies.

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## **CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION**

There is tremendous variety among homeopaths in their knowledge of each remedy. This knowledge mostly derives from single phenomena listed during a proving. With the constantly expanding materia medica, a capacity to discriminate and decisively weigh the relative importance of the information received is necessary for the development of a remedy picture (Mangliavori, 2004:28).

For homeopaths, the frame of reference derives from the study of the patient and the remedy. Using this data a homeopath should be able to match the signs and symptoms of the disease to the relevant remedy picture. This process is not always efficient and the interpretation of the materia medica subjective (Zwemke, 2004), hence there is a need to increase the awareness of the substance in use (Mangliavori, 2004:31).

In order to be able to assimilate the quantity of information received during a proving, the history of the substance, toxicological findings, clinical material and cured cases have to be considered (Sankaran, 2005:19). Since Hahnemann (1755 -1843), several homeopaths made the attempt to create a system of homeopathic prescribing that can assist practitioners understand the remedies more accurately. One of these systems is referred to as Group Analysis. It is not an entirely new approach, but has been taken further in recent years by a number of homeopaths (Scholten,1993:23).

Group analysis is an important method which groups remedies according to the natural biological classification of organisms and substances. The three main sources from which homeopathic remedies originate, are plants, animals and minerals. A remedy from a specific kingdom will share the same themes at a general level with other remedies of the same kingdom (Sankaran, 2008:25). The themes and characteristics that are common to a group are distilled in order to gain better insight of the core of a specific group (Scholten, 1996:69).

Classification, categorization and grouping are scientific tools and give homeopathy the strength of prediction (Scholten, 2007:35). With the group analysis approach it is possible to extend the pictures of little known remedies, so that they become full and meaningful pictures (Moskowitz, 2002).

Spider remedies make up a relatively small group amongst homeopathic remedies. Spiders are members of the animal kingdom and belong to the class Arachnida (Leroy 2003:9). Considering the diversity of spiders in nature, and the biological importance within the ecosystem, it is surprising that spider remedies are not better understood and more often used in homeopathy.

The aim of this study is to analyze remedies of the class Arachnida, order Araneae according to the group analysis method proposed by Sankaran (2005), and to test the validity of the application of this method to an animal class.

## **1.1 Aim of the group analysis research project**

The aim of this non empirical study is to apply Sankaran's methodology for group analysis to the Class Arachnida/order Araneae and to compare the outcome of the formalized computer analysis to existing results and views of spiders obtained by homeopaths like Mangliavori (2004) and Sankaran (2005).

For this purpose remedies of the order Araneae will be analyzed in terms of common sensations, responses and reactions they evoke in proving experiments. The information will be collected from various homeopathic materia medicae represented in MacRepertory® reference works.

The objectives of this study are:

1. To establish whether it is possible to extract a common set of sensations running through the order Araneae/class Arachnida.
2. To trace the order's typical pattern of responses and reactions evoked in proving trials.

3. To verify whether the results of this formal computer research are comparable to the existing literature on spider themes, published by Sankaran (2005) and Mangliavori (2004).
4. To differentiate each member of the sample group in terms of miasmatic tendencies, according to Sankaran's (2005:52) extended miasmatic classification model.

## **1.2 Rationale for the group analysis evaluation of remedies belonging to the class Arachnida/ order Araneae**

The remedies of the class Arachnida and in particular of the order Araneae are relatively poorly represented in the literature with respect to common characteristics (Mangliavori, 2004). The general purpose of this dissertation is to investigate the application of group analysis to a relatively small group of homeopathic remedies, belonging to the spider family.

Within modern homeopathy there are a number of group analysis methodologies proposed by different authors:

A) Mangliavori's methodology is based on clinical experience. His data derives from previous successfully treated clinical cases (Mangliavori, 2004).

B) Sankaran's methodology is based on a formal repertory search and an analysis of the materia medica. It has been applied to a number of plant families with apparent success (Sankaran, 2005).

A formal computer analysis of the existing materia medica according to Sankaran's methodology has not yet been applied to remedies of the class Arachnida/order Araneae.

Homoeopathic spider remedies are known to be useful in the treatment of a range of clinical conditions, like *Latrodectus mactans* in Angina pectoris, *Tarentula hispanica* in ADD/ADHD and *Tarentula cubensis* in Sepsis. A detailed analysis of the material medica of known spider remedies will give homeopaths a deeper understanding of their commonalities and allow them to more accurately utilize a broader range of currently less well proven spider remedies in the future.

A further rationale of the study is to test the reliability, validity and consistency of Sankaran's group analysis methodology.

The purpose of this study is to subject a lesser understood biological class to a particular investigation with a view to extend the overall group understanding, and therefore to allow more utilization of individual members as therapeutic substances for a range of clinical conditions.



## **CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **2.1 Historical Overview**

Homeopathy is a system of therapeutics based on a natural scientific law, the “Law of Similars” – “Simila Similibus Curentur, let like be cured by likes” (Hahnemann, 1996:48). The founder of homeopathy, Samuel Hahnemann, disillusioned with the state of medical practice at the time, began to search for less harmful methods. He established that any medicine will cure a particular disease if it is capable of producing symptoms in healthy individuals which are similar to the totality of disease symptoms in the sick (Brewster O'Reilly, 1996: XV). In 1870 Hahnemann started to test drugs on himself to determine their action (Koehler, 1983). Since then more than 3000 homeopathic remedies have been proven, resulting in a vast list of knowledge representing the homeopathic materia medica of today (Vogel, 2006).

To perform an accurate and thorough proving, it is necessary to have a clearly defined methodology (Vithoulkas, 2004:143). The basis for the proving of drugs on healthy persons was originally stated by Hahnemann and described in his “Organon of the Medical Art” Aphorism 105-114 (Hahnemann, 1996:147): “each medicinal substance engenders a certain, unique set of symptoms”.

The substances that Hahnemann used in his early provings were crude medicines in doses that were very small relative to the doses commonly used in medicine at the time.

He observed that even these small doses caused violent aggravation during the proving and began to simply divide the remedies into ever – smaller crude doses. Later Hahnemann found he could actually enhance the effectiveness of a medicine by dilution, while adding to its dynamic or energetic state by succussion – violent shaking or trituration – grinding in a mortar and pestle (De Schepper, 2001:33).

To fully prove a substance and to determine the exact character of each symptom and its modality, multiple tests with provers of both genders and various constitutions are needed (Hahnemann, 1996:157). Symptoms that arise from a proving are recorded in a materia medica, which is a collection of the genuine, pure, unmistakable modes of action of simple medicinal substances (Hahnemann, 2001:161). It was Hahnemann's belief, that a homeopath should match the symptoms of the patient with the remedy picture recorded in the materia medica (Zwemke, 2004:25).

Considering the vast amount of information collected during a proving, it seems that an encyclopaedic knowledge of materia medica is necessary to prescribe a remedy. It therefore became apparent, that a system of homeopathic prescribing was needed to help practitioners both study the remedies and prescribe more accurately for each individual (Sankaran, 1994:313).

## **2.2 Systematization in homeopathy**

### **2.2.1 Miasms**

Hahnemann himself made the first attempt to group the remedies he was proving according to the notion of Miasms. Well before Koch and Pasteur, Hahnemann perceived that diseases entered the body in form of what he described as 'Miasms', - subtle, imperceptible substances that take hold of the Vital Force causing an internal derangement. He thus anticipated the modern concept of microbial infection, however clearly indicating that contagion cannot occur without prior susceptibility (Weiner, 1989:32).

He observed that in chronic disease the best selected medicine often could not prevent relapses or periodic exacerbations and that chronic disease nearly always followed a pattern that could be related to one of the three Miasms - Psora, Sycosis or Syphilis (Eizayaga, 1994:288). With the classification of chronic disease and its treatment with anti miasmatic remedies he created the first system of prescribing in homeopathy, and thus simplified the differentiation of similar remedies in each prescription (Sankaran, 1994:21).

Today the miasmatic model has been extended. According to depth and pace of perception, Sankaran (2005:7) distinguishes between ten different Miasms – the acute, the typhoid, the malarial, the ringworm, the sycotic, the cancer, the tubercular, the

leprosy and the syphilitic Miasm. A more detailed description of each of these Miasms is illustrated in tabulated form in Appendix A.

### **2.2.2. Repertories and Computer Software**

The development of the repertory was a subsequent approach in the systemization process. In 1833, Boenninghausen and Jahr independently published the first repertory, which ordered symptoms alphabetically and by degrees (Eizayaga,1994:151). Some of the more well known repertories that followed were Hering's "Guiding Symptoms", Boericke's and Kent's repertories, Murphy's "Homeopathic Medical Repertory", van Zandvoort's "Complete Repertory" and Schroyens' "Synthesis". According to Gaier (1991) the repertory is a reliable and accurate tool that assists the homeopathic practitioner to identify a possible remedy in each individual case.

Today there are a number of homeopathic software packages like Mac Repertory, Radar or Homopath available, containing substantial volumes of homeopathic literature, materia medica and repertories. Together with effective search engines it is now possible to screen the collected observations of centuries of work for commonalities (Vogel, 2006).

### **2.2.3. Classification according to kingdoms**

Farrington (1992) was one of the first authors who understood the value of looking for deeper and more systematic levels of similarity by following the trail of biological and chemical groupings that already existed in nature (Moskowitz, 2002:2). He realized that if drugs belong to the same family, they must have a similar action and for the purpose of his lectures, he arranged the remedies in three grand divisions, according to the kingdom of nature from which they derived. In recent decades a number of homeopaths have refined and extended the idea of kingdom classification.

In the past, the most common method of studying homeopathic remedies was to focus on the individual remedy. Recently the focus shifted to the analysis of a whole group with the emphasis on extracting commonalities within a group (Scholten, 1993:23). Amongst other homeopaths, Scholten and Sankaran can be considered the prime movers of group analysis of the modern area (Wulfsohn, 2005). The term Group Analysis however was first coined by Scholten (1993:23), who recognizes that this method is not entirely new and has been used in the past by Clarke (1985:358), Morrison (1988:2) and Vithoulkas (1992:235).

In Group Analysis themes and characteristics common to a group of related remedies are distilled out of the overall picture and subsequently applied to the lesser known or even unknown remedies within the group (Scholten, 1993:11). The revelation of a

pattern offers the homeopath a broader therapeutic model for application and the possibility of prediction (Klein, 2005:10).

## **2.3 Group Analysis**

### **2.3.1 Group Analysis according to Jan Scholten**

For many years Scholten expressed his unhappiness about the gaps and the lack of System in the knowledge of homeopathic remedies (Stuut,1993:9). This led him to the investigation of groups of remedies which, although botanically or chemically related, at first sight hardly seemed to have any homeopathic relationship with each other. Scholten (1993:11) compared different mineral remedies - groups of remedies that contain the same element – and extracted common symptoms. For instance Natrium carbonicum, Natrium muriaticum, Natrium phosphoricum and Natrium sulphuricum are minerals that contain the element Sodium. The themes and characteristics that are common to the whole group are distilled out of the overall picture and subsequently applied to the lesser known or even unknown Sodium salts (Scholten, 1996:68).

A few years later Scholten went further and applied his theory to the entire periodic table by creating a materia medica of the elements (Savage, 1996). His book “Homeopathy and the elements” (Scholten, 1996) describes the outcome of a comparison of the elements, how they relate to each other and how compound salts modify the picture of a single element. Scholten was able to identify a pattern running

through the entire periodic table by themes that are common to vertical rows/series, as well as horizontal columns/stages. The patterns are more general and the concepts broader than the ones described in his previous book “Homeopathy and the Minerals” (Scholten, 1993). However Scholten (1996) manages to show a definite evolution of a theme within each row with the idea of a rise and fall according to the progression of columns. In this way he is able to forecast trends developing within each row and to predict themes and characteristics of lesser or unknown mineral remedies.

Using the current scientific knowledge of the periodic table, Scholten (2005) introduced a new group of remedies – the Lanthanides – to homeopathy. The name Lanthanides means hidden, as many of them are found in other substances and are difficult to obtain (Klein, 2005:10). To Scholten (2005:10) this fact is already a key to their homeopathic use. Apparently a number of practitioners have had successful cures using these new concepts and substances to a point where it now forms an integral part of homeopathic practice (Klein, 2005:11). This new ‘system’ implies that remedies may be prescribed without prior proving, even though Scholten (1993) still believes that ultimately these remedies should still be proved. Despite some dangers that come with the new ‘method’, group analysis allows for extension of knowledge in a new way.

### **2.3.2 Group Analysis according to Rajan Sankaran**

While Scholten (1996) mainly explored the periodic table, Sankaran (2008) focused on the differentiation between the kingdoms (viz. Animal, Mineral, Plant...) and how

remedies belonging to different kingdoms would present themselves in a patient. According to Sankaran (2008:17), a differentiation between the kingdoms cannot be done at a superficial level e.g. through the patients appearance, his/her mode of speaking or behavior. This can only give clues. It is the voice of the source itself speaking from within that can reveal the nature of the kingdom, as it expresses itself with subtlety. Remedies of the same kingdom share common traits as do remedies from the same order and family. These traits find expression in a patient and so narrow down the search for a remedy. Once arrived at a biological family the choice of a particular member of that family will depend on the patient's description of his most inner state.

In the foreword to Sankaran's most recently published book "Survival", Schadde (2008:1) notices that even though Hahnemann's proving taught a lot about how to understand remedies, there was a missing link, the connection between the patient's expression of his inner state and the required remedy's expression in nature. An investigation into the source of the remedy provided a better understanding of the missing link. Sankaran (2008:49) calls the specific traits of the source as they express themselves in a patient "the song of nature" which can be heard and seen when the patient's deepest level is reached. In order to arrive at this level, there was a need to develop a new specific case taking method. This method allows the patient to access deeper levels of his consciousness where a connection between the inner state and the source can be drawn.



Following Hahnemann's advice in paragraph 83 of the Organon regarding the individualizing examination of each case of disease and considering paragraph 9 of the Organon – the vital force rules the sensations and functions – Sankaran refined his method of case taking in order to reach the patient's morbid state at a level where the source is recognizable (Schadde, 2008:1). By matching the patient's expressions of his/her morbid state with the analogue substance in nature, Sankaran provides an answer to the proposed missing link.

Sankaran (1997) conducted further investigations into the natural classification of drugs by specifying the distinguishing features of plant, animal and mineral remedies. According to Sankaran (2008:25), patients who need a mineral remedy are concerned with issues of structure, e.g. identity, relationship or performance. Plant remedies deal with sensitivity issues and animal remedies with issues of survival. The results of Sankaran's research are published in his book "Schema" (Sankaran, 2005), "Sensation" (Sankaran, 2004) an "Sensation refined" (Sankaran, 2007) and show, in summary the different concepts and information spread over his books.

### **2.3.3 Group Analysis according to Massimo Mangliavori**

Mangliavori's attempt to overcome the use of isolated symptoms as a basis for a prescription is to define the characteristic and fundamental themes that best express the dynamic psychosomatic system (Zwemke, 2004:34). His concept of "homeopathic families" is not limited to the classification systems of botany, zoology or the periodic

table, but is based on precise comparisons of fundamental themes and their nuance and has been verified through extensive clinical application. By observing and studying his patients over many years, he recognized patterns that led him to the utility of defining themes that describe the complex reality of patients as well as the multiple expressions of remedies in the materia medica.

The basis of Mangliavori's "homeopathic families" stems from the observation of similarities between different substances. Some share physical characteristics, some contain the same poison, mineral or alkaloid; some might be members of the same biological family or some derive even from different biological families, but have similar cultural use (Zwemke, 2004:35). An example are the so called "drug remedies". Even though these remedies belong to unrelated botanical families like *Opium* to the Papaveraceae family, *Convolvulus duartinus* to the Convolvulaceae family, *Cannabis indica* to the Cannabaceae family or *Piper methysticum* to the Piperaceae family, they share the most fundamental themes with *Bufo rana*, a remedy from the animal kingdom.

#### **2.4 The Group Analysis controversy**

In direct opposition to the modern trends in homeopathy are the views of Vithoulkas (2000), Olsen (1996) and Winston (2000), who express concern about the new ideas and theories. Their criticism lies in the perception that these ideas would limit the acceptance of homeopathy into mainstream medical practice. According to Vithoulkas (2000) the new concepts are based on imagination and magical thinking rather than on

facts, while Winston (2004) believes that group and kingdom analysis are the 'edges' of homeopathy and entreats homeopaths to be fully grounded in the classical basics before venturing forth.

In his article "The Fundamentalist Controversy", Moskowitz (2002) examines the controversy between what he coins 'fundamentalism' and 'innovation' and the world wide opposition that has arisen to the 'new teachings'. Regarding the accusation that the teachings were largely speculative in nature (Winston, 2000), Moskowitz (2002) comments: "..... while Scholten's themes are not always identical to Sankaran's, they overlap to a great extent, and their methodologies are similar. To discern the common features of a class, Sankaran uses a computerized study of remedies with newly developed hard and software, which has enough memory to access the vast homeopathic literature and to scan it at high speed. In addition he uses group analysis to deduce the symptoms of unproven remedies, not instead of proving them, but as a test of his thinking, precisely in the spirit of modern science, which judges hypotheses by the accuracy of the predictions they generate".

Proving symptoms of remedies are recorded in a materia medica and most often accepted by homeopathic profession as a solid picture. Scholten (2005:17) expresses his view on the proving picture: ".....the longer one reflects about it, the more obvious it becomes that the descriptions are only approximations of what the real picture of a remedy is. The real picture is something abstract and a proving can only elicit parts of it. The development of the materia medica is a process, with the proving

only being the start of it". Further requirements for the development of a complete remedy picture are a definition of an essence, a verification of findings through clinical application and a comparison of remedies for the purpose of classification which Scholten (2005:17) considers to be the first real step into science and theory formation. "Classification is not impossible or leads to false conclusions, .....without classification all information is unconnected and cannot be put into theory" (Scholten, 2005:17).

Mangliavori (2005:33) agrees that a synthesis of the multitude of symptoms is vital to define the characteristic aspects of a remedy system. He emphasizes that "the essence", "the nucleus", "the core element", "the spirit" were some of the terms used to describe a set of symptoms which needed to be present in a case for the prescription of a certain remedy. However when used in a reducing manner these concepts neglect interaction and connection of data and leave a remedy picture without structure. Only an appreciation of the coherence of symptoms can lead to a full remedy picture or "Gestalt" (Mangliavori, 2005:33).

The concepts of Group Analysis are not in contradiction to the conventional Hahnemannian proving. A conventional proving forms an integral part in the process of the development of a complete remedy picture. Modern authors like Scholten, Sankaran or Mangliavori have according to the ever expanding knowledge during the last centuries merely gone a step further by adding a structure to the endless amount of data collected during a proving.

In order to progress as a science, homeopathy has to go through the stage of source description, development of themes, clinical confirmation, classification and theory formation (Scholten, 2005:17). As Einstein (2005:17) rightly puts it: “Science without epistemology is, insofar as it is thinkable at all, primitive and muddled”.

## **2.5 Sankaran’s concepts and methodology**

### **2.5.1 Origins of the kingdom classification**

Homeopathy views disease as an affection of the whole person and therefore a homeopathic treatment must be holistic and individualistic. For Sankaran (2008:14) the base of disease is a false perception of reality, a delusion which causes an inappropriate and disproportioned reaction. According to the depth of which a situation is perceived, Sankaran differentiates ten possible degrees of perception and its reactive pattern. A Miasm according to Sankaran (2005:19) indicates the depth of how a situation is experienced and is a classification of states (patients’ states as well as remedy states), based on the pace, rapidity and level of desperation.

A perception can be differentiated according to quality – “how” a situation is perceived, or character – “what” is perceived in a situation. The “how” of any phenomenon denotes the “Miasm” and the “what” the “Sensation” (Sankaran, 2005:13). The sensation concept which describes a state deeper to the mind and body, was developed by Sankaran (2005:37) as a result of his investigation into the levels of experience of a

human being. Sankaran (2008:24) found that there are different ways of experiencing the same situation, namely by viewing it as a competition, a loss of structure or a sensitivity issue. These different experiences indicate the different kingdoms, namely the animal, mineral and plant kingdom, from which the remedies are derived. A patient is treated according to the features of the different kingdom he presents. Each kingdom deals with a different issue. Sankaran (2008:26) states: “I understood that the Homeopathic Materia Medica is the human expression of the source itself. The remedies from various sources heal humans with similar states within them. These states, which we call disease must also be, like the remedies, from one of the three kingdoms”.

### **2.5.2 Vital sensation and the three kingdoms**

According to Sankaran (2005:26) symptoms can be divided into sensations and actions. “Each action arises in response to a corresponding sensation and each sensation must excite a particular action, even if one does not perform the action. Sensation and action are equal and opposite” (Sankaran, 2005:26). For example a perceived insult causes an insulting response. This concept proves itself useful with remedies where proving or clinical cases have yielded only the action or only the sensation (Sankaran, 2005:29).

Sensations can be felt on a physical or mental level and denote an abstract experience. Sankaran speaks of seven levels of experience, which can be developed during the case taking process. The aim is to guide the patient to the sensation level where the

differentiation between kingdoms can be made. “Vital Sensation” is a term coined by Sankaran (2008:74) and describes the pathological core sensation of a patient. A Vital sensation is expressed not only at the “Vital level” of a patient’s being which is deeper to both mind and body, but is also present in his physical symptoms and his mind state. In health sensations arise from being in the moment, whereas in disease an abnormal energy pattern and an abnormal fixed sensation prevents a patient from experiencing life in the moment (Sankaran, 2008:75).

Sankaran (2008:75) thinks that the Vital Sensation is not specific to human beings, but is shared by all beings and substances on this earth: “It is terrestrial as opposed to energy which is universal” . A patient’s Vital Sensation for example might be that of “pressure”, a theme that is found in nature as well; certain elements like metal are subject to pressure and certain plants and animals are sensitive to pressure. In a healthy patient this sensation of pressure will be transient and only felt when subjected to changing weather patterns, whereas in a sick individual it will be felt permanently independent from any outside circumstances.

The Vital sensation that has to be developed in a patient during the homeopathic case taking process is the expression of the “Source”. The source indicates the required substance from which a homeopathic remedy is then prepared. If the remedy is chosen carefully and matched to the energy pattern of the patient, it can achieve a cure (Sankaran, 2008:18-19). “Depending on which kingdom is the source, human beings can be mapped into one of these three kingdoms” (Sankaran, 2008:92). The Vital

Sensation has a different expression in each kingdom. According to Sankaran (2008:25), patients who need a mineral remedy are concerned with issues of structure, e.g. identity, relationship or performance. Plant remedies deal with sensitivity issues and animal remedies with issues of survival.

### **2.5.2.1 The plant kingdom**

The basic quality of a plant is sensitivity (Sankaran, 2008:93). Due its inability to move, a plant for its survival needs a heightened sensitivity to adjust to changes in the internal as well as external environment. A patient needing a plant remedy has a similar energy to a plant – he/she is of a sensitive nature. The Vital sensation will be that of heightened sensitivity and reactivity with the patient continuously adjusting and adapting to the many internal and external influences. The expressions used are: “I am affected by this”, “I am sensitive to this”, “this hurts me”, “I can’t bear it”, “this touches me” (Sankaran, 2005:5). The manner of dressing is sensitive and shows preference to flowery and irregular patterns. Presentation of the complaint is descriptive with symptoms described randomly and not completely, wandering from one subject to the other. Causation is physical and mental shock or hurt.

The main issue of plant remedies is sensitivity and reactivity. Plant remedies are affected by circumstances, people’s opinions, temperature, weather etc. and have one general state, with predominance of one basic, common sensation as well as its opposite (Sankaran, 2008:27). Sankaran (2005:29) concludes that remedies from



certain plant families share the same sensations which can be experienced by a patient directly or as the exact opposite. For example the sensation in the Euphorbiaceae family can vary from the experience of being “bound, tight or taut” to “released and loose” (Sankaran, 2008:96).

While each plant from a given family shares the same sensation, the pace and (Miasm) in which the sensation is experienced and the reaction to the sensation differs from plant to plant.

#### **2.5.2.2 The mineral kingdom**

In 2003 Sankaran, drawing clues from Scholten’s work, began his personal investigations into the periodic table. In his book ‘Structure’, Sankaran (2008) depicts the periodic table as a map of human development from the womb to tomb, each row representing a certain stage of human life and each column a different development within that stage. The main issue in minerals is about structure, completeness and incompleteness. The problem lies with the patient himself and not with the opposite person like in the animal kingdom. The experience is of something lacking or missing, a feeling of being incomplete and dependent and the question is about capability as opposed to the question of adaptability which is predominant in the plant kingdom.

Structure is understood in terms of existence, identity, position, relationships, security, performance and responsibility with each row showing a development in regard to these

issues (Sankaran, 2008). For example the third row in the periodic table is concerned with issues of identity the fourth row with security and the sixth row with issues of responsibility. Each row shows a rise and fall in the development of one of the above mentioned themes.

### **2.5.2.3 The animal kingdom**

According to Sankaran (2008:98) the fundamental issue in animals is that of survival and although the theme of survival of the fittest holds true for all living creatures, including algae, fungi, plants, etc., it is most evident in the animal world. It epitomizes a competitive situation of the stronger versus the weaker, the aggressor against the victim, the predator versus the prey. One important component of the basic competitive nature is the desire to attract attention, not only outwardly through certain appearance and pattern of movement, but also through characteristic behavior and speech which can be excited, lively, vivacious and animated. Alertness and rapid responses are also characteristics.

Fears are of being neglected, looked down upon, of failure in competition, loss of strength and attractiveness, of being dominated, persecuted, attacked - of being the victim. The issue of dominance is strong and is experienced as "somebody is doing that to me, I am being victimized bullied, tortured, abused etc.", and shows a clear split between self and others (Sankaran, 2008:101). The conflict is not only with people, but also with one self and has its basis in a split within oneself. The patient expresses this

split in the feeling of not being good enough, of being worthless. The delusion of an existing hierarchy in the sense of “somebody is above me or below” – the issue of superiority and inferiority is yet another expression of the victim/aggressor theme (Sankaran, 2008:24-25).

According to Sankaran (2008:26) each animal has certain physical characteristics that make it vulnerable to predation of a particular kind and therefore over the ages has developed certain defense mechanisms. He concludes that each group of animals is hence distinguished from the other in the peculiar nature of attack they experience as well as perform and in the type of defense mechanism they adopt against attack. Both aspects are expressed by the patient, as victim and aggressor are two sides of the same state.

There are general modes of attack and defense in the animal kingdom which are described by the patient in the depth of the sensation. These expressions and behavior patterns when recognized during the case taking process can give clues to the required remedy. The reaction to the constantly experienced threat of survival causes a basic and instinctive reaction – “fight or flight”, depending on the strength of the individual. A sense of loss of one’s freedom to be oneself and to express oneself can lead to the delusion of being trapped, caged, captured, defeated, chained or imprisoned with a strong desire to escape and to be free. This sensation, together with freedom from being victimized, exists in almost all the animals, but is most marked among birds (Sankaran, 2008:28).

Sexuality and attractiveness is vital to reproduction. In the animal remedies the theme of attractiveness/unattractiveness/self disgust and the theme of jealousy are strongly present. In Sankaran's (2008:29) opinion, animal patients are more often presented in seminars due to their liveliness and animated behavior. However to understand the sexuality of an animal remedy and to distinguish it from that of a plant or a mineral, it is necessary to go into the depth of the sensation of a patient. For example the sexuality in the plant remedy *Hyoscymus* at the deepest level is the fear of losing the partner. It is the sensitivity of the plant that is the basis and the sexuality is the expression of it. The mineral remedy *Phosphorus* at the deepest level has the need to develop an identity different from his own family - the sexuality in this case is a matter of structure (Sankaran, 2008:29).

There is a sense of rhythm in most animals with many of them making sounds in order to communicate. Among all the animals, Arachnida is the most sensitive to music and particularly to rhythm and vibration (Sankaran, 2008:30).

Unlike plant remedies, animal remedies do not have one main sensation and its opposite, but one prominent sensation which represents the movement of that animal and many others alongside it, representing different aspects like attack and defense mechanisms, sexuality or jealousy. It is not possible to determine one pattern in an animal remedy, but according to Sankaran (2008:27) there is a whole story involved, a process described as "first I fly, then I grip, then I run, then I eat, then I get trapped and

then I try to free myself". The multiplicity of sensations and the unfolding of a process can be discerned as case taking progresses.

## **2.6 The relevance of Miasm differentiation in the various kingdoms**

With plant remedies, where whole families share the same sensation, in order to differentiate one plant from the other, it is vital to determine the degree of desperation of each plant. Only an understanding of the depth to which the sensation is experienced and the reacting to this perception will give an indication of the Miasm in each plant. Through classification it is possible to arrive at the right remedy (Sankaran, 2008:31).

Regarding miasmatic classification of the mineral kingdom, there are only hypotheses available at this stage. They are controversial and according to Morrison (2008:67) still require verification through clinical trials. "In the animal kingdom, Miasms are a good indicator of where to look, but normally when we understand all the qualities of the animal we don't have to worry about the Miasm – it is automatically covered" says Sankaran (2008:30). For Mangliavori (2005:33) a consideration of the miasmatic background of a remedy is not necessary and he suggests that every remedy can have the power to cure chronic cases, as long as its specific pattern of reaction fits with the strategy present in the patient.

However, a brief overview of Sankaran's proposed Miasms is presented in tabulated form in Appendix A. The keywords that are listed under each of the ten Miasms

describe the intensity, pace and depth of perception of a situation/sensation and its reaction to it. The name of a Miasm derives from the disease it closely resembles in terms of action and pace. Sankaran's (1991) proposed Miasms are: Acute, Typhoid, Malaria, Ringworm, Sycotic, Cancer, Tubercular, Leprosy and Syphilis.

## **2.7 Class Arachnida/Order Araneae**

Spiders (order Araneae) are the largest order of arachnids and rank seventh in total species diversity among all other groups of animals. Spiders are found worldwide except for the Antarctica, and have become established in nearly every ecological niche except no air and sea colonization has taken place. As of 2008, approximately 40,000 spider species, and 109 families have been recorded by taxonomists (Platnik, 2009).

Arachnids are animals with four pairs of legs, two body parts (except for mites that have one) and pincer- or claw-like jaws. Spiders belong to this class, but are distinguished from other Arachnids by having the two body parts joined by a pedicel, by the fact that they predominantly have eight simple eyes and an abdomen without segmentation (Leroy, 2003:7). The combined head and thorax is called cephalothorax and is made up of the cephalic (head) and the thoracic region. At the front of the cephalic region are the eyes in various configurations, usually in rows or groups, but sometimes even clustered together. The amount varies from eight simple eyes found in the majority of spiders to six, four, two or sometimes even none (Leroy, 2003:15).

The front half of the body is protected by a hardcover and carries the jaws (chelicerae), eight legs, two palps (feelers) and the brain. The jointed legs are made up of seven segments. Adult male spiders have a pair of sex organs on the end of their palps. The soft abdomen contains the heart, digestive tract, reproductive organs, respiratory openings called book lungs and silk glands. It is expandable when fully fed or swollen with eggs (Hillyard, 2004:10).

Spiders are air-breathing chelicerate arthropods with chelicerae (jaws) modified into fangs that inject venom. Of all arthropods, spiders (with exception of the most primitive group, the Mesothelae) have the most centralized nervous systems. All their ganglia are fused into one mass in the cephalothorax. Unlike most arthropods, spiders have no extensor muscles in their limbs and instead extend them by hydraulic pressure (Foelix, 1996:9).

The abdomen has no appendages except those that form one to four pairs of short, movable spinnerets, which emit silk. Up to six different silk glands within the abdomen extrude silk of different types for various uses (Ruppert *et al*, 2004:571-584). Silk is mainly composed of a protein very similar to that of insects. Initially it is liquid, and hardens not by exposure to air but as a result of being drawn out. This process changes the internal structure of the protein, which is similar in tensile strength to nylon and biological materials such as chitin, collagen and cellulose, but much more elastic (Vollrath *et al*, 2001:541-548).

Spider webs vary widely in size, shape and the amount of sticky thread used. They range in complexity from single threads to orb webs with a large number of connections. Often the species of spider without being seen at all, can be recognized by the details of the web. Types include sheet webs, lace webs, tangle webs, purse web or tube webs and space webs (Hillyard, 2004:12).

The best-known method of prey capture is by means of producing sticky webs, but not all of the spiders build webs. The spider hunting dandy jumping spider for example feeds on other spiders their eggs and young (Leroy, 2003:41). Varying placement of webs allows different species of spider to trap insects. Flat horizontal webs trap insects that fly up from vegetation underneath while flat vertical webs trap insects in horizontal flight (Ruppert *et al*, 2004:571-584). Stone nest spiders build retreats in the centre of the web using silk, sand and pieces of vegetation while other spiders construct their retreat off their web connecting it with a single strand while monitoring vibrations from a distance. Flying spiders use silk to travel in a unique way, known as ballooning or aerial dispersal, while trapdoor spiders live in silk lined burrows closed with trap doors (Leroy, 2003:41).

Spiders feed by sucking on their prey. The majority of spiders can use them to inject venom into prey from venom glands in the roots of the chelicerae (Ruppert *et al*, 2004:571-584). Once the prey is immobilized, the spider vomits digestive fluid onto it and then sucks up the digest through screens of hair located on the mouth part of the cephalothorax (Leroy, 2003:17). Like most arachnids including scorpions, spiders have



a narrow gut that can only cope with liquid food (Ruppert *et al*, 2004:559-564).

The spiders' major predators are birds and parasitic wasps. Many spider species are colored so as to merge with their most common backgrounds. Others have distinct coloration, stripes and blotches that interrupt their outlines. There is strong evidence that spiders' coloration is camouflage and helps them to evade their predators which have good color vision (Oxford *et al*, 1998:619-643). Some of the tarantulas and baboon spiders have urticating hairs that cause intense irritation without being poisonous on their abdomens and use their legs to flick them at attackers (Cooke *et al*, 2006). A few defend themselves by adding very robust threads to their web, buying time to flee while the predators are struggling with the obstacles (Blackledge *et al*, 2001:138). The golden wheeling spider in the Namibian desert can flip onto its side and escapes by cart wheeling down sand dunes (Armstrong, 1990).

Web-building spiders have poor vision, but are extremely sensitive to vibration. Spiders produce a variety of sounds that are barely audible to the human ear, some by drumming, scraping or tapping their pedipalps, some by vibrating certain body parts.

Baboon spiders are known for the hissing sound they make when alarmed. Male spiders produce sounds to attract females or to intimidate rival males, while both males and females produce sounds to scare off predators (Leroy, 2003:21).

Spiders generally use elaborate courtship rituals and a male needs to communicate to the female to prevent the large females from eating the small males before fertilization.

Males of different species have their own unique repertoire of signals, for example web spinning spiders introduce themselves by vibrating the web in a certain manner, male hunting spiders dance and wave their colorful legs and palps while another species seduces the female by offering her food (Hillyard, 2004:14). This “peace offering” consists of an insect wrapped in silk. Males carefully need to monitor the females reaction, before copulation can take place. Male Australian red-back spiders (*Latrodectus hasseltii*), after fertilization has taken place swivel around under the female so that their abdomen is right beneath her fangs in a kind of sexual sacrifice. The female might or might not eat the male. Some of the crab spider species wait until the female is preoccupied with food and then spin a soft net around her, which seems to quiet her down. Other male crab spiders climb onto the large female abdomen, tap and stroke it as a kind of foreplay (Leroy, 2003:30).

When males find a suitable female, copulation takes place. The male inserts one palpal organ after the other into the females genital opening which is situated on the underside of the abdomen between and slightly posterior to the book lungs, thus transferring sperm from his pedipalps to her reproductive organs. Fertilization does not necessarily take place at the time of mating, but the sperm is stored until the female lays her eggs. This enables the female to lay several batches of eggs after just one mating. (Leroy, 2003:31).

Females of many species care for their young, by carrying them on their back or by sharing food with them. However social behavior among spiders is definitely the

exception rather than the rule. A minority of spiders is social and build communal webs that may house up to 50,000 individuals. Most adult spiders are solitary and social behavior ranges from precarious toleration (widow spiders) to co-operative hunting and food-sharing. Although most spiders live for a maximum of two years, tarantulas and other mygalomorph spiders can live up to 25 years in captivity (Wikipedia,2010).

## **2.8 Toxicology**

Spider toxins are a family of proteins that function as neurotoxins by causing a blockage of the calcium or potassium channels (Mackay, 1997:1525-1535). They are paralytic substances and contain digestive enzymes. Only 30 species are poisonous and due to the small amount of venom injected, the majority of bites is not dangerous to humans. However super infection, the formation of an abscess or localized necrosis of the surrounding tissue can occur (Mangliavori, 2004:44-45).

Only a very tiny proportion of spiders known to be of medical importance are potentially deadly. The Sydney funnel-web spider, *Atrax robustus* is a highly venomous spider, fast and when cornered reacts aggressively. Until recently a number of people in and around Sydney have died from the toxin, since no antivenin was available (Leroy, 2003:47).

The violin spider, *Loxoceles* spp. is a nocturnal spider and produces a cytotoxic poison with some haemotoxic elements that affect the blood. The first symptom of a violin spider's bite is a local swelling with the appearance of a dark discoloration and blistering at the site of the bite. A sloughing ulcer can develop and can leave a deep ulcerating wound. There are reports of the symptoms of the venom "travelling" and of ulcerations appearing elsewhere in the body (Leroy, 2003:51).

The recluse spiders and the six-eyed sand spiders from the family Sicariidae are known to have necrotic venom. Spiders in this family possess a known dermonecrotic enzyme which is otherwise found only in a few pathogenic bacteria (Binford *et al*, 2009:547-566). Bites by spiders in this family can produce symptoms ranging from minor localized effects, to severe necrotic lesions. Systemic reactions include renal failure, and in some cases, death. Bites usually become painful and itchy within 2 to 8 hours, pain and other local effects worsen 12 to 36 hours after the bite with the necrosis developing over the next few days (Schenone, 1989:403-415). As the venom spreads throughout the body in minutes, initial mild symptoms including nausea, vomiting, fever, rashes, and muscle and joint pain can be observed. Rarely more severe symptoms occur including hemolysis, thrombocytopenia, and disseminated intravascular coagulation (Wasserman, 2005:2029-2030).

## **2.9 Mythology**

Throughout history, there have been numerous cultural depictions of spiders in different cultures, mythology and symbolism. The spider has symbolized patience for his unique hunting technique of setting webs and waiting for prey, as well as malice for its poison and the slow death it causes. Its venom often has been seen as a curse (Garai, 1973).

The spider mythology within Europe can broadly be split in two - the more accessible classical, which tends towards the spider as weaver of the web of creation and good fortune and the darker folklore, which can be tied in with the human abilities of sympathetic lycanthropy. One of the most important tales in Greek mythology concerns Arachne, a beautiful maiden renowned for her talents as a weaver. Arachne challenged Athene, Goddess of the domestic arts to a weaving contest. Arachne won, causing Athene furious about the defeat to change her into a spider so that she should spin for ever (Fovargue, 1995).

"Tarantism" originated in the Italian town of Taranto around 1300BC. A tarantula bite was believed to be deadly unless one took part in a frenzied, hysterical dance. The town's folk played music while the afflicted person would dance nonstop, to ward off the spider's venom (Watson, 2007).

The spider has been compared to vampires due their similar characteristics - both lure

and ensnare prey before sucking the life out of their victim; both possess the ability to scale walls and cliff faces (Bunson, 1993). In African folklore, the spider is personified as *Anansi*, the trickster god, originated in the Ashanti tribe in Ghana and akin to the Coyote or Raven trickster found in many Native American cultures. Alternate names include *Kwaku Ananse* in West Africa and Aunt Nancy, a variant found in some of the islands of the West Indies, South America and the United States (Mills, 2003:317). For the Native American Lakota people, the spider is a culture hero and present as the deity *Iktomi*, the spider-trickster spirit (Cooper, 1992).

## **2.10 Taxonomy**

Arachnologists identified more than 40,000 living species of spiders and grouped them into about 110 families and about 3,700 genera (Platnick, 2009). Spiders fall under the phylum Arthropoda (animals with jointed legs) which include the insects, arachnids, crustaceans, and others. Arthropods are invertebrate animals with an exoskeleton (external skeleton), a segmented body, and jointed appendages. The scientific classification system according to Linnaeus, through which all living things are grouped in a logical way and given scientific names accordingly, always follows the same pattern. For example the classification of a specific spider starts at the broadest category. It is a member of the kingdom Animalia, the phylum Arthropoda, subphylum chelicerata (animals with jaws and without antennae), class Arachnida which includes scorpions, ticks, opiliones, mites, whip spiders, false scorpions etc. and the order Araneae (spiders). The order Araneae itself is further subdivided into suborder, family,

subfamily, genus and lastly species (Leroy, 2003:7-9).

The two sub-orders are Mesothelae and Opisthothelae, of which the latter contains two infra-orders, Mygalomorphae and Araneomorphae (Coddington, 2005:18-24). The more primitive suborder Mesothelae consists of only one family including 40 species and is set apart from the more modern spiders of the suborder Mygalomorphae and Araneomorphae by having a segmented abdomen and four pairs of spinnerets set far apart. Mygalomorphae contain baboon spiders, trapdoor spiders, tarantulas and the so called bird-eating spiders and are much more successful in terms of worldwide distribution (Leroy, 2003:13). Accounting for over 90% of spider species, the most evolved Araneomorphae include orb-web spiders, wolf spiders, and jumping spiders, as well as the only known herbivorous spider, *Bagheera kiplingi* (Coddington, 2005:18-24).

For the purpose of this study, the focus lies on the order Araneae. Due to the broad nature of the class Arachnida and its many orders, a limitation to the order Araneae seems to be a logical step since this order contains all spiders with its common characteristics. Except for the scabies mite, spiders are quantitatively better represented in the materia medica with more available rubrics and therefore a formalized computer search is expected to yield better results.

## **2.11 Spiders in homeopathy**

The number of extensively proven spider remedies is relatively small compared to the large number of spiders on this planet. Most homeopathic observations refer to only a few frequently used spider remedies, like *Tarentula hispanica*, *Latrodectus mactans*, *Araneus diademus* or *Theridion curassavicum*. Few provings have been carried out so far and the rubrics in the repertories derive mainly from clinical evidence of bites and cultural anthropological material, especially in the case of *Tarantula hispanica*. Considering the fact that so far 40 000 species have been identified and only a few homeopathic spider remedies are in use today, a group analysis evaluation of the spider remedies will shed more light on the understanding of spider remedies in general and allow the relatively small remedies derived from this order to find a place in homeopathic practice.

## **2.12 Justification for using group analysis evaluation of the class Arachnida/order Araneae**

Shore's (1994) article on spiders outlines a series of preliminary investigations into the effects of spider venom on the deeper levels of the human psyche. Initial data was gathered from a series of 'dream provings' and subsequently evaluated in the light of previously recorded materia medica, entomological studies and clinical experience.



Mangliavori (2004) applies a different approach in examining the commonalities of spider remedies by analyzing cured clinical cases. The result of his case -based research is published in the book “Bitten in the Soul”.

Sankaran (2002) has done extensive research especially on the group analysis of plant remedies, where he convincingly argues for the presence of a vital sensation and reaction common to each plant family. The same methodology superficially applied to remedies from the animal kingdom does not appear to yield the same results (Sankaran, 2008:30). Vogel (2006) analyzed the class Insecta according to Sankaran’s methodology of group analysis. Although the data collected and analyzed was unable to outline a vital sensation that reflects the core essence of the insect group as a whole, the data was able to indicate a clear image of the basic reactions and responses of the insect remedies as a whole (Vogel, 2006).

Although some research has been done regarding the understanding of spider remedies as mentioned above, the group analysis methodology according to Sankaran has not been applied to the Class Arachnida. This study aims to fill this gap and to produce results, which not only could provide a deeper understanding of this particular biological group, but hopefully will be able to elucidate individual remedies within the Class Arachnida that are less well known.

## **CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHOD**

### **3.1 Definition of spider remedies**

The first step required a definition of the class Arachnida/order Araneae in terms of current animalia taxonomical knowledge and a listing of the remedies belonging to the family in study. A literature search was performed to obtain the names and rubrics of all spider remedies included in MacRepertory® computer software. This process gave an indication of the relevance of each remedy in terms of number of rubrics. According to the computer search, 16 spider remedies are currently represented with rubrics in the database of the program. The results are documented in tabulated form in chapter 4 - results and discussion (4.1, table 2).

### **3.2 Sample selection**

According to Sankaran's (2005:25) methodology, the overall list was then reduced to five remedies via a computerised repertory search, using MacRepertory® computer software. This sampling of remedies was done by first extracting all the rubrics that contain remedies of the Class Arachnida. Once this step was completed, the above mentioned rubrics were screened for remedies that appear most often in those rubrics. Selection preference was given to those remedies, whose rubrics covered the widest range of the various, repertory chapters and who were represented with the largest amount of rubrics (chapter 4.1, table 2).

For the purpose of this research, the following remedies were chosen:

*Araneus diademus* (Palpal cross spider)

*Latrodectus hasselti* (Red-back spider)

*Loxoceles reclusa* (Brown recluse spider)

*Tarantula hispanica* (Wolf spider)

*Theridion curassavicum* (Orange spider)

### **3.3 Data processing**

The selected remedies were then subjected to an advanced repertory search to list those rubrics that contain any two, or in some cases any three or four of the selected remedies. The list was then limited to only include rubrics with less than 50 remedies as the rubrics with more than 50 remedies are considered large and represent the more ‘common’ nature of a remedy as opposed to the smaller rubrics, which paint a more ‘characteristic’ picture. In order to ascertain the significance of the rubrics, they were then arranged from the ones containing the least remedies to the ones containing the most. The results are listed in Appendix B, table 3.

### **3.4 Data analysis**

The extracted data was then analyzed in order to propose common sensations of the order Araneae. The extraction results are listed in tabulated form in chapter 4.2

Extraction and analysis of common rubrics, table 4.

The accuracy of an extracted sensation was established by evaluating its quantitative representation in the materia medica that means its distribution throughout the different sections (mind, generals and physical chapters). Chapter 4.3 Analysis of sensation in case study material contains a summary of the extracted common sensations and their distribution in the various chapters of the materia medica with regard to each spider of the sample group.

The significance of the common sensation in terms of its relevance in other spider remedies was determined by cross-checking the homeopathic materia medica of the remaining spider remedies for the presence of that particular sensation and its distribution in the various chapters. For example stitching was found to be a common sensation in all spider remedies of the sample group. The rubric Back; PAIN; STITCHING, shooting; Dorsal region; scapulae; below contains only 3 remedies with two of them being spider remedies. Screening the material medica of each spider remedy of the sample group, stitching was found to be broadly represented in the various sections. To ascertain whether stitching was a relevant sensation in other spider remedies as well, a literature search via MacRepertory® reference works was performed, limited to spider remedies only. The results proved that stitching was described in the materia medica of nine out of sixteen spider remedies with a wide distribution in various

chapters of most of the remedies. This represents a significant number considering that not all spider remedies are equally extensively proven.

In order to find links between the common extracted sensations, each sensation was then subjected to a full definition via a dictionary and synonyms relating to the sensation were identified via a thesaurus. Each synonym in turn was then subjected to the same literature search via MacRepertory® reference works to test its validity. Definitions and synonyms are listed in tabulated form in Appendix C and D.

All extracted data was analyzed in terms of Sankaran's model of the Vital sensation in general and its relevance in the animal kingdom in particular. According to Sankaran (2008) the expression of the Vital force differs in each kingdom. In the plant kingdom it expresses itself as a generally heightened sensitivity, in the mineral kingdom as a structural problem and in the animal kingdom as fight for survival. Here it epitomizes a competitive situation of the stronger against the weaker and thus giving importance to issues of reproduction and sexuality.

According to Sankaran (2008:24), the following characteristics must be appreciated when analyzing the sensation in an animal remedy (Sankaran, 2008:24):

- At the deepest level, the patient's experience of the sensation is that of being a victim or aggressor.

- The patient is concerned with issues of survival and modes of attack and defense are present.
- There is not one sensation and its opposite, but several sensations at different times.
- The totality of sensations is not static but a process.
- Sexuality is an issue in the animal kingdom.

Chauhan (2007) and Sankaran (2007) share the view, that animal remedies experience the sensation as a process of survival, e.g. a fight and flight mechanism, rather than an increase in sensitivity, as seen in plant remedies.

With this in mind, the results were screened for possible reactions and themes typical for the animal kingdom and to see whether Sankaran's hypothesis regarding the Vital Force and the animal kingdom could be confirmed. Once a sensation/reaction/theme was found to be relevant, references of spiders' behavioral patterns in nature were obtained in order to put the results in context with the spiders' natural history.

The different spider remedies of the sample group were then individually studied and classified in terms of their miasmatic tendencies, applying Sankaran's (2005:53) extended miasmatic model by performing miasmatic keyword searches, limited to the sample group only.

The overall attempt was to postulate a set of common sensations/ reactions/themes manifesting in homeopathic remedies belonging to the class Arachnida/order Araneae, to then differentiate the members of the sample group according to their miasmatic tendencies and to compare the extracted sensations/reactions/themes to those proposed by Sankaran (2005) and Mangliavori (2004).

The results of the group analysis evaluation of the class Arachnida/order Araneae will hopefully contribute to an extended understanding of this particular zoological class and an increased utilization of previously under- represented remedies in new context.

## **Chapter 4: RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **4.1 Spiders in homeopathy**

There are relatively few spider remedies that are documented in the materia medica and found in the repertories, not only in relation to the huge amount of different species which constitutes the zoological order of the Araneae, but also in terms of conducted provings. So far, except for *Tarantula hispanica*, which was proven in the 19th century by Nunez (Gibson, 1987:507) and since then extensively used by homeopaths around the world, only a few of the spider remedies are of homeopathic significance and their use is mostly limited to clinical applications.

Listed below is a table of the spider species that are represented with rubrics in the literature of MacRepertory® computer software:

**Table 2: Spider remedies used in homeopathy and the relative homeopathic significance in terms of number of rubrics (the larger the rubric size, the greater the representation in the materia medica)**

<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Common name</b>	<b>Family</b>	<b>Homeopathic significance</b>
<i>Tarantula hispanica</i>	Wolf spider	Lycosidae	5355 rubrics



<i>Theridion curassavicum</i>	Orange spider	Theridiidae	1985 rubrics
<i>Latrodectus hasselti</i>	Redback spider	Theridiidae	2090 rubrics
<i>Loxosceles reclusa</i>	Brown recluse spider	Sicariidae	1748 rubrics
<i>Araneus diademus</i>	Palpal cross spider	Araneidae	1520 rubrics
<i>Tela araneae</i>	Spider web	Web of Black spider	1266 rubrics
<i>Tegenaria atrica</i>	House spider	Agelenitae	1253 rubrics
<i>Tarantula cubensis</i>	Cuban wolf spider	Lycosidae	1003 rubrics
<i>Aranea ixobola</i>	Black cross spider	Araneidae	729 rubrics
<i>Aranea scinencia</i>	Gray spider	Araneidae	111 rubrics
<i>Mygale lassiodor</i>	Black Cuban spider	Theraphosidae	633 rubrics
<i>Latrodectus mactans</i>	Black widow spider	Theridiidae	522 rubrics
<i>Atrax robustus</i>	Funnel web spider	Hexathelidae	272 rubrics
<i>Aranea scinencia</i>	Gray spider	Araneidae	111 rubrics
<i>Loxosceles laeta</i>	Chilean recluse spider	Sicariidae	67 rubrics
<i>Latrodectus katipa</i>	Katipa	Theridiidae	43 rubrics

<i>Loxosceles panama</i>	Panama recluse spider	Sicariidae	10 rubrics
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The list of the above mentioned 16 extracted spider remedies was narrowed down to the following five remedies with the highest rubric representation: *Tarantula hispanica* (*tarent.*), *Theridion curassavicum* (*ther.*), *Latrodectus hasselti* (*lat-h.*), *Loxosceles reclusa* (*loxo-r*) and *Araneus diademus* (*aran.*).

#### **4.2 Extraction and analysis of common rubrics**

To get an indication of how many different rubrics containing spider remedies exist in the repertories of MacRepertory® computer software, a search including all the spider remedies listed above was performed. The result revealed the existence of 93 spider rubrics, of which 19 rubrics contain more than 50 remedies and 74 rubrics less than 50.

Next a limited search was performed with remedies from the sample group only. Parameters were set to exclude rubrics containing more than 50 remedies and to include rubrics that contain at least 2 of the selected remedies. The rubrics were then ranked from smallest (in terms of number of remedies) to largest, in order to assess the relative significance of the rubric. A list of these selected and ordered 53 common rubrics is attached in Appendix B.

The extracted rubrics were then scanned for words representing sensations and for other animal features which according to Sankaran (2008:24-31) are:

1. Survival responses – modes of attack and defense
2. Themes of sexuality and attractiveness
3. Delusion of being victim and/or aggressor (predator/prey etc)
4. Signs of conflict with others or within themselves

Each sensation was then tested for its validity by performing a literature search via Mac Reference Works®, a computer program which contains a large number of well known materia medicae.

**Table 4: Sensation rubrics from selected homeopathic spider remedies:**

Extraction, MacRepertory®, 2/03/2010	<i>tarent</i>	<i>ther</i>	<i>lat-h</i>	<i>loxo-r</i>	<i>aran</i>	score	Size
Back; <b>PAIN; STITCHING, shooting:</b> Dorsal region; scapulae; below; motion; agg.	1		1			2	3
Teeth; <b>PAIN;</b> NOISE agg	1	1				2	5
<b>Chill;</b> BATHING; AGG.; cold	1				1	2	6
Back; <b>SENSITIVE</b> SPINE; PRESSURE, to	1	1				2	6
Hearing; REVERBERATING, ECHOES AND REECHOES; WAKING	1			1		2	6
Neck; <b>PAIN;</b> SIDES; Morning	1			1		2	6

Neck; <b>PAIN</b> ; Morning	1			1		2	7
Female; MENSES; <b>PAINFUL</b> ; dysmenorrhoea; Convulsions, with	1				1	2	7
Teeth; <b>PAIN</b> ; NOISE AGG.	1	1				2	7
Chest; <b>PAIN</b> ; <b>STITCHING</b> ; Upper; left	1	1				2	7
Vision; ACUTE; COLORS			1	1		2	7
Neck; <b>PAIN</b> ; TURNING HEAD AGG; RIGHT, to	1			1		2	8
Head; <b>PAIN</b> ; DREAMING, after			1	1		2	8
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; APPLICATIONS: Warm, hot amel.	1		1			2	9
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; <b>STINGING</b>	1				1	2	9
Generalities; <b>FAINTNESS</b> ; FAINTING;	1				1	2	9

periodic							
Head; <b>PAIN</b> ; FOREHEAD; Afternoon; three pm	1			1		2	9
Vision; <b>FLICKERING</b> ; HEADACHE; before		1			1	2	11
Head; <b>PAIN</b> ; DREAMING after			1	1		2	11
Eyes; <b>TWITCHING</b> ; LIDS; Upper; right	1				1	2	12
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; STRAIGHTENING up back, amel	1			1		2	12
Stomach; <b>FULLNESS</b> ; DINNER, after			1	1		2	13
Chest; <b>PAIN</b> ; EXTENDING to; Neck		1		1		2	13
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; <b>SORE, bruised, beaten</b> ; <b>pressure agg.</b>	1	1				2	13
<b>Chill</b> ; BATHING; AGG	1				1	2	13

Chest; <b>PAIN</b> ; UPPER; Left	1	1	1			3	14
Back; <b>SENSITIVE</b> SPINE; TOUCH, to	1	1	1			3	20
Back; <b>SENSITIVE</b> SPINE	1	1	1			3	44
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; <b>STITCHING</b> , shooting; Dorsal region; scapulae; below	1	1	1			3	49
Head; <b>PAIN</b> ; DREAMING after			1	1		2	11
Eyes; <b>TWITCHING</b> ; LIDS; Upper; right	1				1	2	12
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; STRAIGHTENING up back, amel	1			1		2	12
Stomach; <b>FULLNESS</b> ; DINNER, after			1	1		2	13
Chest; <b>PAIN</b> ; EXTENDING to; Neck		1		1		2	13
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; <b>SORE</b> , bruised, beaten;	1	1				2	13

Pressure ; agg							
<b>Chill</b> ; BATHING; AGG	1				1	2	13
Chest; <b>PAIN</b> ; UPPER; Left	1	1	1			3	14
Back; <b>SENSITIVE</b> SPINE; TOUCH, to	1	1	1			3	20
Generalities; <b>PARALYSIS</b> ; EXCITEMENT, emotional, agg.	1	1	1			3	27
Back; <b>SENSITIVE</b> SPINE	1	1	1			3	44
Back; <b>PAIN</b> ; <b>STITCHING</b> , shooting; Dorsal region; scapulae; below	1	1	1			3	49

### **4.3 Analysis of sensation in case study material**

In order to find links between the extracted sensations, the following methodology was applied:



The sensation was defined using Collin's concise dictionary and synonyms relating to the sensation were searched via a thesaurus. The results are listed in tabulated form in Appendix C, table 5 and Appendix D, table 6. In order to test its validity, the extracted common sensations and the correlating synonyms/keywords were then subjected to a literature search via Mac reference works, limiting the search to spider remedies only. This process was necessary to ensure that the sensations/synonyms/keywords relate to the group Araneae as a whole.

The common sensations identified via the computer extraction process were stitching, shooting; coldness/chill; sensitive; stinging; faintness; flickering; twitching; fullness; sore, bruised, beaten and paralytic. However pain without any described quality or specific sensation was most commonly found (Back, Head, Neck, Chest).

In order to assess the significance of the extracted sensation, each sensation was analyzed according to its quantitative representation in the repertory. The extracted sensations and the sections of the repertory in which they appear are listed below.

#### ARANEUS DIADEMUS:

Stitching: Generals, head, eye, mouth, throat, abdomen, chest, extremities, chill, fever.

Shooting: Generals, head, eyes, abdomen, bladder, fever.

Stinging: Generals, head, eyes, vision, back, extremities, chill, fever.

Twitching: Generals, extremities.

Soreness/sore: Generals, urethra, bladder, kidneys, extremities, chill, fever.

Coldness: Generals, head, hearing, mouth, abdomen, chest, nose, extremities, sleep, chill, fever.

Sensitive: Natural history, generals, mind, mouth, stomach, chill.

Fullness: Generals, abdomen, fever.

Paralytic: Generals, mouth.

Acute: Generals, ears, kidneys, urethra, bladder, back, extremities.

Faintness: Generals, abdomen, stomach.

#### LATRODECTUS HASSELTII :

Stitching: Chest, back.

Shooting: Generals, mind, head, chest, back, extremities.

Stinging: Eye, female.

Twitching: Toxicology, generals, mind, face.

Soreness/sore: Mind, head, eye, kidneys, female, chest, back, extremities.

Coldness: Generals, nose, kidney, extremities.

Sensitive: Introduction, generals, mind, female, back, extremities.

Fullness: Head

Paralytic: Toxicology, generals, mind.

Acute: Toxicology, natural history, generals, mind, nose, mouth.

Faintness: Generals

LOXOCELES RECLUSA :

Stitching: Generals, chest, extremities.

Shooting: Generals, ears.

Stinging: Natural history, generals, head.

Soreness/sore: Generals, mind, nose, face, teeth, throat, stomach, back, extremities.

Coldness: Generals, mind, ears, face, expectoration, sleep, skin.

Sensitive: Mind, back.

Fullness: Generals, head, ears.

Acute: Generals, back.

Faintness: Generals, stomach

TARENTULAHISPANICA:

Stitching: Generals, head, eye, ear, nose, face, throat, abdomen, rectum, kidneys, female, chest, back, extremities.

Shooting: Generals, head, nose, eye, ear, throat, abdomen, stomach, rectum, stool, kidneys, urethra, bladder, female, male, chest, back, extremities.

Stinging: Generals, mind, head, eye, ear, throat.

Twitching: Generals, mind, eye, male, female, extremities, sleep, fever.

Soreness/sore: Generals, head, eye, face, throat, external throat, stomach, abdomen, urethra, kidneys, bladder, male , female, chest, back , extremities, skin, stool, rectum.

Coldness: Generals, mind, head, eye, face, mouth, teeth, throat, stomach, abdomen, female, male, chest, back, extremities, sleep, chill, fever, skin.

Sensitive: Generals, mind, throat, abdomen, male, female, back, extremities, fever, skin.

Fullness: Generals, head, nose, stomach, abdomen, chest.

Paralytic: Toxicology, generals, mind, head, throat, rectum, urethra, bladder, back, extremities, fever.

Acute: Natural history, generals, head, abdomen, urethra, bladder, female, chest, back, fever.

Faintness: Generals, mind, abdomen, stomach, rectum, stool.

THERIDION CURASSAVICUM:

Stitching: Generals, head, abdomen chest, back, extremities.

Shooting: Generals, chest.

Stinging: Generals, head, stomach, abdomen, back, extremities, skin.

Twitching: Generals, eye, vision.

Soreness/sore: Generals, mouth, teeth, throat, stomach, abdomen, female, back, extremities, sleep.

Coldness: Natural history, generals, vertigo, head, eye, vision, nose, mouth, teeth, throat, stomach, extremities, sleep, chill, fever, perspiration, skin.

Sensitive: Natural history, generals, mind, head, eye, vision, ear, hearing, nose, teeth, stomach, back, female, extremities, skin.

Fullness: Generals, head, ear, hearing, abdomen, extremities.

Paralytic: Mind, generals.

Acute: Generals, head, hearing, nose, chest.

Faintness: Generals, head, vertigo, stomach, fever, female.

#### 4.3.1 First order analysis

Stinging (13/16) and coldness (13/16) were the most represented sensations during the initial repertory search, followed by acute (12/16), sensitive (11/16), twitching (11/16), shooting (10/16), paralytic (10/16), fullness (10/16) and faintness (9/16). Significant synonyms found via a thesaurus search were severe (13/16), extending (13/16), dull (13/16), heavy (13/16), numb (11/16), reactive (11/16), trembling (11/16) and weakness (13/16).

The extracted sensations and their relevant synonyms are summarized in tabulated form below.

**Table 7: First order analysis from original sensations extracted**

<b><u>Common/original sensations extracted</u></b>	<b><u>First order sensations/ themes</u></b>
<b>Stitching</b>	Acute, sharp, pain, sore, spasm, cramp, stinging
<b>Shooting</b>	Acute, sharp, stabbing, spasm, cramp, extending
<b>Stinging</b>	Sharp, burning
<b>Twitching</b>	Trembling, jerking, spasm, cramp

<b>Coldness</b>	Chill
<b>Soreness</b>	Dull, aching, inflamed, burning, severe, extreme
<b>Sensitivity</b>	Reactivity
<b>Fullness</b>	Heaviness
<b>Paralytic</b>	Paralyzed, numb
<b>Faintness</b>	Weakness

The extracted sensations and synonyms were then grouped according to their relation to each other and listed in order of their significance:

1. stinging (13/16) a first order sensation as part of various sharp (11/16) sensations like stabbing (10/16) and stitching (9/10)
2. intense (14/16), severe (13/16) and extreme (12/16) - synonyms of sore (11/16)
3. extending (13/16) - a synonym of shooting (10/16)
4. dull (13/16) and aching (11/16) - synonyms of soreness (11/16)
5. coldness (13/16) - a first order sensation
6. heaviness (13/16) - a synonym of fullness (10/16)
7. weakness (13/16) – a synonym of faintness (9/16)
8. acute (12/16) - a first order sensation
9. burning (12/16) – a synonym of stinging (13/16) and soreness (11/16)
10. sensitive (11/16) – a first order sensation and its synonym reactive (11/16)
11. numb (11/16) and paralyzed (10/16) - synonyms of paralytic (10/16)



12. twitching (11/16) and its synonym trembling (11/16)

13. spasm (10/16) and cramp (10/16) – synonyms of stitching(9/16)

The isolated sensations and synonyms were then analyzed by studying various material medicae in order to connect the seemingly unrelated extracted sensations and hence be able to propose valid common themes for remedies of the Araneae order.

Considering the variety of sensations extracted, it was very soon apparent that the remedies subjected to the search derived most likely from the animal kingdom. According to Sankaran (2005), the presence of a main sensation and its opposite would be a typical finding in plant remedies, where as many sensations present simultaneously or at different times are indicative for the animal kingdom. The particular survival strategy of a species in terms of instinctive behavior and adaptation in nature determines the vital sensation in an animal remedy (Sankaran, 2008).

With this in mind an attempt was made to understand an underlying process which could connect the various sensations and relate them to the spiders' natural behavior.

The following set of sensations/ themes proved to be significant in spider remedies:

Sharp, burning or sore/bruised sensations/pains in different areas are described on the physical level. The pains are experienced as acute, intense/ severe/extreme, show periodicity and tend to shoot/ extend to neighboring regions [Neuralgia (8/16)].

There is heightened sensitivity of the nervous system to external stimuli, especially to music, noise, colors and touch together with a tendency to “over - react”. Affections of the nervous system include twitching, trembling, numbness, spasm, cramps and paralysis. The nervous system seems to be in a kind of a ‘hyper – excitable” state [excitable (12/16)] leading to weakness and faintness.

Coldness as well as heaviness and fullness are extracted sensations that proved to be common to remedies from the order Araneae.

An example of each first order sensation/ theme as it appears in the various repertories and materia medicae of the computer program and the analogue finding of its expression in nature is highlighted below:

#### **4.3.1.1 Sharp sensations – stinging, stabbing, stitching**

It is not surprising that sharp sensations like stinging and stitching proved to be significant in spider remedies when examining some of the spiders hunting and survival techniques. A spider injects not only its venom into the prey to paralyze the victim but also digestive fluid to dissolve and liquefy the tissues as part of a pre digestive process (Leroy, 2003:16).

The often described shooting (10) aspect of the sharp pains led to the investigation into neuralgia (8) which was found to be a common complaint in at least all spiders of the sample group.

*Araneus diademus*

HEAD - Pain STINGING during chill

FEVER – during chill: Head STINGING; knees STITCHING

EYES – STINGING

FACE – STINGING, root of the nose

BACK – STINGING, nape of the neck

EXTREMITIES – STINGING pain in all joints

TEETH – SHARP sensations

HEAD – STITCHING SHOOTING with chill

MOUTH – STITCHES in palate and larynx

EXTREMITIES – STITCHES during chill in knee

*Latrodectus hasselti*

EYES – STINGING

FEMALE – STINGING in vagina

HEAD – SHARP fleeting pain, left temple; SHARP, left forehead

FACE – SHARP pain, lower jaw

CHEST – SHARP pain under left breast; SHARP knife like pain, region of the heart;

SHARP pain, right pectoral muscle

BACK – SHARP pain under left shoulder blade; SHARP pain, sacrum

EXTREMITIES - SHARP pain right palm; SHARP left big toe

HEAD – Pain SHARP, STABBING, fleeting over left temple extending over left eye

BACK – Pain STITCHING, fleeting, STABBING under left scapula

BACK – Pain STITCHING in lower back

CHEST – Pain STITCHING, fleeting, SHOOTING pains

### *Loxocceles reclusa*

GENERALS – STINGING after bite

HEAD – STINGING

HEAD – fleeting, brief SHARP pains, right forehead; SHARP brief, stabbing pain over right eye

EAR – SHARP pain, right, extending into jaw; SHARP pain on swallowing; SHARP pain left

STOMACH – sudden, SHARP pain on left

BACK – brief SHARP pains, middle of lower back

HEAD – Pain STABBING over left eye

CHEST – Pain STITCHING in breast

Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – STINGING pains

HEAD – STINGING pain in forehead and STINGING in hypogastrium

EYES – STINGING as if pricked with pins

EARS – STINGING pain in the meatus

THROAT – STINGING in cervical and submaxillary glands

ABDOMEN – STINGING left side of umbilicus

CHEST – STINGING pains severe

FEVER – STINGING pains in kidney

SKIN – STINGING on face and chin like pins

GENERALS – strong SHARP prickings all over

HEAD – SHARP pains, forehead

THROAT – SHARP stinging pains in cervical and submaxillary glands

ABDOMEN – SHARP pains, umbilical region, around navel

CHEST - sudden, cutting SHARP pains, region of the heart

BACK - SHARP shooting pains under left scapula

HEAD – cutting darting STABBING in temples

HEAD – STITCHES in temples, STITCHES in forehead

EARS – STITCHES, right

EYES – STITCHES, swallowing

FACE – STITCHES

NOSE – STITCHES extending to head

THROAT – Pain STITCHING tonsils

ABDOMEN – Pain STITCHING, sticking in hypochondrium; STITCHING in inguinal region

RECTUM – Pain STITCHING

KIDNEYS – Pain STITCHING

FEMALE – Pain STITCHING in uterus

CHEST – Pain STITCHING in the heart; pain STITCHING left side

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM – Pain STITCHING in aorta

BACK – Pain STITCHING SHOOTING in dorsal region under scapula, Pain STITCHING SHOOTING in coccyx

EXTREMITIES – Pain STITCHING upper limbs, STITCHING in lower limbs

CIRCULATORY SYSTEM – Pain STITCHING in heart, Pain STITCHING in Aorta

*Theridion curassavicum*

GENERALS – STINGING pains in various parts of the body

CHARACTERISTICS – STINGING thrusts everywhere

HEAD – STINGING, left temple

ABDOMEN – STINGING on left side over anterior aspect of spleen

BACK – STINGING between scapulae

EXTREMITIES – STINGING from elbow to shoulder

SKIN – STINGING thrusts everywhere

LOCATION – STINGING in left temple; STITCHES from shoulder to throat and pectoral muscle

HEAD – SHARP pain in brain

CHEST – SHARP pains radiating to arm and left shoulder

SKIN – STINGING STABS everywhere

HEAD – STITCHES in temples

ABDOMEN – Pain STITCHING in spleen

CHEST – violent STITCHES through the chest extending to back

EXTREMITIES – Pain STITCHING in elbow extending to shoulder

#### **4.3.1.2 Burning**

In the materia medica of spider remedies, burning pains are described in various different organs, notably the eyes. According to toxicological reports, burning sensations also form part of an inflammatory process that is linked to a spider bite. The reports confirm a severe burning pain, lymphangitis and abscess formation that can be connected to a spider bite, especially when cytotoxic venom is involved. According to Leroy (2003:50) spiders carry a great amount of bacteria in their saliva which together with cytotoxic venom can cause rapid inflammation and extensive destruction of body tissue.

Araneus diademus

HEAD – headache with BURNING eyes and heat in the face

EYES – BURNING, STINGING, SHOOTING

STOMACH – pain BURNING during chill

Latrodectus haseltii

EYES – BURNING

BLADDER – BURNING urination

EXTREMITIES – violent BURNING pains preceding paralysis

Loxocceles reclusa

EYES – BURNING

RECTUM – BURNING in anus

HEAD – frontal headache with BURNING

EXTREMITIES – limbs, joint pains ACHING, cutting and BURNING

BACK-BURNING

Tarentula hispanica

HEAD – BURNING heat in occiput with pricking and itching over the whole body



EYES – BURNING

EARS – BURNING in right ear canal

NOSE - catarrh with dryness and BURNING

FACE- flushed with BURNING heat

STOMACH – intense BURNING pain; intense BURNING thirst

ABDOMEN- liver BURNING in cancer

RECTUM – Pain BURNING in anus after stool

BLADDER – Pain BURNING

URETHRA – Pain BURNING after urination

FEMALE – BURNING in uterus with every movement, cancer of cervix;  
leucorrhea BURNING

CHEST – sensation as if heart was BURNING

EXTREMITIES – BURNING forearm; BURNING hands; BURNING hip, knee, leg

SKIN – carbuncle with BURNING and STINGING; boils with BURNING

### *Theridion curssavicum*

CHARACTERISTICS – BURNING pains

EYES – BURNING

MOUTH – INTENSE BURNING pain in palate, teeth and gums; tongue  
BURNING

ABDOMEN – BURNING pains in liver

CHEST – pains from heart to shoulder and arms BURNING

#### **4.3.1.3 Paralytic, paralyzed**

Paralyzing and numbing its prey is a spider's way of killing its victim. A large number of spider venoms are neurotoxic and cause increased neural activity which interferes with normal bodily functions. The neurological symptoms described in point 4.3.1.3 till 4.3.1.6 are consistent with toxicological reports of spider bites described in various literatures.

##### *Araneus diademus*

MOUTH – tongue seemed PARALYZED

##### *Latrodectus hasselti*

MIND – PARALYZED with fear

EXTREMITIES – PARALYSIS of limbs with wasting

##### *Loxocceles reclusa*

NA

Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – PARALYSIS agitans

EXTREMITIES – PARALYSIS of limbs after repressed sexual desire

Theridion curassavicum

GENERALS – PARALYSIS after emotions

**4.3.1.4 Numb**

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – sensation of NUMBNESS, swelling and coldness in various parts;

sensation of enormous enlargement or NUMBNESS in various parts

HEAD – NUMBED

EXTREMITIES – arms and legs feel NUMB; NUMBNESS of the parts supplied

by ulnar nerve; leg feels NUMB as if missing

RECTUM – diarrhoea with NUMB sensation of arms and legs

Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS – NUMBNESS, tingling, pins and needles

*Loxoceles reclusa*

EXTREMITIES – NUMBNESS extending down left arm; NUMBNESS right arm;  
NUMBNESS upper shoulder

*Tarentula hispanica*

MIND – NUMBNESS and paralysis after repressed sexual desire  
EXTREMITIES – NUMBNESS of legs; NUMBNESS with hyperaesthesia  
especially fingertips  
SKIN – sensation of formication and NUMBNESS

*Theridion curassavicum*

EXTREMITIES – NUMBNESS in left arm hand and fingers  
MOUTH – NUMBNESS

**4.3.1.5 Spasm, cramp**

*Araneus diademus*

GENERALS – general SPASMS  
NERVOUS SYSTEM – trembling, lameness, SPASM

STOMACH – SPASMODIC pain with anxiety; SPASMODIC pain with confusion

FEMALE – SPASMODIC pain beginning in stomach

GENERALS – CRAMPS, colic, twitching

STOMACH – CRAMPS with other complaints

*Latrodectus hasselti*

GENERALS – stiffness, twitching, tetanic SPASMS

STOMACH- CRAMPS

*Loxocceles reclusa*

STOMACH – severe CRAMPS

RECTUM – diarrhoea with CRAMPING before stool

*Tarentula hispanica*

GENERALS – SPASM in general; SPASMS, clonic with jerks,

MIND – hysteria with SPASMS

VERTIGO – followed by SPASM

HEAD – motion SPASMODIC, convulsive

EYES – wide open, SPASMODICALLY staring

MOUTH – SPASMS in tongue

THROAT – SPASMS in pharynx, convulsive

URINARY ORGANS – SPASM and tenesmus

BLDDER – SPASM

FEMALE- profuse menstruation with frequent erotic SPASM

COUGH – dry SPASMODIC cough

EXTREMITIES – limbs, SPASMODIC paralysis

SLEEP – SPASMODIC yawning; SPASMODIC symptoms during sleep

FEVER – slight touch along the spine provokes SPASMODIC pain in chest and cardiac region

NERVOUS SYSTEM – SPASMODIC hysterical symptoms

ABDOMEN – CRAMPING, griping

STOMACH – CRAMPING, griping

FEMALE – leucorrhoea with CRAMPING pains

CHEST – CRAMP like pains in heart and chest

EXTREMITIES – rigidity and muscle CRAMPS accompanied by extreme weakness

STOOL and RECTUM – severe CRAMPS in bowels and pain in bladder with vomiting, chill and great nervousness, pulse weak and no thirst

*Theridion curassavicum*

BACK – SPASM

RECTUM- SPASMODIC constriction of rectum and anus

COUGH – violent with convulsive SPASMODIC jerking with head forward and knees upward

CHEST – oesophagus, pressure and CRAMP like pain extending towards epigastrium

#### **4.3.1.6 Twitching, trembling**

##### *Araneus diademus*

GENERALS – CRAMPS, colic and TWITCHING

EYES – TWITCHING

EXTREMITIES – TWITCHING

NERVOUS SYSTEM – TWITCHING

BACK – JERKING in back with vertigo

EXTREMITIES – JERKING

GENERALS – TREMBLING; feeling of nausea, vertigo, TREMBLING and cold sweat

EXTREMITIES – TREMBLING

STOMACH – spasm with TREMBLING

EYES – TREMBLING sensation in eyes

*Latrodectus hasselti*

GENERALS- stiffness, TWITCHING, tetanic spasms

FACE – TWITCHING around mouth

GENERALS – TREMBLING inside

EXTREMITIES – TREMBLING invisible

*Tarentula hispanica*

GENERALS – TWITCHING and JERKING of muscles; choreatic movements,

TWITCHING and JERKING

MIND – Fainting, TWITCHING, choking, JERKING

SLEEP – TWITCHING, sleep aggravates

EYES – lids TWITCHING

EXTREMITIES – TWITCHING and JERKING

GENERALS – JERKING mostly on right side; TREMBLING, TWITCHING and JERKING

HEAD – shocks, blows, JERKS in the morning on rising

MIND – TREMBLING with fear; joy and strong emotions with TREMBLING

GENERALS – chorea with TREMBLING; TREMBLING of the whole body

MOUTH – tongue TREMBLING

CHEST – heart TREMBLING as from a fright



EXTREMITIES – general TREMBLING, TWITCHING, JERKING; legs  
TREMBLING especially when quiet

*Theridion curassavicum*

EYE – TWITCHING in right eye

COUGH – cough JERKS body

GENERALS – sensation of TREMBLING without TREMBLING; TREMBLING  
externally

MIND – weakness, coldness, TREMBLING, faintness and anxiety; TREMBLING  
in hysteria

EXTREMITIES – weakness with TREMBLING of all limbs

CHEST – heart TREMBLING

**4.3.1.7 Weakness and faintness**

According to Prins (1986:21) faintness can be experienced as one of the cardinal symptoms after a spider bite from neurotoxic venom. “....weakness and muscle pain may persist for a long time, even up to a month.” The other major symptoms of a spider bite include anxiety, dizziness, severe stomach cramps, nausea and vomiting, sweating, watery eyes and excessive salivation, change in body temperature, pains and pressure in the chest, abdomen and lower back and swelling and redness of the site of the bite, sometimes with the presence of a rash.

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – WEAKNESS

MIND – mental WEAKNESS

VERTIGO – WEAK with vertigo

EYES – WEAKNESS

EXTREMITIES – WEAKNESS

GENERALS – feeling of FAINTNESS, vertigo, nausea, trembling and cold sweat

FAINTNESS periodic

STOMACH – Epigastric FAINTNESS

Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS – WEAKNESS

MIND – mental WEAKNESS

EXTREMITIES – WEAK ankles

GENERALS – FAINTNESS

Loxoceles reclusa

GENERALS – WEAKNESS, palpitation, nervousness, fear

MIND – WEAKNESS

STOMACH – FAINT feeling

Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – great WEAKNESS and prostration

MIND – WEAKNESS of memory

EYES – WEAK

VISION – WEAK

STOMACH – Emptiness and WEAK feeling

ABDOMEN sensation of WEAKNESS

EXTREMITIES – WEAKNESS

CHEST – Heart, pulse WEAK and slow

RECTUM – WEAKNESS of sphincter ani

GENERALS – FAINTNESS from hunger, FAINTNESS periodic

MIND – feigning paroxysms of FAINTING

RECTUM – diarrhoea with FAINTING

Theridion curassavicum

GENERALS- WEAKNESS and EXHAUSTION

MIND – WEAKNESS of memory; WEAKNESS in hysteria

EYES –WEAK

VISION – WEAK

STOMACH – empty WEAK feeling

BACK – WEAKNESS

EXTREMITIES – WEAKNESS that all the limbs TREMBLE

SEXUAL ORGANS – WEAK erection during coition

GENERALS – FAINTNESS after every exertion; vertigo and FAINTNESS

FAINTNESS periodic

#### **4.3.1.8 Sensitive**

Sensitivity was found to be a common sensation amongst spider remedies especially with regards to colors (13), touch (12), music (11) – in particular strong rhythmical music, noise (10), vibrations (8), and odors (8). From a qualitative aspect, sensitivity to music and noise appears to be a typical theme in spider remedies since it is expressed in bold letters in the materia medica of all spiders of the sample group. A search of the term music revealed another theme of the Araneae order. Desire for wild dancing is one of the original rubrics (Appendix B) extracted and contains only 6 remedies of which three belong to the order Araneae.

Most spiders are nocturnal and their eyes are sensitive to light. Some species can see polarized light and their eyes, therefore play an important role in navigation (Leroy, 2003:25). In the literature of the spider remedies this fact is expressed as a high sensitivity to colors and light in general, but also as a liking for bright and fluorescent colors.

Spiders are well known for their sensitivity and quick reaction to sensory stimuli. Fine hairs that work as receptors are called Trichobothria and cover the whole body, especially the limbs. They are immensely sensitive to air currents and low frequency vibrations. Slit sense organs which are small, slit – like depressions in the exoskeleton are other organs sensitive to vibrations, gravity and the spiders own movement. In addition web spiders also use their web as expanded vibration receptors (Leroy, 2003:23).

Spiders produce different sounds in order to communicate with their own kind and to scare off predators. They do this by vibrating certain body parts, or by drumming with their legs or abdomen on leaves or other natural objects, which act as amplifiers. This ability to receive and send out rhythmical information enables a male spider to attract a female during courtship or to intimidate rival males (Leroy, 2003).

### *Araneus diademus*

NATURAL HISTORY – they are SENSITIVE to noise; vibration; legs SENSITIVE to tension and vibration

GENERALS – abnormal SENSITIVENESS to cold and damp; SENSITIVE to music, noise, vibration; SENSITIVE persons (to touch, noise, light)

MIND – OVERSENSITIVE to rhythmic music

TEETH – lower incisors SENSITIVE on drawing in air

Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS – SENSITIVE to slightest noise; SENSITIVE to voices

MIND – SENSITIVE to everything; want of SENSITIVITY

Loxocceles reclusa

MIND – OVERSENSITIVE

BACK – sore and SENSITIVE

Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – very SENSITIVE to cold; SENSITIVE to light, noise, music, colours, touch

MIND – OVERSENSITIVE to rhythmic music, to drums

MALE – SENSITIVE genitals

FEMALE –SENSITIVE genitals; ovaries SENSITIVE to pressure; dysmenorrhea with SENSITIVE ovaries

BACK – painfully SENSITIVE spine

EXTREMITIES – extreme SENSITIVENESS of fingertips

*Theridion curssavivum*

GENERALS – indicated in highly SENSITIVE individuals; SENSITIVE to noise, light, jar, odor, continued motion, pressure on the spine, closing the eyes, external impressions

MIND – painful SENSITIVITY to noise, crackling of paper; SENSITIVE, noise penetrating; SENSITIVE to slightest noise; SENSITIVE to shrill noise, bells

OVERSENSITIVE to rhythmic music, drums; OVERSENSITIVE to pain; painful OVERSENSITIVITY

VISION – SENSITIVE to light

STOMACH – SENSITIVENESS of region of stomach

FEMALE – pain in ovaries and SENSITIVENESS of cervix

BACK – spine SENSITIVE to pressure and jar; must sit sideways

SKIN – skin of thighs SENSITIVE with stinging thrusts everywhere

**4.3.1.9 Dull, sore, aching**

A different set of sensations is described as dull (13), aching (11) and sore (11) and appears to have a strong link to the head region, back and extremities. In nature spiders have to go through a process of molting in which they shed their exoskeleton. They have to molt in order to grow, as the cuticle on the cephalothorax and limbs is hard and cannot stretch beyond a certain point. This process is often difficult and the loss of a leg or sometimes a spider's life is not uncommon during this transition (Leroy, 2003:32).

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – DULL, digging bone pains in every part of the body

HEAD – DULL pain with tightness

EYES – DULL expression with spasmodic pains in stomach

EXTREMITIES – DULL, digging, burrowing bone pains

BACK – DULL pain

SENSATIONS – DULLNESS in head

BLADDER – SORENESS on either side

EXTREMITIES – Limbs, SORENESS with chill

FEVER – SORENESS either side of bladder and limbs

CHILL – SORENESS limbs

Latrodectus hasselti

MIND – mental DULLNESS

HEAD – DULL heavy pain; DULL pain, forehead; DULL pain above right eye;

DULL pain temporal and on top of head

EYE – DULL ACHE in right eye

EAR – DULL ACHE in left ear; fleeting DULL pain

BACK – DULL ACHE lower back, right; DULL ACHE lumbar region

HEAD – SORE in spots on scalp; SORE right side

EYES – SORE and stinging



KIDNEYS – SORE left and right

FEMALE – clitoris, SORE to touch, tender and sensitive

CHEST – Nipples SORE; Pain SORE right breast; Pain SORE and BRUISED

EXTREMITIES – Pain SORE and BRUISED left heel

*Loxocoles reclusa*

HEAD – DULL ACHE; DULL headache frontal

NOSE – SORE, tip of nose, right centre, inside

FACE – Pain SORE, above the right cheek bone like a pimple

TEETH – Pain SORE, tooth – abscess

THROAT – SORE

STOMACH – SORE after nausea

BACK – SORE and sensitive low back

EXTREMITIES – Pain SORE left buttocks; Pain SORE right shoulder and neck;

Neck Stiff and SORE, neuralgic pain extending down the arm

*Tarentula hispanica*

MIND - DULLNESS, sluggishness, difficult thinking and comprehending

EAR – DULL pain in right ear with DULLNESS of hearing

MOUTH – DULL pain in all teeth

STOMACH – DULL pain

URINARY ORGANS – DULL pain in kidney

BACK – DULL pain

EXTREMITIES – weakness, numbness and DULLNESS of lower limbs

GENERALS – SORE and BRUISED all over

HEAD – SORE, BRUISED in occiput and temple

EYES – SORE, BRUISED, tender lids as from a splinter

FACE – SORE, BRUISED bones of face

THROAT – Pain SORE right; Pain SORE, BRUISED; Pain SORE with gastric derangement

ABDOMEN – Pain SORE right hypochondrium; Pain SORE liver

URINARY ORGANS – kidneys SORE to touch

MALE – Pain SORE, BRUISED testes

FEMALE – Pain SORE, tender vulva, labia - ovaries – uterus; Pain SORE bruised

CHEST – Pain SORE, bruised ribs; Pain SORE, bruised sides

BACK – Neck SORE; Bruised, beaten SORE cervical region; SORE, bruised, beaten spine

EXTREMITIES – joints of knee stiff and SORE; SORE, bruised hip; SORE, bruised leg, SORE bruised knee

*Theridion curassavicum*

CHARACTERISTICS – DULL heavy pressure behind the eyes

EYES – DULL heavy pressure behind the eyes

MIND - DULLNESS, sluggishness, difficult thinking and comprehending

VERTIGO - with DULLNESS of senses

HEAD – headache frontal with DULL pressing pain behind the eyes

MOUTH – SORENESS of gums

THROAT – SORE with chilliness and SORE pain in bones

STOMACH - Pain SORE, bruised, beaten, tenderness

ABDOMEN – SORE inguinal region

FEMALE – SORE, bruised, tender ovaries

BACK – SORE, bruised beaten spine

EXTREMITIES – SORE, ulcerative bones, lower limbs

SENSATIONS – SORENESS in throat and bones

#### **4.3.1.10 Coldness/Chill**

Despite their great adaptability, spiders are far more abundant in tropical regions where warm conditions with high humidity prevail. However spiders have developed several adaptations to survive adverse conditions like cold and dampness. It has been found that a spider's haemo lymph contains glycerol which acts as an anti freezing agent. This fact may account for a spider's relatively high resistance to cold (Vermeulen, 2004:136).

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – COLD feeling on drawing in air, marked sensitivity to COLDNESS and damp, symptoms are characterized by periodicity and COLD, COLDNESS not relieved by anything, COLD to the bone, constant CHILLINESS

MOUTH – painful feeling of COLDNESS in right lower incisors

HEAD – COLD

ABDOMEN – Colic after COLD

EXTREMITIES – Hand COLDNESS, Feet COLDNESS, Bones COLD as if made of ice, COLDNESS of upper limbs

CHILL – constant CHILL and COLDNESS  
HEART AND CIRCULATION – Shivering and COLD sweats

Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS – increased sensitivity to heat and COLD, amelioration in COLD weather

KIDNEYS – sensation of CHILL

EXTREMITIES – hot to the touch but feet COLD

CHILL – instant CHILL on exposure of parts

*Loxoceles reclusa*

GENERALS – alternating feeling of hot and the COLD

MIND – overwhelmed, depressed and COLD

EARS – pain worse from COLD

ETREMITIES – COLD hands

SKIN – increased sensitivity to COLD

*Tarentula hispanica*

GENERALS – Pain in the bitten part with general COLDNESS, CHILL and COLD sweat of the whole body, tremulousness and COLDNESS of the whole body, shivering and COLDNESS from every emotion, worse COLD

HEAD – COLDNESS, CHILLINESS vertex, as if cold water was poured over;

COLDNESS, CHILLINESS temples; COLDNESS, CHILLINESS in occiput

EYES – COLDNESS left eye, as if COLD water was poured over it

MOUTH – Sensation of COLDNESS in teeth and right cheek

THROAT – Sensation of COLDNESS as if COLD water was constantly dropping down

STOMACH – Pain from COLD drinks

ABDOMEN – Acute pain in hepatic region, with alternation of heat and COLD;

Pain in groins aggravated by COLD

FEMALE – Head and legs icy COLD with female complaints

CHEST – Pain in left subclavian region with COLD feet; Pain in region of the heart, worse putting hands in COLD water

BACK – Lumbar region COLD extending over the whole body, COLDNESS dorsal region between the scapulae

EXTREMITIES – COLDNESS in limbs, extreme COLDNESS

CHILL – COLDNESS in general, icy COLDNESS

FEVER – Great COLDNESS and shaking; feet constantly COLD during fever; constant CHILL and COLDNESS for days; COLD stage intense

SKIN – icy COLDNESS; COLDNESS in spots as if cold matter was flowing or dropping on parts; COLD spots with purplish discoloration

### *Theridion curassavicum*

GENERALS – WEAKNESS, TREMBLING, COLDNESS, anxiety and easily excited, COLD sweat; internal COLDNESS

HEAD – pain with COLD perspiration

VERTIGO – COLDNESS with vertigo; with COLD sweat

EYES – sensitive to light with COLD hands

TEETH – sensation of COLD penetrating teeth, when water is taken into the mouth

EXTREMITIES – COLDNESS of hands; COLDNESS of hips; COLDNESS of legs; internal COLDNESS without external COLDNESS

SLEEP – COLD sweat during sleep

CHILL – COLDNESS in general; internal COLDNESS

FEVER – violent COLDNESS; COLD hands with flickering of the eyes and nausea; internal

COLDNESS; COLD sweat excited easily; icy COLDNESS of the whole body with Vertigo

#### **4.3.1.11 Fullness**

Fullness is a common sensation in ten out of sixteen spiders and predominately refers to the head and abdominal region. A sensation of fullness at the sight of food was described in all spiders of the sample group except for *Loxocles reclusa* where the sensation of fullness is predominately localized to the head region. In a spider, the digestive gland in which the liquid food is sucked up, branches out into several pouches and can store a large quantity of food at one time. This allows spiders to ‘fill up’ and go for long periods without food (Vermeulen, 2002:136).

#### *Araneus diademus*

ABDOMEN - sensation of FULLNESS and heaviness in abdomen; sensation of FULLNESS at the sight of food; sensation of heaviness and FULLNESS in lower abdomen; FULLNESS in lower abdomen and hepatic region

*Latrodectus hasselti*

ABDOMEN - sensation of FULLNESS at the sight of food

HEAD - FULLNESS

*Loxocceles reclusa*

GENERALS – sensation of FULLNESS in left side of body

HEAD – sensation of FULLNESS in left temple

EARS – awareness of FULLNESS in ears

*Tarentula hispanica*

HEAD – FULLNESS in head with throbbing carotids better epistaxis

ABDOMEN – sensation of FULLNESS at the sight of food; sensation of  
FULLNESS

during Hunger

BLADDER - FULLNESS

*Theridion curassavicum*

HEAD – dullness and FULLNESS in the head

ABDOMEN – FULLNESS at the sight of food



#### **4.3.1.12 Heaviness**

In the literature of thirteen spider remedies, heaviness was found to be a significant common sensation, felt in various areas with focus on the abdominal region, limbs, head, mind and generals. The sensation was described more as a delusion of heaviness as opposed to being the result of a true pathological process.

An interesting fact that could explain this perceived sensation of heaviness is the peculiar way spiders spend most of their time waiting for prey. According to Leroy (2003:41) most of the web-living spiders do not walk on their webs but hang on them. They also hang suspended on a thread during molting and are especially vulnerable to predators during that time.

Silk allows certain spiders to travel in a unique way, known as aerial dispersal or 'ballooning'. The silk is attached to the substrate and the spider walks a distance to extend the silken lines. While doing so he lifts his abdomen and extends his legs, till a breeze carries him and the silk away (Leroy, 2003:45).

Another interesting fact which could contribute to the understanding of this peculiar sensation, especially when felt in the extremities, is that spiders do not move in the same way as humans or most other creatures do. Spider's legs are extended by means of a hydraulic system of fluid which requires the transmission of a force through a confined liquid (Vermeulen, 2004:133).

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – HEAVINESS internal, enlargement and sensation of HEAVINESS

MIND - delusion HEAVY he is

CHEST – sensation of HEAVINESS as if heart was made out of led

EXTREMITIES – sensation of increased volume and HEAVINESS in upper limbs

HEAVINESS in thighs

ABDOMEN – HEAVINESS and sensation of repletion in the intestines

SLEEP – sleeplessness with HEAVY feeling in forearms and hands; wakes from  
a sensation of HEAVINESS in all limbs

Latrodectus hasselti

MIND – sensation of warmth and HEAVINESS

Loxocceles reclusa

MIND – sensation of tiredness and HEAVINESS; sensation of spaced out and  
HEAVY; mood HEAVY;

GENERALS – left sided HEAVINESS

HEAD – sensation of HEAVINESS

CHEST – itchy and HEAVY with a slight cough

Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – sensation of HEAVINESS

HEAD – HEAVINESS and pain in the head; HEAVY ache in left parietal bone

EYES – HEAVINESS of upper eye lids

SLEEP- sleepiness with HEAVINESS of the head

Theridion curssavivum

GENERALS – general sense of oppression and HEAVINESS

MIND – mood HEAVY and oppressed

HEAD – hard HEAVY pressure behind the eyes

MALE – prostate enlarged, sense of a lump and HEAVINESS in the perineum

EXTREMITIES – HEAVINESS in limbs before chill

**4.3.2 Second order analysis**

A materia medica search of the significant synonyms of the first order sensations via Mac Rep Reference Works® was conducted to detect more relevant vital sensations/reactions/ themes of spider remedies. The results of the second order analysis are listed below.

**Table 8: Second order analysis from first order sensations/ reactions/ themes extracted**

<b><u>First order sensations/ themes</u></b>	<b><u>Second order sensations/themes</u></b>
<b>Inflammation</b>	Swelling, redness, heat
<b>Trembling</b>	Motion, chorea
<b>Weakness</b>	Exhaustion, faintness
<b>Reactive</b>	Restless, hurried, excitable, irritable, aggressive

It was noted that the second order analysis was a confirmation of most themes that emerged during the first order analysis and that second order sensations went full circle to the original common sensations extracted. The neurological symptoms and their consequences, described in the first order analysis were confirmed and more common sensations relating to this group of symptoms were found e.g. excitable, restlessness, chorea, exhaustion etc. The magnitude of the effects of spider remedies on the nervous system become more and more apparent.

In addition, the second order analysis brought out some important mental symptom like hurried, aggressive and irritable as well as typical mannerisms like the need for constant motion.

The cardinal symptoms of inflammation – redness, heat, pain and swelling were searched since all terms produced seemingly significant results in terms of quantitative representation. However a more in depth examination of the literature did not support a great relevance of the above mentioned symptoms in regards to inflammation in various parts of the body and in terms of their joined appearance during this process. Redness and heat however were found to be significant in the head region, the eyes and the skin. Different kind of skin conditions ranging from harmless rashes to ulcerating wounds and lymphangitis were described, depending on the various spider species.

An interesting finding was made during the search of the sensation swelling. Patients and provers described a peculiar delusion ‘as if parts were swollen’. Representations from the literature are illustrated below.

#### **4.3.2.1 Swelling**

##### *Araneus diademus*

MIND- delusion SWOLLEN

EXTREMITIES – FEELING AS IF hand and arms were greatly SWOLLEN

HEAD – head and hands feel SWOLLEN

FACE – cheek as if SWOLLEN

ABDOMEN – SWELLING of the spleen

Latrodectus hasselti

EXTREMITIES – FEELS AS IF nerves and muscles were SWOLLEN and inflamed

FACE – cheeks as if SWOLLEN

Tarentula hispanica

BACK – SENSATION OF SWELLING

BLADDER – SENSATION OF SWELLING

THROAT - SWOLLEN

FEMALE – uterus and ovaries SWOLLEN

MALE – heaviness and SWELLING of the testes and cord

Theridion curassavicum

GENERALS – glands SWELLING scrofulous

ABDOMEN – sudden SWELLING of abdomen

EXTREMITIES – sudden SWELLING of the feet

SKIN - SWELLING hard

#### 4.3.2.2 Motion

##### Araneus diademus

GENERALS – desire to keep constantly moving, better for CONSTANT MOTION

##### Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS- slowness in MOTION, MOTION aggravates

##### Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – extreme RESTLESSNESS with relief from CONSTANT MOTION,

CHOREA major with relief from CONSTANT MOTION

EXTREMITIES – hands are kept in CONSTANT MOTION to relieve over excitability; arms and legs in irregular CONSTANT MOTION

##### Theridion curassavicum

GENERALS – nausea, vomiting on least MOTION; complaints worse least MOTION

#### 4.3.2.3 Restlessness and hurried

##### Araneus diademus

MIND – RESTLESSNESS, nervousness; vivacious and RESTLESS; RESTLESS active, Aggressive; RESTLESSNESS, has to change position often and moves her fingers nervously

SLEEP – RESTLESS sleep with frequent yawning

MIND - HURRIED

##### Latrodectus hasselti

MIND – very RESTLESS, anxious, couldn't settle to anything; RESTLESSNESS must wring the hands

MIND - HURRY in occupation, desire to do several things at once, but cannot finish any

##### Loxocelés reclusa

MIND – RESTLESSNESS

MIND - HURRIED



Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – RESTLESSNESS, must keep in CONSTANT MOTION

MIND - intense RESTLESSNESS (in chorea, epilepsy and hysteria);

RESTLESSNESS, fidgety, hurried, jerking and twitching, must keep arms and legs in CONSTANT MOTION

SLEEP – nervous RESTLESSNESS, tossing about

EXTREMITIES – RESTLESSNESS of hands; great RESTLESSNESS and agitation in lower limbs

MIND – HURRY, everyone must HURRY; tendency to HURRY; RESTLESS, fidgety, HURRIED

Theridion curassavicum

MIND – RESTLESSNESS, busy

SLEEP- RESTLESS

EXTREMITIES – RESTLESS feeling in hands, wrings them

MIND - HURRY, everyone must HURRY; tendency to HURRY; hurried and hectic activity

#### 4.3.2.4 Exhaustion

Mental and physical exhaustion was found to be a major theme in the Araneae family. Vermeulen (2003:125) writes about spiders:” Although they are sluggish animals, they can strike very quickly.” Tests have shown that a spider’s respiratory system can restrict its dimensions. A rapid movement kept up for a few seconds can exhaust a spider and increase its heartbeat to four times its normal rate.”

##### Araneus diademus

GENERALS – great EXHAUSTION

##### Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS – EXHAUSTED and HEAVY

##### Lxoceles reclusa

MIND – totally EXHAUSTED

##### Tarentula hispanica

MIND – EXHAUSTED; singing and dancing until hoarse and EXHAUSTED

*Theridion curassavicum*

GENERALS – great EXHAUSTION

SLEEP – horrible insomnia though EXHAUSTED

**4.3.2.5 Excitability**

*Araneus diademus*

GENERALS –extreme SENSITIVENESS and nervous EXCITABILITY

*Latrodectus hasselti*

MIND – ailments from EXCITEMENT; EXCITEMENT, anticipating

*Loxoceles reclusa*

MIND – feeling of EXCITEMENT

*Tarentula hispanica*

MIND – nervous EXCITEMENT; restlessness, EXCITEMENT, passion with  
irresistible desire to CONSTANTLY MOVE the legs; great EXCITEMENT

caused by music

MALE – extreme sexual EXCITEMENT, almost to insanity

FEMALE – extreme sexual EXCITEMENT, nymphomania

SLEEP – sleeplessness from EXCITEMENT

*Theridion curassavicum*

MIND – nervous EXCITEMENT, Irritability

**4.3.2.7 Irritability**

*Araneus diademus*

MIND – great RESTLESSNESS, IRRITABILITY and fear of death

FEVER – IRRITABILITY during fever

FEMALE – IRRITABILITY during menses

*Latrodectus hasselti*

MIND – Delusion IRRITABILITY arises from abdomen, impatient and violently

IRRITABLE, IRRITABILITY from trifles, towards himself, her husband, her

children; IRRITABILITY to loved ones

Loxoceles reclusa

MIND – IRRITABILITY, ANGER, EXCITEMENT

Tarentula hispanica

MIND – great IRRITABILITY, rage and fury, desire to strike himself and others

FEMALE- IRRITABLE uterus

CHEST – IRRITABLE spine from touch

Theridion curassavicum

MIND – IRRITABILITY and oversensitive to noise; IRRITABILITY, ANGER,  
EXCITEMENT

BACK – spine is very IRRITABLE

**4.3.2.7 Aggressive**

The results of the original rubric search (Appendix B) already indicated that aggression was a prominent theme of spider remedies. Rubric number one and two contain only two remedies, of which both are spiders – Mind; TEARS; THINGS; Books, his (2) and Mind; MOROSE; SULKY; FEVER; during; intermittent (2). Rubric number 33 contains 12 remedies, two of them being spiders – Mind; ATTACK OTHERS, DESIRE TO (12).

In the animal kingdom aggression is part of the natural defense mechanism, for example when facing a predator or defending the young. Most adult members of the order Araneae are solitary and devote the greater part of their lives to catching prey, which can include prospective mates. This hostility and aggression towards members of their own kind is typical of most spiders (Leroy, 2003:26).

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – RESTLESS, active, AGGRESSIVE

Latrodectus hasselti

MIND – AGGRESSIVE behavior

Loxocceles reclusa

MIND - AGGRESSIVE

Tarentula hispanica

MIND - AGGRESSIVE

*Theridion curassavicum*

MIND – noise makes AGGRESSIVE

It was noticed that second order sensations led back to first order sensations and that the themes that started to emerge pointed towards the mental symptoms of the spider remedies. To get a better overview of what potentially could become significant mind themes, the third order analysis, using synonyms from second order words was conducted and the results tabulated below. Again only those themes that proved to be significant were chosen and listed.

### 4.3.3 Third order analysis

**Table 9: Third order analysis from second order sensations/ reactions/ themes**

**Extracted**

<b><u>Second order sensations/ reactions/themes</u></b>	<b><u>Third order sensations/themes</u></b>
<b>Exhaustion</b>	Weakness, vertigo, faintness
<b>Excitement</b>	(Passion, hysteria, mania)
<b>Restlessness</b>	Anxiety, nervousness, fear
<b>Aggression</b>	Anger, (Rage)

The themes in the brackets were not found in a large number of spider remedies (7/16) but were present in all the remedies of the sample group which represent the well proven remedies. They also appeared in bold letters throughout the various chapters.

#### 4.3.3.1 Vertigo

*Araneus diademus*

GENERALS – VERTIGO even when in bed

RECTUM – violent attacks of diarrhoea, VERTIGO and FAINTNESS



Latrodectus hasselti

GENERALS – VERTIGO and FAINTNESS

CHARACTERISTICS – VERTIGO with tendency to fall forward

Tarentula hispanica

GENERALS – VERTIGO; epileptic VERTIGO; different kinds of VERTIGO

MIND –VERTIGO from grief

STOMACH – VERTIGO after breakfast with bad taste in mouth

EARS – deafness with VERTIGO

EXTREMITIES – spasms preceded by VERTIGO

Theridion curassavicum

GENERALS – VERTIGO on closing eyes; VERTIGO aggravated by sounds

SLEEP – VERTIGO on waking

**4.3.3.2 Passion, hysteria, mania**

Araneus diademus

GENERALS – PASSION for knitting

FEMALE – bearing down pains, HYSTERIA and much fatigue

*Latrodectus hasselti*

MIND – PASSIONATE

MIND – HYSTERIA

MIND - MANIA with rage; industrious, MANIA for work

*Loxoceles reclusa*

MIND – HYSTERIA

MIND - industrious, MANIA for work

*Tarentula hispanica*

MIND – PASSIONATE; PASSION for dancing

MIND – HYSTERIA, chorea, nymphomania; HYSTERIA from attention,  
HYSTERIA after fright; HYSTERIA lascivious; HYSTERIA ludicrous; HYSTERO  
– EPILEPSY with Hyperaesthesia

MIND - industrious, MANIA for work; dancing MANIA; destructive MANIA; MANIA  
tears; sexual MANIA in men; erotic MANIA, nymphomania

*Theridion curassavicum*

MIND – PASSIONATE about gambling; PASSION making money

MIND – HYSTERIA at climaxis; HYSTERIA in puberty; HYSTERIA and anxiety

VISION – dim as if looking through a veil in HYSTERIA

STOMACH – desires fruit, oranges in HYSTERIA

BACK – HYSTERIA from spinal irritation

GENERALS – trembling and itching in HYSTERIA; FAINTING with HYSTERIA  
after exertion

MIND - industrious, MANIA for work

**4.3.3.3 Anxiety, nervousness, fear**

*Araneus diademus*

MIND – ANXIETY; ANXIOUS dreams; Fear, apprehension, ANXIETY;

STOMACH – spasmodic pain with great anxiety

CHEST – ANXIETY in chest

GENERALS – extreme SENSITIVENESS and NERVOUS excitability

MIND – periodical NERVOUS complaints; NERVOUSNESS and restlessness in  
children

MND – FEAR of narrow places; FEAR of death; FEAR of loud noises; FEAR of  
loud singing; FEAR, APPREHENSION, ANXIETY; FEAR of bells

URETHRA – FEARFUL pain starting from glans

SLEEP – disturbed by FEARFUL dreams

*Latrodectus hasselti*

MIND – intense mental ANXIETY and apprehension, fear of death and psychosis; anticipatory ANXIETY; ANXIETY about health, about future, when alone

GENERALS - NERVOUS twitching all over the body; fidgety and NERVOUS;  
NERVOUS and Jittery

MIND – FEAR of animals; FEAR of spiders; FEAR of contagious disease; FEAR of being alone FEAR, APPREHENSION, ANXIETY

*Loxocoles reclusa*

MIND – ANXIETY with suffocating feeling

MIND – NERVOUSNESS in the dark

MIND – FEAR of the dark; FEAR of animals; FEAR of bats

*Tarentula hispanica*

MIND – fear, apprehension and ANXIETY; ANXIOUS agitation; ANXIOUS RESTLESSNESS, has to walk, ANXIETY better exercise; hypochondrial

ANXIETY; ANXIETY about health

CHEST – precordial ANXIETY

MIND – NERVOUS crises; NERVOUS trembling; great NERVOUS restlessness and agitation with HYSTERIC and CHOREIC disturbances; HYSTERICAL NERVOUS patients

GENERALS – all kinds of NERVOUS diseases, extreme NERVOUSNESS; NERVOUS disposition

MIND – FEAR things falling on her; FEAR death; FEAR animals; FEAR spiders; FEAR approaching of others; FEAR people; FEAR being insulted; FEAR of assault; FEAR going out; FEAR being alone; FEAR of disease; FEAR of consumption FEAR, APPREHENSION, ANXIETY; FEAR to drink; FEAR of music; FEAR of noise; FEAR of touch; FEAR of impending calamity; FEAR to face real opposition; FEAR causes hysteria

*Theridion curassavicum*

MIND – WEAKNESS, TREMBLING, COLDNESS and ANXIETY; HYSTERICAL

ANXIETY; ANXIETY from noise

CHEST – ANXIETY about the heart; cardiac ANXIETY with pain

MIND – extreme SENSITIVE and NERVOUS with fruitless activity

HEAD NERVOUS pains; NERVOUS migraines

MIND – FEAR, APPREHENSION, ANXIETY; FEAR from noise; FEAR of cats; FEAR of dogs; tremulous FEAR

#### 4.3.3.4 Anger, rage

##### Araneus diademus

MIND – IRRITABILITY, ANGER, EXCITEMENT

##### Latrodectus hasselti

MIND - ANGER with jealousy; shrieking during ANGER; ANGER suppressed

DREAMS – ANGER

MIND – RAGE after insults, RAGE from trifles

##### Loxoceles reclusa

MIND – RAGE, fury, ANGER, alternating with quick repentance; fits of ANGER

##### Tarentula hispanica

MIND – violent ANGER; ANGER from contradiction; ANGER, temper tantrums; striking from ANGER; ANGER when touched; IRRITABILITY, ANGER, EXCITEMENT

MIND – ailments from RAGE; RAGE, insanity; RAGE, striking himself; RAGE with MANIA; delirium, RAGING, raving; RAGE and NERVOUS excitation

*Theridion curassavicum*

MIND – IRRITABILITY, ANGER, EXCITEMENT

## **4.4 Summary of Data Analysis**

### **4.4.1 Sensations**

The results confirmed that a number of different sensations could be obtained via the extraction process. Whether they describe a process or not could not be established at this point. Further research into this field is needed. Due to the multitude of sensations present, no attempt was made, to tabulate the results according to Sankaran's (2005) plant model where he distinguishes between sensations, active and passive reaction and compensation. The different sensations that have been identified to represent the Araneae remedies as a collective group are listed below.

**Table 10: Groups of sensations that have been isolated through the extraction process**

Stinging	Sore	Burning	Sensitive	Twitching	Paralyzed	Full	Cold
Sharp Stabbing Stitching Intense	Aching	Inflamed Swollen		Trembling Cramping Spasmodic	Weak Numb Faint	Heavy Dull	



Extreme							
Shooting							
Acute							

#### 4.4.2 Themes

- a) Extreme restlessness and hurry with a desire to keep the extremities constantly moving, especially the fingers.
- b) Industriousness with a mania for work.
- c) Hysteria.
- d) Heightened sensitivity and increased nervous excitability – especially to noise, music (rhythmical music), colors and touch.
- e) Desire for dancing.

- f) Nervousness, apprehension and anxiety with fear of death, animals and disease.
- g) Vertigo and faintness.
- h) Irritability, anger, aggression and rage – especially from jealousy and trifles.
- i) Delusion that parts of the body (mainly arms and legs) were greatly swollen and heavy.
- j) Sensation of fullness in the stomach – easy satiety.
- k) Nervous affections – trembling, jerking, spasms, cramps, neuralgia (sharp shooting pains), chorea, epilepsy, numbness, weakness, exhaustion, paralysis.
- l) Affections of the eyes and lids – burning, shooting, lancinating pains; weakness, dimness, redness, inflammation; dark circles around the eyes; inflammation and twitching of the lids.

m) Sore bruised pains in back along the spine and in extremities.

n) Coldness.

o) Acuteness, increased intensity and periodicity of complaints.

#### **4.5 Comparison with Sankaran's and Mangliavori's homeopathic spider themes**

Sankaran's (2005:45) and Mangliavori's (2004:47-55) view on spider remedies are listed in tabulated form below. What is shared by all authors is the understanding that spider remedies are extremely restless with a constant desire to move and to be busy. Other common findings include general hyper sensitivity and a certain kind of attention seeking, hypochondriac, hysterical behavior as well as the theme of rhythmical music, love for dancing, periodicity of complaints and the feeling of coldness on the physical level.

**Table 11: Homeopathic spider themes according to Sankaran and Mangliavori**

<b>Homeopathic spider themes according to Sankaran</b>	<b>Homeopathic spider themes according to Mangliavori</b>
Intense pace, speed; Hyperactivity	Increased activity, busy, industrious
Busy, always moving	Domineering females
Pretence	Hypochondria
Attention seeking	Complaining
Mischievous	Aversion to being touched
Dance, music	Rhythmical music and dance
Colours, fluorescence	Hypersensitivity
Periodicity	Periodicity
Rhythmic	Stinging pains
Suddenness	Altered sense of time
Impulsive violence and aggression	Irresolute, capricious and hysteric
Caught and trapped	Desire for liquid, light food and tobacco
Deceit; Cunning	Dyskinesia
Sudden fear of death	Persecution

Themes that can be confirmed by either of the above mentioned authors include acuteness (suddenness), fear of death, a sensitivity to colors and touch, stinging pains and abdominal fullness (desire for light food).

Themes that have not been mentioned in detail prior to this extraction process include themes of vertigo and faintness, and the wide spectrum of neurological symptoms ranging from twitching, jerking, spasms and cramps to weakness, numbness and exhaustion. An additional finding is the theme of sore, bruised pain affecting the bones and joints of the back and extremities.

#### **4.6 Miasmatic classification**

Based on Sankaran's extended miasmatic model (Sankaran 2005:7), the Araneae remedies were then classified into miasmatic groups. A new literature search via Mac Reference Works® was conducted using the miasmatic keywords listed in appendix A. A quantitative as well as qualitative interpretation of the results is illustrated in tabulated form below.

**Table 12: Miasmatic classification of the individual Araneae remedies as suggested via a keyword search of the literature**

	Psora	Typhoid	Malaria	Ringworm	Sycosis	Tubercular	Cancer	Leprous	Syphilis
Aran			x		x				
Lat-h									x
Loxo-r								x	
Tarent						x			
Ther	(x)					x			

#### **4.6.1 Araneus diademus**

According to Vermeulen (2004:140), *Araneus diademus* has the following features as part of its nucleus:

1. Chilly, can't get warm; sycotic remedy; worse cold, damp weather.
2. Exact periodicity of complaints (especially observed in malaria and headaches).

According to Sankaran (2005:22) the malarial Miasm is characterized by an underlying fixed feeling of being deficient (Sycosis) with an acute feeling of thread (acute Miasm) which comes up intermittently. More data from the literature search confirmed that

*Araneus diademus* is characterized by an underlying sycotic taint with sudden acute manifestations that come up from time to time.

Boericke (2004:69) states: "It is the remedy for the hydrogenoid constitution (Sycosis) favorable to malarial poisoning where every damp day or place favors chilliness."

#### **4.6.2 *Latrodectus hasseltii***

Twohig (1996) summarizes the homeopathic proving of *Latrodectus hasseltii*: "Whatever body system was affected during the proving the violence of the symptoms, both mental and physical, were apparent. According to Sankaran (2005:10) violence and destruction are the most characteristic features of the syphilitic Miasm.

An excerpt from the proving of *Latrodectus hasseltii* (Twohig, 1996) lists the following symptoms:

##### **MIND**

MUTILATING THE BODY - "I had a violent dream of opening a wound on my forehead"

THOUGHTS; VIOLENCE, OF – "I had a morbid impulse, violence, felt like hijacking a train", "I had violent thoughts today"

DELUSIONS EVIL DONE – “I had a loose, putrid, black stool, devil – movement, which smelt of decay and death, as if the evil came out”

RAGE – “.....from trifles, every little thing caused me to fly into rage”

DREAMS of VIOLENCE, being PURSUED

#### MOUTH

ULCERS – “An ulcer appeared on the left hand side of my mouth near my rear molars”

#### FACE

ULCERS LIPS – “mouth ulcers beginning near the corner of the upper and lower lip”

#### FEMALE

LEUCORRHEA BLOODY, with abdominal pain

#### **4.6.3 *Loxoceles reclusa***

The feeling of the leprous Miasm is that of intense oppression, isolation and intense desire for change. On the physical level there is involvement of the eyes, the skin and the nervous system in form of paralysis (Sankaran 2005:60). According to the proving symptoms (Klein, 1997) *Loxoceles reclusa* could be classified as a leprous remedy.



## MIND

HOPELESSNESS, DESPAIR – “I felt utter despair”

“I felt hopeless despair, like an insurmountable obstacle, and cold “

“I felt totally depressed and so hopeless, I just want to lie down”

ISOLATION - “I felt very isolated”

“I’d rather remain in bed or isolation today, I am very reluctant to be with other people”

“I feel isolated, like I have a secret”

“I was always alone, even when with others”

CONTEMPT, DISGUST - “I have felt nothing but bad about myself, inadequate, ugly, not good enough, rejected”

SUICIDAL THOUGHTS – “morbid thoughts, wanted to kill myself”

“..had a lot of suicidal thoughts”

DESIRE TO ESCAPE – “I found myself thinking of my death and the ease of that transition”

“....my response to all this was immediately to frenziedly start thinking where I could escape to, where I could run....”

## EXTREMITIES

PARALYSIS – “my right arm and hand went numb – not pins and needles it was like I had no muscles in it”

## EYES

DILATATION OF PUPILS - “both pupils were dilated”

REDNESS AND YELLOWNESS

### **4.6.4 Tarentula hispanica**

The tubercular Miasm lies between Sycosis and Syphilis and its feeling is that of intense oppression and a desire for change. The reaction is intense and there is hectic activity in order to break free from this oppression (Sankaran, 2005:54).

## MIND

DESIRES ACTIVITY - boundless energy, compelled to be busy, to act (Vermeulen, 2004:1345)

RESTLESS – extreme restlessness, must be in constant motion (Vermeulen, 2004:1345)

“...anxiety and restlessness are words that prevail through all the conditions in it (Kent, 1998: 990)

HURRY – everybody must hurry (Vermeulen, 2004:1345).

HYPERACTIVITY - rapid movement (Vermeulen, 2004:1345)

SPEED – incredible quickness, jumps out of bed and smashes something before she can be prevented (Vermeulen, 2004:1346)

### CHEST

OPPRESSION AND SUFFOCATION - great oppression is felt in the chest with panting respiration. Attacks of suffocation occur with crying, screaming and restlessness (Gibson, 1996:509).

#### **4.6.5 *Theridion curassavicum***

Although *Theridion curassavicum* is described as having affinity to the tubercular diathesis (Vermeulen 1997:1594), there is also a number of psoric traits present. The psoric personality is said to be active and expressive, but struggles with the demands of the 'outside world'. In its physical aspect the psoric Miasm demonstrates hypersensitivity with a strong reaction to environmental stimuli (Sankaran, 2005:220).

### MIND

SENSITIVE – over sensitive to noise; noise makes aggressive (Vermeulen, 2004:1370).

“Hysterical sensitivity with extreme aggravation from noise...” Kent (1998:994).

TALKATIVE - talkativeness and hilarity (Vermeulen, 1997:1595).

STARTLE – startled by the least thing (Boericke, 2004:641).

## GENERALS

HYPERSENSITIVITY - to noise - every noise penetrates the body, touch, least motion, jar, cold, sun, pressure, washing clothes (Vermeulen, 1997:1597).

## SKIN

ITCHING – itching sensations everywhere (Vermeulen, 1997:1597).

## RECTUM

DIARRHOEA – diarrhoea without colic (Vermeulen, 1997:1596).

## NOSE

ITCHING – Itching in the nose and paroxysms of frequent violent sneezing (Vermeulen, 1997:1595).

Itching sensations (Boericke, 2004:641).

The tuberculinic aspect of *Theridion curassavicum* manifests in its hurried and hectic activity together with its fears of being trapped, caught and killed (Sankaran, 2005:203). This is confirmed by the fact that amongst other authors, Boericke (2004:641) in his materia medica mentions *Theridion curassavicum* as having a tubercular diathesis.

## **CHAPTER 5: ANALYSIS OF ARANEAE REMEDIES**

### **5.1 Araneae as a kingdom**

Homeopathic characteristics of the animal kingdom as defined by Sankaran (2005:2- 3) could be clearly identified in the Araneae remedies. Evidence of an 'animal' nature is reflected in the following features (the evidence produced below is sourced from the diverse materia medicae, reported clinical cases and proving material represented in Mac Reference® computer software unless stated otherwise):

#### **a) Impulsive violence and aggression**

##### **Tarentula hispanica:**

Destructive impulses, sudden fox like destructive efforts, requiring utmost vigilance to prevent damage; Destructiveness of clothes, desire to strike herself or others (Vermeulen, 1997:1577-1578).

Destructive – breaks, tears destroys things; Mania and rages with extreme violence and desire to kill (Morrison, 1993:381).

*Araneus diademus*

“Unlike *Tarentula hispanica*, *Araneus diademus*’ self esteem is too low to express this aggressive part of their experience (Mangliavori, 2004:141).

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Rage after insults, mania with rage.

*Loxoceles reclusa*

Delirium, raging.

*Theridion curassavicum*

Noise makes aggressive (Vermeulen, 2004:1369).

**b) High sexual tension:**

*Araneus diademus*

Increased sexuality.

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Persistent sexual thoughts.

*Loxoceles reclusa*

Sexual desire increased, lots of sexual thoughts.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Nymphomania, great sexual desire from sensation of something crawling up the legs (Vermeulen, 1997:1579).

*Theridion curassavicum*

Excessive sexual desire or sexual desire diminished.

**c) Jealousy:**

*Araneus diademus*

Selfishness, envy and jealousy.

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Anger with jealousy, dreams jealousy.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Selfishness, envy and jealousy

*Theridion curassavicum*

Selfishness, envy and jealousy.

**d) Typical animal fears:**

*Araneus diademus*

Frightful dreams, screams out and can't sleep again; Fear, apprehension and anxiety; Fear of death; Fear of narrow places.

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Fear of animals; Fear of spiders; Fear of death.



*Loxoceles reclusa*

Fear of bats.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Fear of animals; Fear of spiders; Fear of death; Fear of people; Fear something will fall on her; Fear of water.

*Theridion curassavicum*

Fear of cats; Fear from noise.

**e) High energy levels**

*Araneus diademus*

Restlessness, busy, never stands still (Vermeulen, 2004:139).

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Energy is high, mental activity increased. Need to release energy.

*Loxoceles reclusa*

Burst of energy to work late at night; High energy for tasks and a sense of clarity.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Extreme restlessness, dancing mania, must keep in constant motion (Vermeulen, 1997:1577).

Perpetual restless motion linked with boundless anxious energy.

*Theridion curassavicum*

Hyperactivity with high energy.

**f) Central delusion of being a victim**

*Araneus diademus*

A forsaken feeling is symbolized by the delusion that the voice of the one they love sounds far away.

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Delusion has been poisoned; Delusion forsaken and deserted; Delusion of being attacked.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Delusion insulted; Delusion diabolical faces crowded on him; Delusion is going to be assaulted.

*Theridion curassavicum*

Delusions he is eating dirt; Delusion all sorts of things jumped on the ground before her.

**g) Signs of conflict with others and with themselves**

*Araneus diademus*

Want of self confidence.

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Desire to attack others; Feeling of being physically attacked by others; conflicts with desire to talk.

*Loxocceles reclusa*

Hatred.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Desire to attack others. Feeling of hatred and revenge.

*Theridion currassavicum*

Want of self confidence.

**5.2 Pathological tendencies relating to the order Araneae**

As a direct result of the proposed sensations that represent the Araneae group of remedies, certain pathological tendencies have been found during the literature search of Mac Rep® computer program (unless stated otherwise):

### **1) Affection of the nervous system:**

Vertigo, faintness, paralysis, numbness, weakness, twitching, jerking, trembling, cramping, spasms, hyper excitability, increased sensitivity etc.

#### *Araneus diademus*

Neuralgia of the face; Cramps, colic and twitching; Tingling in soles and feet at night on waking; Nerve pains with exact periodicity (Vermeulen, 2004:140).

Excruciating neuralgia along the spinal nerves (Vermeulen, 1997:154).

General spasm with trembling and twitching; Sensation of numbness, coldness and swelling in various parts of the body; Trembling of extremities; Twitching of eyes.

#### *Latrodectus hasselti*

Neuralgia; General numbness, tingling, pins and needles; General tetanic spasms and twitching; Trembling inside.

*Loxoceles reclusa*

Neuralgic pains; Brachial neuritis; Uterine neuralgia; Numbness left upper shoulder extending down the arm;

*Tarentula hispanica*

Remarkable nervous phenomena: Hysteria, chorea, spinal irritability and epilepsy; Vertigo and neuralgia – intense pain as if 1000 needles were pricking into the brain; Migraine, can't open the eyes (Vermeulen, 1997:1557).

Numbness and paralysis after repressed sexual desire; Numbness of legs; Numbness with hyperaesthesia especially fingertips; Sensation of formication and numbness on the skin; Spasmodic hysterical symptoms; Clonic spasms with jerks; Twitching and jerking of muscles, trembling of the whole body.

*Theridion curassavicum*

Vertigo and neuralgia; Numbness in left arm, hands and fingers; Violent cough with convulsive spasmodic jerking with head forward and knees upward; weakness and trembling of all limbs.

## **2) Involvement of the eyes:**

Stinging, shooting, burning pains, watery eyes, redness and inflammation, sensation of heat, sensation of heaviness, flickering before the eyes, black circles under the eyes, heaviness of lids.

### *Araneus diademus*

Stinging in intermittent fever; Shooting pains; Large black circles under the eyes; Flickering before headache; Thick mist before the eyes (Vermeulen, 1997:154).

### *Latrodectus hasselti*

Burning, sore, stinging, itchy eyes.

### *Loxocceles reclusa*

Yellow eyes; Ecchymosis; Pupils dilated; Blood shot eyes in the morning; Burning pains; Watery eyes; Bags under the eyes in the morning.

*Tarantula hispanica*

Itching of the eyes and photophobia; Stitches as of sand or splinter; Right pupil much dilated (Vermeulen, 1997:1578).

*Theridion curassavicum*

Burning above the inner canthus on wakening; Twitching in right eye; Luminous vibrations; Glittering on stooping; Blurred vision; Diplopia; Flickering in fast paroxysm, even when closing eyes, like a veil before eyes (Vermeulen, 1997:1595).

**3) Muscular - skeletal complaints:**

- a) Spine: spinal irritability, sore to the touch, painfully sensitive spine, pains, stiffness and tension, sore and bruised sensations.
- b) Neck: stiffness, tension, sore and bruised sensations, pains.
- c) Head: Stinging, shooting, dull and heavy sensations, pains.



- d) Extremities: Restlessness, bone pains, involuntary movements, numbness, sensation of heaviness.

*Araneus diademus*

Back so painful, she can't sleep; Arms and legs feel as if asleep; Boring, digging pains in limbs; caries or gangrene; Delusion of swelling and heaviness in upper limbs; Delusion of heaviness in lower limbs (Vermeulen, 1997:156).

Stinging pain at the root of the nose and nape of the neck.

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Pain in sacrum and lower extremities; Stiffness in the back of the neck; cervical stiffness; Pain in the neck.

*Loxocoles reclusa*

Pain in upper and lower extremities; Constant pain in sacro iliac area; Spine sensitive to touch; Stiffness in neck and back.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Pain in the occiput as if struck with a hammer and stiff neck; Painfully sensitive spine; Tumors around the spinal column;

Weakness of the legs and choreatic movements; Restless arms, keeps hands busy (Vermeulen, 1997:1579-1580).

*Theridion curassavicum*

Violent throbbing in the head, extending to occiput; Stinging between the scapulae; Spinal irritation; Great sensitiveness of the spine; Pain in bones as if broken; heaviness in limbs before chill; Stinging from elbow to shoulder (Vermeulen, 1997: 1595- 1560).

**4) Heart:**

Pains, palpitation, oppressive feeling, anxiety of the heart, sensation as if squeezed.

Araneus diademus

Palpitations; Cutting pains through the heart as from a knife; Neuralgia of the heart. Chest constantly so oppressed that a walk across the room puts him out of breath (Vermeulen, 1997:155).

Latrodectus hasselti

Palpitations; Pain cutting around the heart.

Loxoceles reclusa

Consciousness of the heart; Palpitations; Heart racing.

Tarentula hispanica

Feeling as if twisted and turned around; As if squeezed or compressed; Palpitations; Heart takes sudden jumps; Trembling and thumping of the heart; Alternate acceleration and suspension of movements of the heart (Vermeulen, 1997:1580).

Angina pectoris; Mitral valve disease (Morrison, 1993:382).

Anguish of the heart preventing him from lying down; Shooting pain in the heart extending to left shoulder.

*Theridion curassavicum*

Cardiac anxiety and pain; Sharp pains extending down the arm and left shoulder;  
Slow pulse during vertigo (Vermeulen, 1997:1596).

**5) Sexual organs:**

Hypersensitivity, increased sexual excitability.

*Araneus diademus*

Sexual, High sex drive (Vermeulen, 2004:139).

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Persistent sexual thoughts, increased sexual desire.

*Loxocles reclusa*

Lots of sexual thoughts, sexual dreams; Sexual desire Increased.

Tarentula hispanica

Uncontrollable sexual excitement; Lasciviousness; Hypersensitive genitals  
(Vermeulen, 2004:1347).

Sexual desire increased; Sexual mania in men; Persistent sexual thoughts.

Theridion curassavicum

Sensitiveness of cervix; Tickling in both sides of the lower part of the abdomen  
(Vermeulen, 2004:1596).

Excessive sexual desire.

**6) General increased sensitivity to cold, noise, music, color and touch.**

Araneus diademus

Abnormal sensitiveness to damp and cold; Oversensitive to music, to rhythm;  
Cold to very bones, can't get warm (Vermeulen ,2004:139).

*Latrodectus hasselti*

Sensitive to slightest noise, to voices; Back really painful to light touch.

*Loxoceles reclusa*

Extreme sensitiveness of the spine to touch.

*Tarentula hispanica*

Extreme sensitiveness to cold; extreme sensitiveness of the spine. Extreme sensitiveness and excitability of the special senses: Light and glaring colors irritate, noises frighten, tactile hyperaesthesia, worse for touch, music ameliorates or aggravates; Chilly (Vermeulen, 2004:1346).

*Theridion curassavicum*

Ears oversensitive to sound; great sensitiveness between the vertebrae; Sensitive to noise which penetrates the body; The sensitiveness extends to vibrations of any kind, jar of a step, riding in carriage or in a boat; Oversensitive to striking of a clock and ringing of bells; Oversensitive to rhythmic music and drums.

Marked oversensitivity to noise – causes pains, tooth ache etc. (Morrison, 1993:385).

Oversensitivity to noise – noise makes aggressive; Chilly (Vermeulen, 2004:1369).

### **5.3 Mental and emotional manifestations of Araneae remedies**

The mind of the Araneae remedies is in a state of hyper – excitability. The excitement can be caused by music or is due to the high sexual tension which is common amongst members of the Araneae family. This excitement or passion causes extreme restlessness, nervousness and anxiousness which can only be relieved by constant movement or by violent dancing to ‘strong rhythmical’ music. There is great hurry and fingers or limbs are in constant motion; wringing of the hands or constant drumming with the fingers are typical mannerisms of spider remedies.

Suddenness is a quality that describes the hyper reactive state of the Araneae remedies. Spiders are known for their sudden movements and this fact is also expressed in the materia medica of that particular group. Different kinds of sudden pains are found on the physical level and sudden emotions and reactive behavior are part of the mental state of spider remedies.

Hysteria is a prominent manifestation of the hyper excitable mind and is characterized by most violent alternations of moods and destructive impulses. Irritability, anger and

excitement were found to be three emotions that are depicted as a trio in the materia medica of most spider remedies and led to the question of how spider remedies express their anger. Strong fits of anger in form of temper tantrums and episodes of rage are common with a desire to strike oneself or others. The reason for it was found to be jealousy, insults or just trifles.

The whole organism is in a state of hypersensitivity, especially to music, noise, touch and colors. There is a heightened awareness of color to the point where objects are perceived as fluorescent or brilliant in color. Colored dreams are also mentioned. Noise is intolerable and besides inducing physical symptoms it can lead to fear, fright and sometimes terror.

Typical fears of Araneae remedies include fear of pain, disease and death, fear of animals like spiders, bats (*Loxo-r.*) or cats (*Ther.*) and fear of narrow places, losing breath or suffocation. Fear, apprehension and anxiety are mentioned together as one particular state of mind in the literature of most spider remedies. Together with the above mentioned trio 'irritability, anger, anxiety', these two sets of emotions seem to be significant experiences of spider remedies, since they are listed in bold letters in the literature and occur in nearly all spider remedies described in Mac Reference Works®.

The two most common causative factors in the Araneae remedies derived from the extraction process would appear to be 'Ailments from excitement' and 'ailments from fright or fear'.



## 5.4 Clinical aspects of Araneae remedies

The following clinical conditions were noted:

- Neurological diseases: Chorea, Epilepsy, Neuralgia, Paralysis, Paraesthesia, Multiple sclerosis, ALS, Vertigo, Tinnitus
- Diseases of the eyes and eye lids: Conjunctivitis and other inflammatory diseases of the eyes and eye lids, visual disturbances, Ptosis
- Muscular skeletal diseases: Disorders of the Spine, Rheumatism, Bone cancer and metastases, Osteoporosis
- Diseases of the head: Migraines, Meningitis
- Diseases of the heart: Arrhythmias, Angina Pectoris, Myocardial infarction
- Mental and behavioral disorders: ADHD, Neurosis, Depression, Anxiety Disorders, Mania

- Sexual organs: Chordee, sexual disturbances, Nymphomania

It was noted that some spider remedies have a great affinity to the skin and are able to produce severe skin lesions like abscesses, carbuncles, lymphangitis and even gangrene. If one looks into the nature of the substance that is able to produce such skin lesions one will find, that e.g. a spider like *Loxocles reclusa* carries cytotoxic venom and is able to produce the above mentioned skin lesions.

One spider in particular is known for its ability to cause and cure severe skin inflammation like malignant ulcers. *Tarentula cubensis*, known as the Cuban Spider is used to cure septic conditions and various forms of malignant suppuration, that are characterized by a purplish hue and burning, stinging pains (Vermeulen, 1997). However, *Tarantula cubensis*' exact identity is left in doubt since the spider used for preparation of the mother tincture was decomposed (Ross, 2008).

## **CHAPTER 6: CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

The aim of this study was to subject a poorly understood biological class to a specific investigation, with the aim to broaden the overall group understanding of the order Araneae and thereby allow a broader utilization of individual members as therapeutic substances. This was achieved by analyzing the class Arachnida/order Araneae according to the group analysis method proposed by Sankaran (2005).

The data extracted could portray a clear image of the spider remedies in terms of a common set of sensations and the order's typical pattern of responses and reaction evoked in proving trials.

### **6.1 Group Analysis Approach to Homeopathy**

As discussed in the literature review there are different opinions regarding the group analysis approach. If it is incorrectly performed it could deliver unreliable and misleading results. However if done according to Sankaran's (2005:25) proposed method, it can highlight the distinguishing features of each group of different remedies captured in the various homeopathic materia medicae (Wulfsohn, 2005:80). The extraction process allows to filter out common aspects of a group and can so contribute to a better understanding of the ever expanding amount of information available today.

A prerequisite for a thorough group analysis is a comprehensive computer program that contains original provings, diverse materia medicae and unedited in depth case material. The higher the quality of the source material, the more accurate the results of a case analysis study will be.

Although a clear picture of commonalities running through the Araneae remedies emerged during the extraction process, there is still cause for concern in using the above mentioned group analysis method. In his latest book “Mollusks”, Sankaran (2008:24-31) clearly distinguishes between the vital sensation in plants and how it is expressed in the animal kingdom. The concept of the vital sensation is not the same in the different kingdoms and therefore the group analysis method applied to remedies from the animal kingdom needs to be adjusted to fit the concept of the animal realm. Since there are many different sensations present in animal remedies and the main issues evolve around surviving strategies, the materia medicae and repertories need to be searched with these classical animal characteristics in mind.

The research also indicated that there is a strong correlation between the materia medica of a spider remedy and the nature of the original substance it is prepared from. Understanding the behavioral patterns of a spider gives an insight into the characteristics of the substance from which the corresponding homeopathic remedy is derived. Although the data collected and analyzed was unable to outline a vital sensation that reflects the core essence of the Araneae group as a whole, the data was able to indicate a clear image of the basic reactions and responses of the spider

remedies as a whole. Since animal remedies are concerned with different issues than for example plant or mineral remedies, a search for a Vital sensation and its opposite alone, in the researcher's opinion is not sufficient enough to understand the complex make up of an animal remedy.

Even though evidently good results were achieved using Sankaran's (2005) proposed methodology, it was a complicated and sometimes misleading process. Without the thorough analysis of the nature of the substance which included not only the natural history and biological facts but also toxicological reports and mythology, it would not have been possible to correctly understand and interpret the amount of information gathered during the extraction process. It is therefore of great importance when analyzing remedies from the animal kingdom, that one familiarizes oneself with the nature of the substance prior to the extraction process and to interpret any findings within the backdrop of the established animal characteristics of homeopathic remedies (Sankaran, 2005).

## **6.2 Recommendation for further research**

Research in the form of group analysis into various biological and non biological group of substances is a vital process that helps to systematize the vast amount of seemingly unrelated information gathered through decades of homeopathic proving and clinical experience. There is still a large amount of work to be done considering that the order

Araneae can be further subdivided into suborder, family, subfamily etc. The characteristic features of each subdivision differ largely from the commonalities found in the entire Araneae group. For example spiders are not only distinguished by the poison they produce. Spiders generally fall into two main categories, Mygalomorphae and Araneomorphae – web building and non web building spiders (Coddington, 2005:18-24). Each of these categories developed different survival strategies and it will be interesting to see how this is reflected in the materia medica of the respective homeopathic remedy, provided that more high quality, in-depth provings of both the smaller and previously unproven Araneae remedies will be conducted in the future.

It is therefore vital to continue with high quality homeopathic provings using biological and non biological substances from all kingdoms of nature, imponderables, disease products etc. and to subject the materia medica of those substances to a group analysis process. This will provide a deeper understanding of a respective group of remedies and will offer homeopaths a wider range of remedies to use in their attempt to achieve what Hahnemann (1996) already stated in paragraph one of the Organon: “The physician’s highest and only calling is to make the sick healthy, to cure, as it is called.”

## Appendix A:

**Table 1: Keywords used to describe Sankaran's (2005:7) miasmatic model:**

ACUTE	TYPHOID	MALARIA	RINGWORM	SYCOTIC	CANCER	TUBERCULAR	LEPROSY	SYPHILIS
Acute	Sub acute	Paroxysmal	Trying	Fixed	Control	Hectic	Isolation	Destruction
Sudden	Crisis	Periodicity	Giving Up	Fixed weakness	Self control	Trapped	Mutilation	Homicide
Violent	Intense	Stuck	Irritation	Guilt	Perfection	Closed in	Disgust	Suicide
Panic	Sinking	Persecution	Discomfort	Hide	Fastidious	Suffocation	Dirty	Total
Danger	Recover	Unfortunate	Accepting alternating with trying	Secretive	Chaos	Intense activity	Intense oppression	Impossible
Reflex action	Intense short effort	Alternation between excitement and acceptance	Accepting alternating with effort	Avoidance	Order	Change	Despair	Despair
Escape	Emergency			Accepting	Superhuman	Freedom	Bites himself	Devastation
Helpless	Impatience	Hindered	Herpetetic	Giving-up	Beyond one's Capacity	Defiant	Outcast	Psychosis
Terror	Collapse	Obstructed	Acne	Warts		Oppression	Loathing	Ulcers
Fright	Demanding	Unfortunate	Ringworm	Tumors	Great expectation	Desire to change	Sadism	
Instinctive Reaction	Critical	Harassed		Gonorrhea		Tuberculosis	Intense hopelessness	
Insanity	Typhoid	Intermittent					Hunted	

## Appendix B

**Table 3: Sensation extraction for spiders in general ordered from the smallest to the largest:**

Rubric	Number of spider remedies/rubric	Total number of remedies/rubric
Mind; TEARS; THINGS; Books, his	2	2
Mind; MOROSE, SULKY; FEVER; During; intermittent	2	2
Mind; HYSTERIA; LIE down, must	2	3
Back; PAIN; STITCHING, shooting; Dorsal region; scapulae; below; motion; agg.	2	3
Female; LEUKORRHEA; ALTERNATING with; Discharge, bloody	2	4
Mind; DREAMS; SKATING, of	2	5
Extremities; COLDNESS; FEET; Heat of; body	2	5
Teeth; PAIN; NOISE agg	2	5
Mind; DREAMS; TALKING; Someone with	2	5
Mind; DACING; DESIRES; WILD	3	6



Chill; BATHING; AGG; Cold	2	6
Back; SENSITIVE SPINE; PRESSURE, to	2	6
Neck; PAIN; SIDES; Morning	2	6
Hearing; REVERBERATING, ECHOES AND REECHOES; WAKING, on	2	6
Male; ERUPTIONS; BOILS, furuncles	2	7
Neck; PAIN; MORNING	2	7
Female; MENSES; PAINFUL; Convulsions, with	2	7
Chest; PAIN; STITCHING; Upper; left	2	7
Teeth; NOISE AGG.	2	7
Vision; ACUTE; COLORS	2	7
Neck; TURNING HEAD AGG; RIGHT, to	2	8
Head; PAIN; DREAMING, after	2	8
Back; PAIN; APPLICATIONS; Warm, hot, amel.	2	8
Back; PAIN; STINGING	2	9
Urine; YELLOW; BRIGHT	2	9
Generalities; FAINTNESS; FAINTING; PERIODIC	2	9

Head; PAIN; FOREHEAD; Afternoon; 3pm	2	9
Stomach; VOMITING; BILE; Morning	2	10
Mind; DREAMS; INSULTS	2	10
Vision; FLICKERING; HEADACHE; Before	2	11
Mind; DREAMS; CLOTHING	2	11
Head; INTERNAL; DREAMING, after	2	11
Mind; ATTACK OTHERS; DESIRE TO	2	12
Hearing; NOISES; MORNING; Agg; waking, on and after	2	12
Eyes; TWITCHING; LIDS; Upper; right	2	12
Back; PAIN; STRAIGHTENING up back; Amel.	2	12
Mind; DREAMS; EYES	3	13
Mind; GESTURES, MAKES; PLAYS with; Fingers	2	13
Mind; DANCING, DESIRES; AMEL.	2	13
Mind; COLORS; CHARMED by	2	13
Generalities; DANCING; AMEL.	2	13
Chest; PAIN; EXTENDING to; Neck	2	13

Back; PAIN; SORE, bruised, beaten; Pressure; agg.	2	13
Stomach; FULLNESS; DINNER, after	2	13
Chill; ATHING; AGG.	2	13
Chest; PAIN; UPPER; Left	4	14
Generalities; FOOD AND DRINKS; BITTER; Desires; drinks	2	14
Mind; GESTURES, MAKES; WRINGING hands	3	18
Back; SENSITIVE SPINE; TOUCH, to	3	20
Cough; DRINKING; AMEL.	3	24
Generalities; PARALYSIS EXCITEMENT, emotional, agg	3	27
Back; SENSITIVE SPINE	3	44
Back; PAIN; STITCHING, shooting; Dorsal region; scapulae; below	3	49

## Appendix C

**Table 5: List of extracted common sensations defined using Collins (1989) dictionary:**

Stitching	Shooting	Stinging	Twitching	Soreness	Bruise	Coldness Chill	Sensitive	Fullness	Reverberating Echoing	Flickering	Paralytic	Faintness
<p>A sensation of physical discomfort occurring as the result of disease or injury</p> <p>a sharp (clearly defined) sudden pain</p> <p>a sharp painful spasm</p>	<p>Pain, marked by severity and intensity</p> <p>to send out or be sent out as if from a weapon</p> <p>to move very rapidly</p>	<p>.....a sharp piercing or pricking mental or physical</p>	<p>to hurt with a sharp spasmodic pain</p> <p>a sharp jerking movement</p> <p>a sudden muscular spasm, esp. one caused by a nervous condition</p>	<p>painfully sensitive</p> <p>tender</p> <p>a painful or sensitive wound;</p> <p>any cause of distress or vexation</p>	<p>a bodily injury without a break in the skin usually with discoloration</p> <p>to crush by pounding</p> <p>to offend or injure</p>	<p>having relatively little warmth</p> <p>To cool or freeze</p> <p>a sensation of coldness</p>	<p>delicate</p> <p>capable of registering small differences or changes in amounts</p> <p>affected by external conditions or stimuli</p> <p>easily irritated</p>	<p>holding or containing as much as possible</p> <p>having consumed enough food or drink</p>	<p>To resound or reecho</p> <p>To reflect or be reflected many times</p>	<p>A swift quivering or fluttering movement</p>	<p>Related to or of the nature of paralysis</p> <p>To render powerless or motionless, as by inflicting severe injury</p> <p>To render helpless, as by emotion</p> <p>Paralysis: Impairment or loss of voluntary muscle function or of sensation in a part or area of the body</p>	<p>Feeling dizzy or weak as if about to lose consciousness</p> <p>To lose consciousness as through weakness</p> <p>A sudden spontaneous loss of consciousness</p> <p>Lacking clarity, brightness, volume</p>

## Appendix D

**Table 6: List of extracted common sensations' synonyms using a Thesaurus:**

Stitching 9/16	Shooting 10/16	Stinging 13/16	Twitching 11/16	Soreness 11/16 Bruise 7/16	Coldness 13/16 Chill 11/16	Sensitivity 11/16	Fullness 10/16	Reverberating 1/16 Echoing 1/16	Flickering 2/16	Paralytic 10/16	Faintness 9/16
Paining Sudden Acute (12) Spasm (10) Cramp (10) Pain (14) Pricking Prickling Smarting Sore (11) Stabbing Stinging Sharp (11) Stinging (13)	Acute (12) Gnawing Knifelike Lancinating Piercing Sharp (11) Stabbing (10) Pain Extending (13) Cramp Spasm	Hurting Burning (12) Biting Pricking Caustic Cutting Acidic Smarting Sharp Piercing Tingling Pain	Twinge Tic Ache Spasm Fibrillation Fasciculation Jerking Pulling Sudden Trembling (11)  <u><b>Trembling</b></u> Motion (11) Vibration Quiver Tremor Palpitation (10) Fear (14) Shaky Shivering Chorea (8)  <u><b>Motion</b></u> Restless (12) Tremor (7) Jerking Spasm Trembling Twitching	Aching (11) Dull (13) Burned Burning(12) Chafed Distressing Extreme (12) Hurting Inflamed (11) Pained Painful Raw Sensitive Severe (13) Ulcerated Uncomfortable Unpleasant Vexatious  <u><b>Inflammation:</b></u> Swollen (13) Fullness Redness (13) Heat (13) Tenderness Pain  <u><b>Severe (13)</b></u> Intense (14)	Arctic Biting Bleak Brisk Chilly Cool Freezing Frigid Frosty Glacial Icy Nippy Wintry Blight Freeze Frigidity Frostiness	Easily hurt Easily affected Easily upset Delicate Tender Susceptible Reactive (11) Perceptive Responsive Touchy Thin-skinned Precise Fine Keen Hyper/Over- Sensitive (9) Defensive Paranoid Twitchy  <u><b>Reactive: (11)</b></u> Irritable (12) Excitable (12) Active Hyperactive Restless (12) Aggressive (12) Motion (11)	Plenty Glut Saturation Sufficiency Profusion Satiety Repletion Copiousness Ampleness Adequatenes Heaviness (13)  <u><b>Heaviness</b></u> Massiveness Heftiness Sadness Unhappiness Oppression	Reflecting Repeating Rebounding Resounding Repercussion Imitating Reflex	Fluttering Hovering Flittering Blinking Winking	Crippled Stupefied Disabled Withered Immobilized Stunned Incapacitated Knocked out Benumbed Numbed (11) Petrified Spastic Prostrated Lame Paralyzed (10)  <u><b>Numb (11)</b></u> Lame paralyzed Weak (13) Exhausted (11)  <u><b>Weakness</b></u> Faintness (9) Fatigue (9) Exhaustion (11)	Feeble Weakness (13) Perceptible Indistinct Light- Headed Timid Cowardly Fearful  <u><b>Weakness</b></u> Exhaustion

			<u><b>Restlessness</b></u> <b>(12)</b> Anxiety (12) Nervous (12) Agitated (8)	Extreme (12)		<u><b>Irritable (12)</b></u> sensitive  excitable (12) cranky angry (10) peevish pettish ill natured  <u><b>Excitement</b></u> <b>(12)</b> Passion(8) Hysteria (7) Mania (7)  <u><b>Aggressive</b></u> <b>(12)</b> Anger (10) Rage (7)				Debility Vulnerability Powerless  Littleness Smallness Impotence Vertigo (11)	
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