

CATS AND HOMEOPATHY

A Pocket Guide

by

PETER GREGORY

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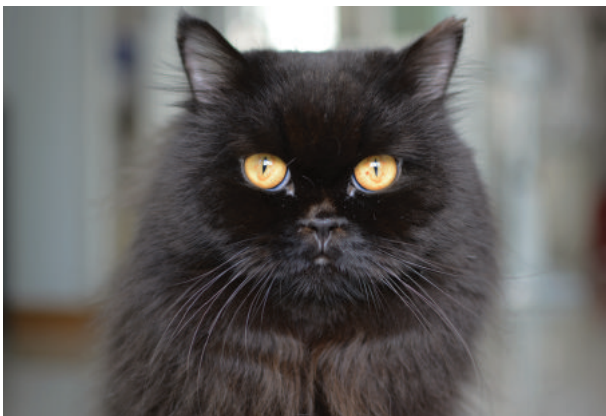


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ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Peter Gregory was born in Sheffield and grew up on the edge of the Peak District. He studied at Bristol University Veterinary School (UK) and qualified in 1972.

He joined a mixed practice in Sheffield on the edge of the Pennines, then in 1977 emigrated to Australia, where he went into partnership running a mixed practice in tropical North Queensland. He gradually became dissatisfied with conventional medicine and returned to the UK in 1984 seeking alternatives. Here he encountered homeopathy. Over the next few years he worked in a number of practices both in the UK and Australia, meanwhile studying for the Membership exams of the Faculty of Homeopathy; on the course at the Faculty, he met Tim Couzens and together they gained qualification in 1991.

In 1995 he set up his own referral practice on the edge of the Staffordshire Peak District and in the same year became a core teacher on the veterinary course at the Homeopathic Professionals Teaching Group (HPTG) in Oxford. In 2000, wishing to make more time for teaching, he joined Tim in the Holistic Veterinary Medicine Centre in Sussex, where he continued to work until he retired from practice in 2024. Over that time he developed veterinary courses in Australia, Ireland, South Africa and Latvia, and he has presented in many countries, including USA, Japan and Iran. He also teaches on the Homeopathy at Wellie Level course for farmers. He is a Fellow, and Veterinary Dean, of the Faculty of Homeopathy in London, and an ex-president of the British Association of Homeopathic Veterinary

Surgeons and the International Association for Veterinary Homeopathy. He is author of 'Homeopathy for Animals' (first edition titled 'Insights into Veterinary Homeopathy'), co-author of 'Textbook of Veterinary Homeopathy' and has contributed to several other publications. He lives in West Wales with his partner Jane Keogh, two Jack Russell terriers and a Border Collie. In his spare time he works on the smallholding, goes walking, plays traditional music on the button accordion and supports Carmarthen Town Football Club.

PREFACE

Every animal is unique, and each species of domestic animal offers a particular type of relationship with their human companion. Our relationship with cats has developed over thousands of years, during which time they have been revered as gods, despised as devils and recognised for their ability to control vermin. Today, the vast majority of cats live with us as companions and family members, and we have developed close emotional bonds with them, with all the benefits that brings to us. Traditionally, cats have been considered to have a measure of independence, and while there may be some truth in that belief, in modern times cats often hold a central position in the family. For our part, this relationship confers on us the responsibility to care for them to the best of our ability, and to ensure their health and wellbeing. Homeopathy provides us with an unparalleled aid in carrying this out, and the aim of this book is to provide guidance to cat owners and vets in providing these benefits to their pets and patients respectively. It is designed as a guide and reference to aid in selection of homeopathic remedies for the cats in their care. With a good knowledge of feline health and careful observation, it should be possible to select an appropriate remedy for most of the common conditions that affect them, and early homeopathic intervention can prevent any further development of symptoms. The information is based on more than 40 years of experience in homeopathic veterinary practice and teaching; it is not and never can be complete, but it should provide sufficient information for the cat owner or practising veterinary surgeon to cover most situations. The use of a materia medica or repertory can enhance this ability, but please remember there is no substitute for professional veterinary

care, and in particular, some conditions necessitate the attention of a qualified vet, preferably one with homeopathic experience.

I hope you find this little book helpful.

Peter Gregory
September 2025



Image credit: Alayasri

THE HEAD AND FACE

Conditions such as abscesses, 'rodent ulcer' and acne. This area is a common site for abscesses from the bite of another cat.

Abscess

From cat bite

Painful, very sensitive, foul smelling pus **Hepar sulph** *In early stages high potency can suppress development; low potency encourages development so it points and drains.*

To aid opening and draining **Myristica**

Where abscess is already draining yellow pus **Calc sulph**

Chronic, cold, exuding thin serum **Silicea** *Follows Hepar sulph*

Also see Chapter 2 First Aid and Surgery

Malar (on face, from tooth root)

Merc sol

Bony swellings (Exostoses)

On facial bones, jaw **Hekla lava**

Facial paralysis

Usually right sided **Causticum**

Left-sided **Senega**

With apathy **Gelsemium**

Skin eruptions

Lips

Ulceration (including eosinophilic granuloma; 'rodent ulcer')

On edge of lip, bleeds **Nitric acid**

Chronic, hard swelling **Conium**

In mild, thin cats in poor condition **Silica**

In possessive cat prone to anger **Lachesis**

Lip folds with ulceration, salivation **Merc sol**

Lip folds, foul smell, bleeds on touch **Kreosotum**

Cracks

In middle of upper or lower lip **Natrum mur**

In corners of mouth **Condurango**

THE EYE

Eye symptoms may appear independently, or as part of an upper respiratory condition such as cat 'flu.

Important features include the type and amount of the discharge, and conditions of the cornea such as ulceration. A discharge may be acrid (burns the surfaces over which it runs) or bland. There is not always a clear distinction between green and yellow.

Hair loss around eye (Alopecia)

Alopecia with normal skin **Sepia**

Intensely itchy **Sulphur Psorinum**

Skin cracked, scurfy **Petroleum**

Swelling

Eyelids

Oedema, esp. allergic **Apis**

Chronic oedema **Medusa**

Upper lids only **Kali carb**

With inflammation **Rhus tox**

Conjunctiva (Chemosis)

Clear pink, oedema **Apis**

With profuse yellow discharge **Argentum nit**

With acrid watery discharge **Arsen alb**

With sticky discharge – lids may stick together **Graphites**

Inflammation

Eyelids (Blepharitis)

Eye red, purulent discharge **Rhus tox**

Profuse yellow/green discharge **Argentum nit**

Sticky yellow discharge **Graphites**

Tiny ulcers, tendency to bleed **Nitric acid**

Redness, itching, esp. chronic **Sulphur**

Refractory cases **Tub bov**

Lachrymal duct (Dachrocystitis)

With watery discharge **Iodum**

With creamy discharge **Pulsatilla**

Chronic, causing blockage **Silica**

THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

Symptoms from 'stroke', vestibular syndrome, chorea, epilepsy ('fits'), intervertebral disc disease, paralysis.

Loss of balance (Vertigo)

From travel, causing nausea **Cocculus**

With twitching and tremor of the head **Agaricus musc**

From concussion, rolls head from side to side, one pupil larger than the other **Helleborus niger**

From hysteria, extreme sensitivity to noises, vomiting on least motion

Theridion

Old animal, falls over when shaking head esp. to left **Conium**

Rolls head from side to side, twitching, jerking, falls to left **Zincum met**

Old animal, falls to right, or falls forward, weakness, incontinence

Causticum

From anxiety, tremor, staggers **Argentum nit**

Old animal, after stroke, worse after rest **Phosphorus**

Falls to right, 'cock's gait' – lifts feet higher, puts feet down hard

Heloderma

'Stroke'

True stroke (Cerebral vascular accident)

With shock **Aconite**

For haemorrhage **Arnica**

For embolus, esp. with right sided paralysis **Bothrops**

With left sided paralysis **Lachesis**

Vestibular syndrome

First aid remedy **Arnica**

Twitching of face, eyes move from side to side (lateral nystagmus)

Agaricus musc

Completely rolls over **Cocculus**

See Vertigo

Twitching and trembling (Chorea)

Head in constant motion, tremor, twitching of muscles, ceases when asleep **Agaricus musc**

Constant motion of whole body, esp. face **Mygale**

THE MENTALS

This chapter can be used in two separate ways. Firstly, the information can add to the local and general symptoms to expand the totality of the patient, and to identify their constitution. Secondly, the remedies can be used to lessen or relieve mental and emotional distress, including what would once have been described as 'behavioural problems'. In the latter situation, a high potency prescription is usually necessary; with such issues as anger or aggression, qualified professional help should be sought.

It is not possible to describe every form of emotional state presented by cats, and there is inevitably some overlap, for instance between anger and aggression or anxiety and fear, but this chapter covers most of the major remedies mentioned in previous chapters.

Affectionate

Self centred, likes to be caressed **Pulsatilla**

Over affectionate to everyone **Phosphorus**

Ailments from

This feature, sometimes referred to as 'causality' can often provide a reliable pointer to the appropriate remedy. It also includes some local factors.

Anger **Chamomilla Colocynthis Nux vomica**

Suppressed anger **Staphysagria**

Grief

Grief in cats can result from the loss of a human family member, including someone simply leaving the household, the loss of an animal of any species, a change of owner, or from a change in routine, particularly involving moving house, and of course being rehomed.

With hysteria and wailing **Ignatia**

Long lasting, with sadness **Natrum mur**

Desperate need for company and caress **Pulsatilla**

With depression **Aurum met**

With sense of injustice and protection of the family **Causticum**

With possessiveness **Lachesis**

With weariness **Phos acid**

With destructiveness and inappropriate defaecation or urination

Stramonium