

# The CAT and ARSENIC



# 1st case :





# **2<sup>d</sup> case : BERLIOZ**





# *Mrs BOVARY*

(G. Flaubert)

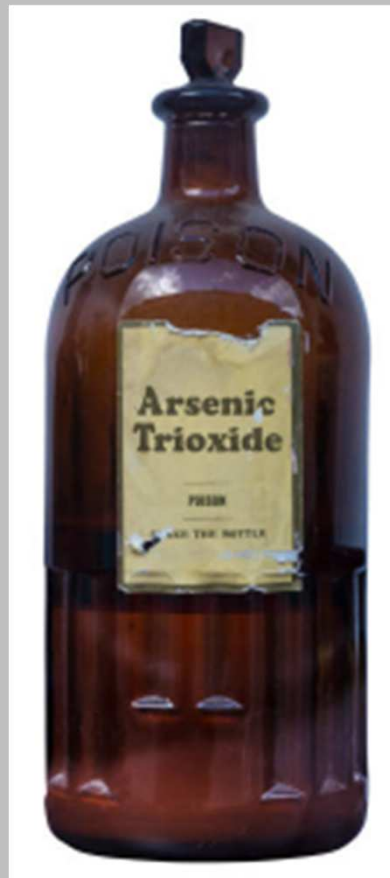
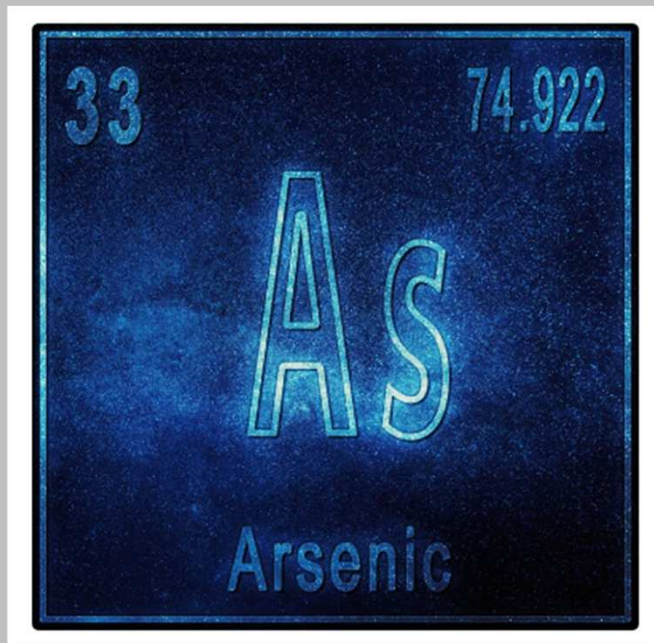
Arsenic poisoned



# Lonely territorial hunter



# Arsenic

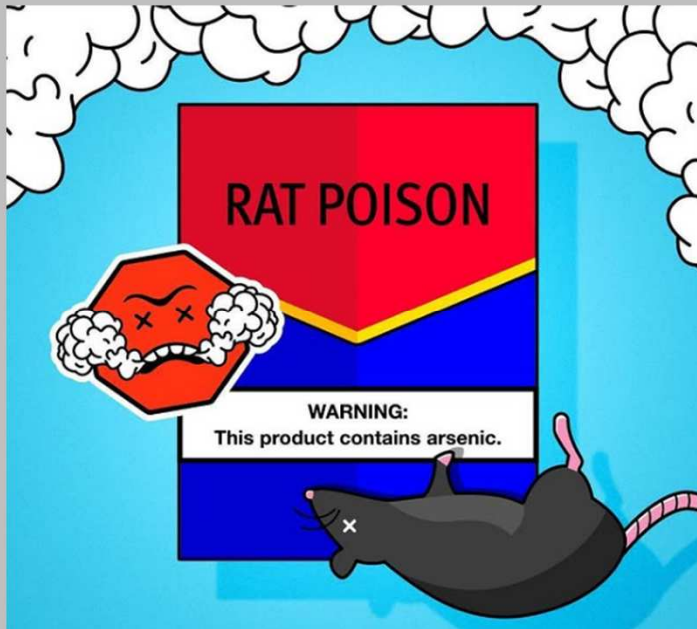




### The uses of arsenic :

« a poison which can cure »

« inheritance powder », appreciated by too-rushed heirs, arsenic is an efficient remedy against a rare kind of leukaemia as well. But american licences made the treatment out of price » Planète



PLANÈTE













## L'arsenic, un poison qui guérit

La "poudre de succession", prisée des héritiers trop pressés, est aussi un médicament très efficace contre une forme rare de leucémie. Mais des brevets américains ont rendu le traitement hors de prix.



# ARSENICUM ALBUM



	<u>CAT</u>		<u>ARSENICUM</u>	
<i><b>FASTIDIOUS</b></i>				
<i><b>ORDER</b></i>				
<i><b>CLEANLINESS</b></i>				
<i><b>COMPANY</b></i>				
<i><b>Restlessness(&lt; 0 – 3h)</b></i>				
<i><b>HEAT</b></i>				

## SKOURA 2025

### CAT AND ARSENIC

I would like to start this intervention with two clinical cases from my personal practice. These two cases were solved at the first prescription, by a single take of the same remedy.

We will then talk about the species concerned in both cases : the cat, little feline that most of you frequently meet. Then, as required by a homeopathy congress , we will discuss the remedy that has cured them, in its essence and characteristics. Finally, struck by the similarity between the animal and the remedy, I thought it would be interesting to compare their respective mental signs.

#### 1st clinical case:

When Maya, pretty little black pussy enters my consultation room, I see that she wears a protective plastic collar around the neck. "She has been wearing this collar for two years," says her mistress, "because as soon as it is removed, she vigorously licks the middle of her belly, and she does not stop until it bleeds." Failure of every treatment tried by different veterinarians. Otherwise, Maya is in a good shape, eats and digests well, and enjoys the company of her owners.

She is usually rather restless, wakes her owners around three o'clock in the morning to go for a walk.

She likes to get closer to the heat sources and tries to climb on the bed to settle under the duvet.

Easy prescription - once is not usual! - the remedy seems obvious. A quick listing (repertorisation) confirms the choice of the remedy.

Arsenicum album 200 K is prescribed, 1/2 dose twice, 12 hours apart, after dilution in spring water.



As agreed, Maya's owner calls me back a week later. Maya is healed, wears no collar anymore. She leaves her stomach at ease, and the wound is healing. And our telephone conversation ends with this phrase that I did not forget "when I left your office, I knew my cat was cured"

## 2nd case:

Berlioz, male cat, gelded, 6 years old, is no longer very fit to be seen; he has been pulling the hair out all over his body for several months. He received all the classic allopathic treatments, repeatedly: antihistamines, corticosteroids, antibiotics, and even Apoquel, treatment of atopic dermatitis, intended for the dog. Nothing helps and his owner, although living in Bretagne, decides to come and consult me.

Here again, gods of homeopathy are on my side: Berlioz shows all signs of Arsenicum, compulsive licking, search for company and warmth, restlessness at night, after midnight. So I prescribe a dose of Arsenicum album 200 K to be given in two times. Within a few days, Berlioz stopped pulling his hair out and began to get back to a normal state.

I chose to quote this second case, for this is «magnificent for a homeopath» in one of these aspects. Indeed, just before leaving my office, Berlioz's owner said to me: "I forgot to tell you : when Berlioz received his first vaccine, he was two months old, the day after the injection, his tongue became completely black." An allopath veterinarian would have said, "how weird!" But as a homeopath, it is "blessed bread". Remember the tongue of Madame Bovary (Gustave Flaubert), who died after being poisoned with arsenic; before her death her tongue had become black. Same symptom in the monks poisoned with arsenic of «Nom de la rose», the novel of Umberto Eco.

Berlioz, from an early age, already had his similitum and reacted to a foreign injection as if he had been poisoned with arsenic!

Cat : “solitary territorial hunter” is the commonly accepted definition for this small feline.

#### Hunter:

This is his primary function, “he only thinks of that”. His prey are smaller than him: mice, shrews, birds... this instinct precisely allowed him to get closer to human, when human began to store cereals (example of the grand father).

#### Territorial:

The cat has a hunting territory, which it marks with pheromones. The pheromones of the cat are emitted from the face (facial marking of appeasement), plantar pads (vertical walls) and through urine (vertical back marking). This marking system allows the sharing of hunting territories with congeners and limits the risks of encounters and conflicts. The concept of territory is very important for cats and any disturbance may cause disturbances in their marking habits.

#### Lonesome :

The cat is a carnivore that hunts alone, unlike the dog, which hunts in groups (ex: African lycaon). for this reason , he devotes a lot of time to his grooming, because when approaching the prey, they must not perceive his own body smells. This is also why he buries his excrement and covers it until the smell disappears. So he spends a lot of time licking himself with his tongue, and the slightest disturbance in his usual environment can turn this licking into compulsive licking.

#### Arsenic

Arsenic is a metalloid. It is also currently classified as a heavy metal. It is very rare to find it in the native state and is generally present as an impurity in many minerals present in the surface layer of the earth's crust. It is most often associated with sulphur. Because of its presence in the soil, it can be found in food and especially in drinking water.

Scarcely found in nature, obtained by burning arsenic sulphide. Violent poison, it is used in rodenticides,(rodent killers) for the destruction of rodents as well as parasiticide in the treatment of skins. Industry uses it as glass blanching treatment, as a pigment in paints and in weapons (cartridges). Medicine, meanwhile, used it in the treatment of certain diseases such as malaria and syphilis, and it is still used today in the treatment of some cancers. It is also a famous poison. History or literature provide many examples (Napoleon; the name of the rose,...).

- The homeopathic remedy: Arsenicum album
- Arsenicum alb. is prepared from white arsenic or arsenic trioxide.
  - Franz Vermeulen says the arsenicum patient is “Fastidious”, that is to say maniac and demanding
  - arsenicum is one of the greatest restless remedy of the medical matter, with Aconit, Rhus tox, Tarentula
  - Obsessed with order and cleanliness
  - In humans (not cats!) there is anxiety with fear of death and fear of getting sick...
  - Physically tired at the slightest effort and showing signs of food poisoning.
  - Its modalities are characteristic: improved by all kind of heat and aggravated between midnight and three o'clock in the morning

### Cat and arsenic

- I was struck during my years of practice by the similarity between the mental aspect of the remedy and the cat's behavior.
- Of all the feline cases I treated, this is the remedy which emerged most often.



- Let's compare:
  - A.A. is «fastidious», maniac, he does not tolerate things not to be in their usual place. The cat always likes to sleep in the same place, whether it is a chair, an armchair, a sofa or a bed. He does not like to have his food changed. He has his own usual schedules: sleep, hunting, meals.

A.A. is obsessed with order and cleanliness. Cats spend a lot of time cleaning, prefer clean and tidy places and do not tolerate that the litter is not changed regularly.

A.A. is looking for company, which comforts him. He doesn't like being alone, he's worried about his health, he's afraid of dying. The cat, which is defined as a solitary animal, is solitary only in its hunting mode. As you all know, the cat likes to sit next to its owner and wish to stay next to him during his activities (office, garden). So he also likes the company.

When should we prescribe Arsenicum for cats?

As we have just seen, their mental characteristics are very close. But Arsenicum is not always the proper remedy. I think that its prescription involves two essential signs:

- 1) The permanent search for heat, for example by putting oneself under blankets.
- 2) Aggravation and need for movement between midnight and 3 a.m.

And a good listing/ repertorisation in order to confirm your prescription.