

## **KALI SULPHURICUM**

This remedy is included here to represent all the Kali salts, any of which can have eczema in their picture. Kali Sulphuricum is the one most likely to be helpful, possibly because of the sulphur element in the compound. All the Kalis, where there are mental symptoms, have a similar attitude to life - they are proper, unadventurous people, often rigid in their views. Kali Sulphuricum, because of its modalities and generalities, is most easily confused with Pulsatilla and Sulphur.

### **Characteristic Eczema Symptoms**

Scaly, profuse desquamation, especially yellow scales.  
Crusty eruption.  
Moist yellow crusts.  
Cracks.  
Moist eruption, especially yellow discharge.  
Suppurating eczema.

### **The Itch**

Worse from warmth, especially warmth of bed.  
Itching with burning. Burning after scratching.

### **Characteristic Mental Symptoms**

Proper, rigid, inflexible attitude.  
Hurried and irritable. Anxiety ameliorated in the open air. Fear of death, falling, people. Worse from consolation.

### **Most Useful General Symptoms**

Worse from warmth.  
Better in the open air.  
Worse from warmth but draughts aggravate (Sulphur).  
Tendency to suppuration.  
Aversion to eggs, fats, fish, meat and warm things.  
Desires sweets.  
Better from motion, especially in the open air.

*Materia Medico*

**LACHESIS**

The best known of the snake remedies, Lachesis, needs little introduction. However, it has been used in situations, especially in infants, where the usually prominent mental symptoms were not apparent. In the realm of dermatology it is known more for ulcers than eczema, but like all the great polychrests it can be curative in a wide variety of physical manifestations of disease. Whenever Lachesis is indicated the other snake remedies should be borne in mind. Remedies such as Elaps, Naja, Vipera and so on may not feature as highly as Lachesis in a repertorisation and can easily be overlooked.

**Characteristic Eczema Symptoms**

The appearance is often suggestive: bluish or blackish discoloration; circumscribed pigmentation where eruption was; eruptions on hairy parts.

Blotches, cracks, crusts, vesicles, pustules (black), suppuration.

Discharge, usually bloody, after scratching.

Fetid eruptions.

Dry, inactive skin.

Suppressed eruptions.

Eczema alternating with asthma.

Eczema in the spring.

Swelling of the affected area.

Skin thickens after scratching.

**The Itch**

Worse at night. Must scratch until raw. Scratching aggravates. Itching without eruption. Worse for becoming heated.

**Characteristic Mental Symptoms.**

Loquacious, extrovert, passionate, exuberant.

Suspicious, jealous, envious.

Mentally active, good memory, theorising.

Religious, superstitious.

Fanaticism.

Fear of snakes.

**Most Useful General Symptoms**

Hot, worse for becoming heated and in warm rooms.  
Worse on waking and from long sleep.  
Left-sided.  
Better for discharges.  
Worse in humid weather, spring and summer.  
Purplish discoloration.  
Worse before menses and during menopause.

**LYCOPODIUM**

It is well known that Lycopodium and Sulphur are closely related. Their skin symptoms are virtually indistinguishable. It is rare to prescribe Lycopodium where there is not either an emotional aetiology or an emotional component to the case. Where infants exhibit Lycopodium symptoms it is often a state which they have inherited from their mother.

**Characteristic Eczema Symptoms**

Eruptions with concomitant urinary, gastric or hepatic troubles.  
Crusty eruptions.  
Moist fetid crusts, or dry but bleeding or discharging after scratching.  
Eruptions on perspiring and hairy parts.  
Cracks.

**The Itch**

Worse in the evening. Worse on perspiring parts. Must scratch until it is raw. Worse from warmth.

**Characteristic Mental Symptoms**

Haughty, arrogant, dictatorial. These types of behaviour are usually only in situations where they feel safe and are a compensation for the following underlying emotions:  
Lack of confidence, cowardice.  
Intellectual type.  
Intolerant of contradiction.  
Fear of responsibility and anything new.