

Homeopathy and Vital Energy

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The theme of vital energy, of vital force, is central to homeopathy. The discoverer of homeopathy, Dr. Samuel Hahnemann, built a medical system whose essential pivot is precisely the vital energy, the vital force. His fundamental book, that is fundamental also for the history of homeopathy, the *Organon of the Art of Healing* which appeared in 1810, is structured as a series of aphorisms on medical thought, but also on the philosophy of humans of which medical science is a part and therapy and medicine are also a part.

In the aphorisms, which are 291, at the beginning of the book, immediately, as almost an opening, in paragraph 9 and paragraph 10, Hahnemann talks about this new paradigm of life energy that is the at the basis of homeopathic medicine. These two paragraphs are very clear.

Paragraph 9 says: “*In the healthy condition of man, the spiritual vital force (autocracy), the dynamis that animates the material body (organism), rules with unbounded sway, and retains all the parts of the organism in admirable, harmonious, vital operation, as regards both sensations and functions, so that our indwelling, reason-gifted mind can freely employ this living, healthy instrument for the higher purposes of our existence*”, as if behind everything there is vital energy.

As a corollary to paragraph 9, the next paragraph, 10, further specifies: “*The material organism, without the vital force, is capable of no sensation, no function, no self-preservation; it derives all sensation and performs all the functions of life solely by means of the immaterial being (the vital principle) which animates the material organism in health and in disease.*”.

Therefore, both in the state of health and in the state of illness it is always the life force which is the guide to what the homeopathic prescription will be. Naturally this is then further explained, deepened and enriched with many nuances in the following paragraphs.

I suggest to anyone interested to investigate Samuel Hahnemann's *Organon* directly.

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