

KALI PHOSPHORICUM.



Synonyms: Potassium Phosphate. Potassii Phosphas.

Common Name: Phosphate of Potash.

Chemical Properties: Formula, K_2HPO_4 . Prepared by mixing aqueous phosphoric acid with a sufficient quantity of potash, hydrate or carbonate, until the reaction is slightly alkaline, and evaporating. It crystallizes with difficulty. It is very deliquescent; it is freely soluble in water and insoluble in alcohol.

Preparation: It is prepared by trituration, as directed under Class VII, American Pharmacopoeia.

Physiologico-chemical Data: Kali phos. is a constituent of all animal fluids and tissues, notably of the brain, nerves, muscles and blood-cells. All tissue-forming substances retain it with the greatest obstinacy, all nutritious fluids contain it, hence we may well conclude that it is indispensable to the formation of tissues. We know also that the oxidation processes, the change of gases in the respiration, and other chemical transformations in the blood, as well as the saponifying of the fat and its further oxidation, are brought about by the presence of the alkalies, and chiefly by the presence of Kali phos. This alkaline reaction is essential to a large number of vital processes taking place in the interior, and is present, without exception, in all the animal fluids which are actually contained in the circulating system, or in the closed cavities of the body. It is found that the nerves retain their vital properties for a long time and very completely in a solution of this salt. By the diminution of the excretion of Kali phos. in the urine, conditions are produced within the organism which may present many-sided resistance to the typhus-decomposing element, as well as to the extension of the typhus process. Kali phos. is an antiseptic and hinders the decay of tissues. Adynamia and decay are the characteristic states of Kali phos. The most important discovery of Liebig, that phosphate of potash is predominant in the serum of the muscles and chloride of sodium in the circulating blood, we have often made great use of, particularly with regard to preferring the one or the other nourishment. A disturbance of the Kali. phos. molecules has for its results :

1. In the mental sphere such conditions as bashfulness, anxiety, fear, tearfulness, suspicion, homesickness, weakness of memory, depression, etc.
2. In the vaso-motor nerves : Pulse at first small and frequent, later retardation.
3. In sensory nerves : Pains with paralytic sensation.
4. In motor nerves : Muscular and nerve prostration to paralysis.
5. Trophic fibres of sympathetic nerve: Retardation of nutrition to complete cessation within a circumscribed cellular domain, hence softening and degeneration of involved nerves.

General Action: Conditions arising from want of nerve power, as prostration, exertion, loss of mental vigor, depression. In general, a sluggish condition of mind, which will act if aroused; also an exhausted mental condition after mental exertion or great strain. It corresponds to the hosts of

conditions known as neurasthenia, in which field it has won its greatest laurels. It is a restorative in muscular debility following acute diseases, myalgia and wasting of muscular tissue, all dependent upon impaired innervation. Atrophic condition in old people. In cases arising from rapid decomposition of the blood corpuscles and muscle juice, such as hemorrhages of a septic nature, scorbutus, stomatitis, gangrenous angina, phagedenic chancre, offensive, carrion-like diarrhoea, adynamic or typhoid conditions, etc.

Particular Symptoms:

Mental Symptoms: Anxiety, nervous dread without any special cause, gloomy moods, fancies, looks on the dark side of everything, dark forebodings. Great despondency about business and pecuniary affairs. Indisposition to mix with people. Disinclined to converse. Brain-fag from overwork. Depressed spirits, general irritability, or great impatience. Loss of memory, omits letters or words in writing, uses wrong words, confusion of ideas. Dread of and oversensitiveness to noise. Dulness, want of energy, the slightest labor seems a heavy task. Undecided, captious, changeable. Rambling talk while wide awake (Natr. mur.). Effects of fright. After-effects of grief. Hallucinations and illusions of senses. Homesickness, haunted by visions of the past and longing after them. Hysteria from sudden emotions, fits of laughter and crying, false impressions. Insanity, mania and other mental derangements. Profound hypochondria and melancholia. Puerperal mania. Sighing depression. Shyness, excessive blushing from emotional sensitiveness. Stupor and low delirium. Whining and fretful disposition. Hysterical yawning. Delirium tremens, fear, sleeplessness, restlessness and suspicion, rambling talk. Grasping at imaginary objects. Mental aberrations. Softening of the brain, early stage, starting on being touched. Mental symptoms in children: Cross and ill tempered, fretful, rightened, screaming, whining. Night terrors. Shyness and excessive blushing. Somnambulism. Very nervous, starts at the slightest sound. Talks while asleep. Wants to be carried while awake from room to room. Wakes easily.

Head and Scalp: Vertigo on rising, from lying, on standing up, from sitting and when looking upward. Vertigo and giddiness from nervous exhaustion and weakness. Cerebral anaemia. Concussion of the brain. Asthenic conditions. Headache, nervous, sensitive to noise, confusion. Headache of students and those worn out by fatigue. Headaches are relieved by gentle motion. Pains and weight in the back of the head, and across the eyes, better while eating; with feeling of weariness and exhaustion, inability for thought and characteristic mental symptoms. Headache with weary, empty, gone feeling at stomach. Menstrual headache with hunger. Neuralgic headache, humming in the ears, with feeling of inability to remain up, yet better under cheerful excitement; tearful mood, better when eating. Water on the brain. Itching of scalp. Back or head sore as if hair was pulled. Severe pain in the left mastoid; worse on motion and in open air.

Eyes: Weakness of sight, loss of perceptive power, after diphtheria, from exhaustion. Excited, staring appearance of the eyes. Strabismus or loss of accommodation after diphtheria. Drooping of eyelids. Inco-ordination of ocular muscles and loss of accommodation for near objects. Sensation of sand or sticks in the eyes. Soreness of eyeballs sore around edges of lids and burn as though full of smoke. Eyelids twitch, sight blurred. Black spots before the eyes.

Ears: Deafness from want of nervous perception, with weakness and exhaustion of the nerves. Noises in the ears from nervous exhaustion, on falling asleep. Discharges of foul, offensive, ichorous pus from the ears. Ulceration of membrana tympani and middle ear suppurations; when discharges are foul, ichorous, offensive, fetid or sanious. Atrophic conditions in old people, tendency of the tissues to shrivel up and become scaly. Humming and buzzing in the ears (Magnes. phos.). Itching in the auditory canal. Hearing supersensitive, cannot bear any noise.

Nose: Epistaxis in weak, delicate constitutions, predisposition to same. Ozena, offensive yellow crusts, ulcers. Thick yellow discharge. Sneezes from slightest exposure. Yellow crusts blown from nose followed by epistaxis. Thick mucus hawked from posterior nares.

Face: Vivid and sunken, with hollow eyes. Red, hot, burning face and forehead; at other times pale and yellow. Neuralgic faceache, with great exhaustion after the attack. Right-sided neuralgia, relieved by cold applications. Neuralgic stitches from upper teeth to left ear. Pain in maxillary bones, better from eating, speaking and touch. Loss of power in facial muscles, causing contortions. Itching of face under beard; pimples. Facial paralysis from working in the water.

Mouth: Pimples and sore crusts on lips. Peeling of skin. Stomatitis; breath offensive, fetid. Gums spongy and receding. Noma, cancrumoris; ashy-gray ulcers. Offensive odor from mouth. Saliva profuse, thick and salty.

Tongue: Excessively dry in the morning. Feels as if it would cleave to the roof of the mouth. Tongue white, slimy, brownish like French mustard. Inflammation of the tongue when excessive dryness occurs or exhaustion sets in; edges of tongue red and sore.

Teeth: Predisposition to bleeding of the gums; red seam on the gums. Severe pain in decayed or filled teeth. Toothache alternates with frontal headache. Toothache of highly nervous, delicate or pale, emotional persons, with easily-bleeding gums; they have a bright red seam or line on them. Nervous chattering of the teeth. Speech slow and inarticulate. Gums spongy and receding. Teeth feel sore. Grinding of teeth.

Throat: Tonsils large and sore, with white, solid deposits like diphtheritic membrane. Throat very dry; desire to swallow all the time. Hoarseness and loss of voice. Salty mucus raised from throat. Gangrenous sore throat. Croup, last stage, syncope and nervous prostration. After-effects of diphtheria. Weakness of sight, nasal speech and paralysis of any part. Malignant gangrenous conditions, prostrations, etc. Paralysis of the vocal cords.

Gastric Symptoms: Gastric ulcer, because this is a disturbance of the trophic nerves. Excessive hungry feeling soon after taking food. A nervous "gone sensation " at the pit of stomach. Gaseous eructations. Gastritis when treatment has been delayed with asthenic conditions. Indigestion with nervous depression. Stomach-ache from fright or excitement. Very thirsty. Nausea and vomiting of sour, bitter food and of blood. Empty, gnawing sensation relieved by eating. Belching of gas tasting bitter and sour. Constant pain at epigastrium in a small spot. Deep green or blue vomiting from brain troubles.

Abdomen: Weakness in the left side under the heart. Splenic troubles, flatulence with distress about the heart, or left side of stomach. Abdomen swells, dry tongue, etc. Typhoid fever, debility and other characteristic symptoms of this drug. Abdomen distended with gas. Bearing down pains. Colic in hypogastrium with ineffectual urging to stool; better bending double. Collapse, livid, bluish countenance and low pulse.

Stool and Anus: Diarrhoea; painless, watery, from fright or other depressing causes, with great prostration; stools putrid, like rice water, bloody, carrion-like odor. Putrid and typhoid dysentery. Watery stool with imperative call, followed by tenesmus. Cholera symptoms. Noisy, offensive flatus. Profuse, painless, offensive and imperative stool while eating, followed by unsatisfied urging. Rectum burns and feels sore after movements, prolapsed. Bowels constipated. Stools dark brown, streaked with yellowish-green mucus. Paretic condition of rectum and colon. Hemorrhoids, sore, painful and itching.

Sexual Organs: Intense sexual desire; priapism in the morning. Impotence and painful emissions at night, without erection. Sexual instinct depressed, much of the time entirely dormant. Utter prostration and weak vision after coitus. Phagedenic chancres. Balanitis. Female: Menses premature and profuse in nervous subjects. Irregular, scanty, almost black, offensive odor. Amenorrhoea with depression of spirits, lassitude, and general nervous debility. Dull headache with menses, very tired and sleepy, legs ache, stitching all through pelvis and womb. Pain in left side and ovaries. Intense pain across the sacrum. Leucorrhoea, yellowish, blistering, orange-colored, scalding, acrid. Intense sexual desire after menses. Menstrual colic in pale, lachrymose, nervous females. Hysteria, sensation of a ball rising in throat. Nervousness.

Urinary Organs: Enuresis in larger children. Paretic conditions of bladder. Incontinence of urine from nervous debility. Frequent urination or passing of much water, frequent scalding. Bleeding from the urethra. Incontinence from paralysis of the sphincter of the bladder. Cystitis in asthenic conditions with prostration. Bright's disease of the kidneys. Diabetes with nervous weakness, voracious appetite, etc. Gonorrhoea with discharge of blood. Urine quite yellow like saffron. Itching in urethra. Cutting pain in bladder and urethra.

Pregnancy: Threatened miscarriage in nervous subjects. Puerperal mania, child bed fever. Feeble and ineffectual laborpains, spurious labor-pains, tedious labor from constitutional weakness. Mastitis when the pus is brownish, dirty-looking, offensive odor, adynamic condition.

Respiratory Symptoms: Asthma, from the least food. Asthma (large doses and often repeated, 3X), depressed condition of nervous system. Loss of voice from paralysis of vocal cords. Hay asthma. Hoarseness with exhausted feeling from overexertion of the voice, if rheumatic or nervous. Cough from irritation in the trachea, which feels sore. Expectoration thick, yellow, salty, fetid. Chest very sore. Whooping cough in the highly nervous, with great exhaustion. Acute oedema of lungs, spasmodic cough with frothy, serous masses being brought up in excess and threatening suffocation. Shortness of breath when going up-stairs, or on any exertion. Croup, last stage, extreme weakness, pale or livid countenance.

Circulatory Organs: Feeling of faintness in nervous people, or dizziness from weak action of the heart. Faintness from fright, fatigue, etc. Intermittent action of the heart, with nervous sensitiveness, from emotions, grief or care, with palpitation. Functional disturbances of the heart with weak, anxious, nervous state. Palpitation from slightest mental emotion or from walking up stairs. Pulse intermittent, irregular, or below normal. Palpitation after rheumatic fever, with exhaustion. Anaemia, blood poor, palpitation with sleeplessness and restlessness. Sluggish circulation.

Back and Extremities: Spinal anaemia. Idiopathic softening of the spinal cord, patient has trouble in guiding himself; loss of power of movement, he tumbles and trips easily. Paralytic or rheumatic lameness, with stiffness after rest, yet becoming better by gentle motion. Pain in back and extremities, relieved by motion, aching between scapulae. Finger tips as if asleep. Itching of palms and soles. Itching of legs at night with numbness and weakness. Burning of feet fidgety feeling in feet. Pains worse on rising from a sitting posture and by violent exertion. Bruised and painful feelings in parts affected, also discoloration. Acute and chronic rheumatism, pains disappear on moving about, severe in the morning after rest and on first rising from a sitting position, parts feel stiff. Exertion and fatigue aggravate. Stiffness, paralytic tendency. Pain in the hips. Paralyzing, drawing pain in sole of foot. Chilblains on the toes. Muscular weakness after severe illness.

Nervous Symptoms: The great nervous tissue salt. Neuralgic pains occurring: in any organ, with depression, failure of strength, sensitiveness to noise and light, improved during pleasant excitement, and by gentle motion, but most felt when quiet or alone. Sciatica. Dragging pain down back of thigh to knee, torpor, stiffness, great restlessness and pain, nervous exhaustion, etc. Nervousness without any reasonable cause; patient sheds tears and makes "mountains out of molehills." Paralysis of any part of the body, partial, paraplegia, hemiplegia, facial, or of the bladder, upper lid, etc. Paralysis usually comes on suddenly. Atrophic paralysis. Locomotor paralysis, loss of motor force, or stimulating power. Creeping paralysis in which the progress is slow, and tendency to wasting of the body, with loss of sense of touch, facial paralysis. Epilepsy, sunken countenance, coldness and palpitation after the attack. Attacks come from a fright. Hysteria, attacks from sudden motion, feeling of a ball rising in the throat, nervous, rest less, fidgety feeling. Trembling sensation. General debility, with nervousness and irritability. Bodily pains felt too acutely. Easily startled. Fears burglars. Neurasthenia, especially from sexual excess, characterized by severe spinal irritation. Paroxysms of pain, with subsequent exhaustion. Infantile paralysis. Spinal anaemia from exhausting diseases, with laming pain, worse while at rest, but manifest on beginning to move.

Sleep: Sleeplessness, after worry or excitement from nervous causes. Somnambulism, walking in sleep in children. Yawning, stretching and weariness, with sensation of emptiness at pit of stomach. Hysterical yawning. Constant dreaming of fire, robbers, of falling, ghosts, etc. Night terrors of children. Awakening from sound sleep screaming with fright. Lascivious dreams. No desire to rise in the morning. Twitching of muscles, on falling asleep.

Febrile Symptoms: Intermittent fever; fetid, debilitating, profuse perspiration. Typhus, malignant, putrid, camp, nervous or brain fevers. The chief remedy in typhoid, gastric and

enteric fevers with brown, dry tongue, petechias, sleeplessness, stupor, delirium, etc. All typhoid and malignant symptoms are met by this drug. High temperature. Scarlet fever, putrid conditions of the throat, exhaustion, stupor, etc. Excessive and exhausting perspirations with fetid odor. Perspiration while eating, with weakness at stomach. Hay fever; for nervous irritability.

Skin: Eczema if over sensitiveness and nervousness accompany it. Felons, abscess and carbuncle when the matter becomes fetid. Pemphigus malignus, blisters and blebs over the body, watery contents, skin wrinkled and withered looking. Greasy scabs with offensive smell. Alopecia areata. Irritating secretions on skin. Itching of the inside of hands and feet where the skin is thickest. Itching of the skin with crawling sensation; gentle friction agreeable, excess causes soreness and chafing. Smallpox, putrid conditions. Chilblains on the toes, hands or ears, tingling and itching pain. Malignant pustule.

Tissues: Anaemic conditions. Losing flesh all the time. Atrophy, wasting diseases with putrid stools. Hemorrhages. Blood dark, thin and not coagulating, putrid. General debility and exhaustion. Persons who suffer from suppressed sexual instinct or too much indulgence. Serous, ichorous, sanious, foul and offensive exudations, corroding, chafing exudations. Gangrenous conditions. Mortification in the early stages. Cancer ; for the pains, offensive discharges and discoloration. Rickets with putrid discharges from the bowels. Scurvy with gangrenous conditions. Septic hemorrhages. Suppurations with dirty, foul, ichorous, offensive discharge of pus. Leucaemia lienalis, typhus, putrid states. Atrophic condition in old people, tissues dry, scaly, lack of vitality. Discharges have a carrion-like odor.

Modalities: Many symptoms of this remedy are aggravated by noise, by rising from a sitting posture, by exertion and continued exercise and after rest. Cold air aggravates all pains. The characteristic ameliorations are gentle motion, eating, under excitement and company; worse when alone. Pains and itchings worse 2 to 5 A. M.

Homoeopathic Data: The remedy has been proved by the Provers' Union of Chicago, under the direction of Dr. H. C. Allen, the salient features of which are included in the above Symptomatology. Another so-called proving has been made for Dr. B. Fincke, in a very sensitive young woman, with the cm. potency held between the fingers ! We must confess that we have not read the account of this heroic proving, as we could not conscientiously incorporate it in our treatise. However, any one interested in this curiosity can find a report of it in the Proceedings of I. H. A. Transactions, and also in The Medical Advance, March, 1892, in which number also Dr. Allen's arrangement of his proving can be found. A carefully prepared differential diagnosis of the phosphates from the imperfect materials, then in hand by the late Dr. Samuel Lilienthal, can be found in the Transactions of the American Institute of Homoeopathy for 1890. The drug merits more extended, careful provings with all potencies.

Dose & Administration: The lower potencies seem to work best; thus the 2x or 3X in asthma is recommended by Schussler. However, the higher, 6x and 12x, and high potencies have all been employed with success.

Relationship: Probably the nearest analogues are Rhus tox. and Phosph., with which it has many symptoms in common. The nervous symptoms of Pulsat. seem to depend on the amount of Kali

phos. present. The peculiar mental state of Pulsat. is also found under this remedy. Phytol. also has many symptoms in common with Kali phos. Compare the sciatica. Ignat., too, probably contains Kali phos., as the hysterical symptoms are nearly identical. Kali phos. in its actions as a nerve sedative is related to Ignat., Coffea, Hyoscy., Chamom. In menstrual headaches compare Zinc, Cimicif., Gelsem., Cyclamen, etc. In bladder troubles Kali phos. Often finds a complementary remedy in Magnes. phos., the latter corresponding more to the spasmodic affections, while Kali phos. more to the paralytic symptoms. In incipient paralysis of the brain, when nephritic irritation accompanies, compare Zinc, phos. In hemorrhages, bright or dark red, thin, watery, not clotted, follow Kali phos. by Natr. mur., also Nitr. ac. After weakening diseases, the French variety of mushrooms, which contain large quantities of Kali phos., restore the muscles more quickly than anything else. In its disordered mental conditions compare Cyclam., which frequently corrects the abnormal, dreamlike, mental state of the insane. Compare Kali mur. in puerperal fever. In post-diphtheritic complaints compare Lachesis, Caust. In the gangrenous conditions compare Kali chlor.

Side Effects: No significant side effect has been observed in proper dosage.

Contraindication: There is no known contradiction.

Use in Pregnancy: The safety of Kalium Phosphoricum in pregnancy has not been studied. Therefore it should be used with caution during pregnancy. Use as per Physician Advice.

Storage: Keep out of reach of children. Keep away from direct sunlight. Store in a cool and dry place.

Presentation:

Power: 3x, 6x, 12x, 30x, 60x, 200x.

Pack Size: 30 gm in PET bottle, 100 gm & 450 gm in Container.

References:

1. The Twelve Tissue Remedy of Dr. Wilhelm Heinrich Schuessler.
2. Homeopathic Materia Medica by Dr. William Boericke
3. Systemic Materia Medica by K.N. Mathur