

## Margaret Burgess Webster

### 1939 - Pyrogen

“The compilation which I am making of *Pyrogen* is too long for reading at this meeting. Before turning it over for publication I am anxious to have the clinical data as complete as possible and I am asking every member here to give any personal experience with this remarkable remedy.

CASE I. - Woman age 75. Faecal impaction following a broken hip; abdomen enormously distended; *tongue red as if varnished; breath very offensive; enemata unavailing; Pyrogen 50m.*

CASE II. - Relapse from influenza with severe chill; temperature 105; *sensation as if legs were in a vise and were being screwed tighter and tighter*, had to grit teeth in order to endure pain; great restlessness; *sensation as if legs were all over the bed*, legs lying crosswise and lengthwise.

*Pyrogen 500* with prompt relief and speedy cure.

CASE III. - Infected foot; acute throbbing pain; foot red and swollen; *restless*, tossing about in bed or *walking the floor for hours at night; mouth dry as parchment; great thirst.*

CASE IV. - Under "old school" treatment for three weeks; semi-comatose, roused with difficulty, then very slow in answering questions and then only in monosyllables, dropping again into stupor; pulse 106 to 120; persistently lying on right side with knees hanging over edge of bed and hands under head; when coughing profuse yellow, blood streaked sputum dropped from mouth into vessel; tongue thickly coated yellow; mouth sore; breath offensive; abdomen distended and sensitive; consolidation at base of lungs; incessant cough; constant moaning; PROFUSE DRENCHING PERSPIRATION OVER ENTIRE BODY; RESTLESS.

*Pyrogen 50M.*, one dose; in ten days the patient was up and walking about.

CASE V. - Septic metritis. Dreadful unbearable headache with sensation as if a string extended down back to lumbosacral region drawing the two together; mentally half dazed, with sinking spells as if "drifting away". Violent chill lasting half an hour, with *sensation as if a dog had hold of her nipples biting, gnawing and pulling* as hard as he could, or as if a string were wrapped around nipples and pulled, the pain was so intense she screamed in agony. *Drenching sweat*, the bed and clothing were as wet as if a bucket of water had been thrown over her; temperature 102; tongue thick yellow coating; constantly spitting thick white cotton-like mucus; *thirst intense, burning*, for small quantities of water and for ice. Sore as if pounded all over; eyeballs sore on moving them; abdomen very sore to touch. DREADFUL ANXIOUS RESTLESSNESS. Uterus enlarged and sensitive; vaginal examination produced severe pain in the head.

*Pyrogen 50 M.* was given with prompt relief of all symptoms; temperature dropped to normal, but on the second day at 11 a. m. she had another chill lasting fifteen minutes with return of pain in nipples, headache, *anxiety, thirst and sweat.* "My mouth burns and the tips of my fingers burn like fire; give me water, give me ice," she wailed. Eyes glassy, abdomen sensitive, general soreness.

Another dose of *Pyrogen 50 M.* was given, all symptoms promptly subsiding, but no uterine contractions were set up.

Six hours later the uterus was emptied of a two and a half months macerated foetus and the patient made an uninterrupted recovery without return of symptoms. This case was

particularly interesting because all the symptoms disappeared even while the cause of the sepsis was still present.

CASE VI. - Woman age 73, never strong, had been making a good recovery from a bronchopneumonia under *Sulphur* and later *Calc. carb.*, when she suddenly became worse; respiration shallow, labored and rattling; seemed too weak to cough although there was some yellow blood streaked expectoration; restless, anxious, wanted air; *intense thirst*, although water caused burning in stomach; temperature 98, pulse very irregular, almost impossible to count, but about 140; the patient seemed nearing the end.

*Pyrogen 30* was given two hours apart for six doses.

Reaction was prompt and unmistakable, the pulse and strength improved; the cough became easy with large quantities of offensive purulent sputum.

*Pyrogen 50m.* was given later and the patient was discharged in excellent condition.

CASE VII. - Heat exhaustion during the course of a chronic interstitial nephritis; temperature normal; pulse 110; restless; anxious; intense thirst, but could retain nothing on stomach.

Not only did her acute symptoms disappear under *Pyrogen* but her general condition greatly improved.”

(Margaret Burgess Webster, M.D., *Pyrogen*, *The Homoeopathic Recorder* vol. 55 (1939), p. 12-15. Read by title before I. H. A., Bureau of Materia Medica, June 17, 1938)