



## **Memo to Mighty Members Tip #184**

### **ANSWER: Resource Discrepancies**

**December 7, 2023**

“When you find a remedy under a particular rubric in the repertory but then don’t find that keynote in the text of the *materia medica* entry, do you believe the repertory or the *materia medica*?”

I received that interesting question from one of you, and I’m betting more than one of you have wondered the same thing.

My friends, it’s not a matter of who you believe. It’s not that one is right and the other is wrong. Instead, it’s simply a matter of how many details have been included in each reference book. There is no way that every repertory and *materia medica* can cover every single thing. They’d be so thick you wouldn’t be able to lift them!

That’s why it’s essential to reference more than one resource. I’d say we should utilize a *minimum* of two — more if you have them — because some of our reference books are deliberately abridged.

For instance, when I was writing [A Materia Medica: Practical Homeopathy® for Busy Families](#), I had no intention of including every homeopathic medicine. That would have confused people. Instead, I chose the 150 or so top medicines that would be most useful in everyday life.

The great masters of homeopathy — Phatak, Boericke, Bönninghausen, etc. — who wrote repertories and *materia medica* probably considered the same thing.

However, most often, the keynotes — the most commonly noted characteristics highlighted in bold — will be included in both books. But if they're not, don't have doubts. Not every little thing can be mentioned, referenced and cross-referenced. You're not going to find it all!

In fact, how do we even know that there aren't additional undiscovered medicines or conditions that are not included? The repertories and *materia medica* are works in progress, organically developing as more information from provings and clinical experience are gathered.

I'd love to tell you that there's a perfect pathway to count on one hundred percent. But not much in life has that level of "absoluteness" to it, especially in human health. That's what keeps us searching and improving over time.

With that in mind, I will say that Dr. Robin Murphy's "[MetaRepertory](#)" and "[Nature's Materia Medica](#)" (both in the Fourth Edition) are some of the most comprehensive I've seen. They're over 2,300 pages each! But even so, occasionally, the cross-referencing may not match precisely. But that's okay. What's not included in one is probably included in the other.



That's why we use both a repertory and *materia medica*. I'd even refer to other homeopathy reference books if you have them. These resources all hold valuable information that should be taken under advisement.

For the layperson, repertorizing can appear to be a daunting task at first blush. However, it's a skill that can be developed through education. I cover the basics of utilizing repertories and *materia medica* in my [Gateway to Homeopathy II study group curriculum](#) (available after one has completed [Gateway I](#)). And, naturally, we take a profound dive into their usage in [The Academy of Practical Homeopathy®](#) and Mastery™.

However, no matter your current educational level, reading and rereading these grand resource books will help you develop a feel for their cadence. Just remember, when you're ready, I've provided a well-trodden path to broaden your understanding.

It really comes down to what I've said so many times before: Read, read and then read some more! Your best determinations will come when you synthesize as much information as you can get your hands on. Who knows? After years of intense study and clinical work, YOU may be the one to discover something new!

Stay Mighty!



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Links:\*

A *Materia Medica*: Practical Homeopathy® for Busy Families — <http://joettecalabrese.com/mm>

Dr. Robin Murphy's "MetaRepertory" — <https://lotushealthinstitute.com/store/books/146-metarepertory-4th-ed.html>

Dr. Robin Murphy's "Nature's Materia Medica" — <https://lotushealthinstitute.com/store/books/177-natures-materia-medica-4th-edition.html>

Gateway to Homeopathy II study group curriculum — <https://membership.joettecalabrese.com/gateway-2-info-new/>

Gateway to Practical Homeopathy I — <https://membership.joettecalabrese.com/gateway-1-info-new/>

The Academy of Practical Homeopathy® — <https://academyofpracticalhomeopathy.com/>

\*We provide external links for your convenience, but we do not receive any remuneration nor affiliation in payment from your purchases on other sites.



**If you have questions regarding this Memo to Mighty Members, please post them in the [Mighty Members' Discussion Group](#) in Joette's Social Center rather than contacting my office.**

**Other Mighties may have the same question, and by utilizing the forum, my team members can provide the answer to everyone. Plus, you might benefit from the conversation your question sparks!**

If you have any tips to share, please send them to my team member [tracey@practicalhomeopathy.com](mailto:tracey@practicalhomeopathy.com). She will compile them for me, and you might see your advice shared with our group — with proper credit given, of course! However, please send tips and suggestions only; we cannot answer questions at this email address.

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