Prevention and Treatment of Allergies and other Adverse Reactions to Bee Products

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The best doctor is the one that can eliminate or neutralize the causes of the „causes“...!

What are the main causes of the adverse reactions and allergies to bee products?
Who or what is responsible for the adverse reactions/allergies/anaphilactic shocks?

- the bee product itself?
- the beekeeper/producer?
- the patient/customer?
- the medical doctor/therapist?
One possible cause of the adverse reactions is related to the quality and/or quantity of the used bee product.

- **Poor quality** (inappropriate processing and storage that leads to the presence of various un-wanted or even toxic substances or micro-organisms inside the bee products)
• **Too large quantity** taken from the very beginning due to inadequate description written on the commercial label, in the leaflets and/or in Internet on how to take/use the bee product;

   example:

   “*take our bee pollen, before meals, 3 teaspoons a day*”
• this kind of recommendation (“*take our bee pollen, before meals, 3 teaspoons a day*”) may lead to intolerances, adverse reactions of up to 50% of the customers that are taking for the first time in their life a bee product like bee pollen;

• as a result, the beekeeper/re-seller may loose up to 50% of his/her new potential clients due to a simple mistake present on the label of his/her products...

[too much]

before meals = € € € +
What to do in order to prevent such negative situations both for the customer and the producer/seller?
• Allow the **digestive tract** and the **immune system** to **accustom** to the new food/remedy at least a couple of weeks before reaching the normal/therapeutic doses; it is wiser to write on the labels of all bee products, among other information, a general sentence like this:
“If you are using this product for the first time in your life, we strongly recommend you to take it during the first 2-3 weeks in small doses, after the meals, well diluted in water at least 30 minutes before swallowing it.

Once you are accustomed with our product, you can increase gradually its dose up to a level that gives you maximum of satisfaction/benefits”.
Why some people are allergic/sensitive to well-made bee products and others are not?

- Insufficient internal anti-allergic mechanisms (especially weak/overstressed adrenal glands)
- Aggravating factors
  - other allergies (to foods, drugs, etc.) are present
• Other medical problems?
  – Lungs, immune system, kidneys, but also liver, endocrine and nervous system with various degrees of weaknesses or dis-functionalities;

  – Inappropriate use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAID) TOGETHER with working in the apiary (and thus receiving bee stings) or receiving BVT (Bee Venom Therapy)
So, other category of causes is related to the patient, seen as a person with other medical problems.
1) History of various intolerances and allergies to other foods and/or remedies.

A person that is for example already allergic to various foods (milk, eggs, peanuts, fish, sea food, etc.) or other allergens (drugs, airborne pollen, etc.), has a 2 to 10 times higher risk to be allergic or at least intolerant to most of the bee products! (Müller, 2009)
2) **Weaknesses** in the body that can be caused by: wrong diet, bad lifestyle, not enough good sleep, over stress, problems in the vertebral column due to lifting too often of heavy (honey) loads, etc.

Before you go working in your apiary or start taking/using a bee product, especially bee venom, check with your family physician and your local/regional allergist if you have any of the following weaknesses:
Weaknesses/Disorders in the Immune & Respiratory Systems?

White blood cells

Capillary
Weaknesses in the **Kidneys** and **Adrenal glands** area?

- **Kidneys**
- **Right Adrenal gland**
Weaknesses in the Vertebral Column area?

Too many and/or too heavy beehives?

Weak vertebral column?
Weaknesses in the Nervous & Endocrine Systems?

Brain

Hipothalamus & the hypophysis system
Weaknesses in the Cardiovascular System?
The wise men says that „Prevention is always better than treatment!“

So, what do we need to do in order to prevent unpleasant or dangerous situations?
Start thinking to create in your own company/apiary/office/shop a set of Rules and Principles in order to be able to PREVENT and if necessary TREAT any adverse reaction!
Advise all your clients to always start taking the bee products (raw or processed) in the smallest possible doses in order to test for any possible intolerance or adverse reaction.
Detox the body for at least 3-4 weeks before entering into an apiary or using bee venom therapy!
Bee products and herbs good to detox the liver
Bee products and herbs good to help the heart and the c.-v. system
Bee products and herbs good to detox the lungs
Bee products and herbs good to detox and help the kidneys
How to test for a possible allergy?

• Through 3 simple tests:
  – Forearm skin test
  – Sublingual-mouth mucosa test
  – Stomach mucosa test
How to test for a possible allergy?

Forearm skin test

• First with the raw, then with the processed preparation/product
How to test for a possible allergy?

Sublingual-mouth mucosa test

• First with diluted raw bee product, then with diluted preparation/product

• Second with non-diluted preparation/product
How to test for a possible allergy?

Stomach mucosa test

- First with diluted raw bee product, then with diluted final preparation/product, after the meals
- Second with non-diluted raw and processed product, after the meals, then second or third test day, before meals
The final dose of each bee product must be ideally established with accuracy by the medical doctor/apitherapist, according to the age, weight, general/local condition of each patient, time of use, etc.
In case you give/receive BVT, the *time* of treatments should be elected in harmony with the *biorhythms* of the body;

Best time for BVT (Bee Venom Therapy) is in the morning, between 6-9 a.m., when the functioning of the adrenal glands is at its maximum)
REMEDIES for Bee Venom
ADVERSE REACTIONS
What kind of reactions can we expect after a bee sting?

- **mild or normal reactions**
- **moderate reactions!**
- **severe reactions!!!**
• **Mild or normal reactions** include:
  
  – redness
  – mild swelling and
  – heat in the area of the sting.
Recommended treatment in case of **mild reactions** that occurs to non-patients

**STEP 1:**

Eliminate the stinger and its bee venom sack from the skin in a correct manner
Step 2

Clean the area of the sting(s) with water and soap, then apply an ice cube or cold compress;
Step 3
Use of natural anti-inflammatory and antihistaminic remedies like:

Propolis Cream or Soft Propolis Extract
Propolis Spray: apply to the skin
Propolis Tincture + Honey + Tea
5-10 drops of tincture, 3 - 4 times per day to be used externally and/or taken internally + honey and several cups of tea (or warm water)
Cataplasms of fresh or dried leaves from:

* *Plantago lanceolata* and/or *Plantago major* leaves
* Petroselinum sp. (persil) leaves
* Ocimum basilicum (basil) leaves and/or essential oil
* *Salvia officinalis* (sage) leaves
* Tincture of *Urtica dioica* (stinging nettle) diluted with water, 1:1:
* **Citrus bergamia** (Bergamot) oil or herb; (avoid in sunlight!);
* Essential oil of *Lavandula off.* (lavender)
* Gemmotherapy with buds from *Ribes nigrum* (black currant)
Step 4

From the local pharmacy (if still needed):

- **Anti-itch creams** with hydrocortisone (ask for more details your local pharmacist) - apply to the skin in the area of the sting;

- **“Bee Sting Lotion”**: mix 100 ml water + 5 ml vinegar + 5ml salt; apply this solution to the affected area; repeat as needed.
Moderate reactions include:

- fever
- nausea
- fatigue or flu-like symptoms
- rash, itch locally or generalized

- no respiratory, cardiovascular or nervous system life threatening symptoms or signs
Recommended treatment in case of moderate reactions

A) Double dosis of the previous remedies used at mild/normal reactions +
B) Allopathic treatment

– Ask your local pharmacists and/or medical doctors what are the best anti-allergy/anti-histaminic preparations they have.

According to Prof. Dr. med. Ulrich Müller (Bern) best option is to take:
- 2 tablets of an anti-histaminic drug (like Claritine) +
- 2 tablets of a corticosteroid drug like Prednisone, Prednisolone;

• Calcium based preparations;

• the pulse and the blood pressure must be taken every 30-60 minutes; in case of worsening of the situation the hospitalization may be needed.
C) **Complementary** treatment

- Drinking enough **water** to help the cardiovascular and lymphatic systems to clean better;
- Enough and good **sleep** to help the nervous, endocrine and immune system to regenerate better;
- **Vitamin C** ideally from **rosehip fruits**;
- Higher dosis of **propolis tincture** (20-30 drops, 5 times a day);
- acacia **honey** (20-40 grams per day) (to offer enough energy to all anti-allergy mechanisms in the body)
Severe reactions may include:

- Breathing difficulties
- Tachycardia (over 100 heart beats per minute)
- Extreme swelling (locally and all over the body)
- Anaphylactic shock
- Bradycardia (less than 60 heart beats per minute)
- Cardiac arrest >>>> Death…
Recommended treatment in case of *severe reactions*

**STEP 1 (seconds 1-5 from the sting):**

Urgently and correctly eliminate the stinger and its bee venom sack from the skin
STEP 1b:

– Simultaneously with extracting the stinger(s) from the skin, ask your friends or family members to urgently call by (mobile) phone the ambulance, your nearest family doctor or your allergist or contact the nearest medical office!!!

– Be sure to have registered in your own mobile phone these extremely important phone numbers, like “112”
STEP 2 (seconds 5-10 from the stings):

In case of only a few bee stings that can be fast and exactly located, coagulate the bee venom proteins with the help of heat, including by using a cigarette or special electric devices.
STEP 3 (seconds 10-15):

- Block the spreading of the venom towards the heart with the help of a **tourniquet** in case the stings were on the **hands** or on **feet**  +
- Put **ice** on the stung area
Step 4a (seconds 15-20):

a) in case the symptoms are not too acute (respiratory and cardiovascular symptoms), an anti-histaminic drug in liquid form + 2-4 tablets of a corticosteroid must be taken
Step 4b (seconds 20-25): if the symptoms are becoming more dramatic and no ambulance came, self-injectable adrenaline (like “Anakit” or “Epipen”) must be injected in the thigh.
STEP 5:

- Waiting for the ambulance or during the transportation try to block biochemically the circulating bee venom by taking a generous amount of propolis ethanol extract (tincture): 5 ml., diluted in 10-15 ml. of water + 1 teaspoon of honey, every 3-5 minutes
STEP 6:

- Block micro-biochemically the circulating bee venom by taking "Apis", a well known anti-allergic homeopathic remedy
STEP 7:

- Before the patient arrives to the hospital, start stimulating, as strong as possible, but with maximum of calmness, the following acupuncture points that have sympato-mimetic, adrenaline-like effects:
Governing vessel 26
(Renzhong)
Gall bladder 20 (Fengqi)
Large intestine 4 (Hegu)

Kidney 1 (Yongquan)
Urinary bladder 52 (Zhishi)
Bleed the above point with a needle!
(Chinese reflexotherapy method)
Step 8:

• In case of laryngeal spasm, tracheostomy, performed by a medical doctor, may be needed!
Keep in mind that PREVENTION is always better than Treatment, so ask your local allergist or medical doctors specialised in Apitherapy how such life threatening situations should be avoided…!
More information:

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