



## THE ELIMINATION TOOL



The Eliminations Tool is a very easy way to pare down the possible remedies in a case to just a few, by crossing several rubrics to find the remedies common to all rubrics. You can view either the rubrics or the remedies in this window by selecting their respective icons. The Elimination Tool is often used in conjunction with the Limit Menu when drawing a graph. (See Limit Menu)

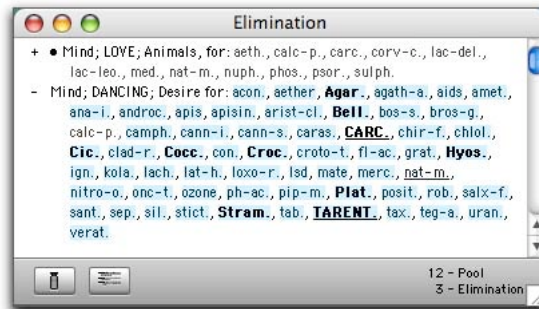
In brief, here is one major homeopathic reason to use the Elimination Tool. While analyzing a case, you collect all the rubrics (symptoms) of the case. Let's say that you have selected 12 rubrics which represent the symptoms. Upon further thought, you conclude that 2 of the symptoms are the ones that are so critical to the whole picture, that the remedy you select must be in both those rubrics. Follow these steps and you will be able to see your whole analysis (all 12 rubrics), but only viewing the remedies that cover the most important rubrics that you have determined the remedy must be in.



## Steps for using the Elimination Tool (in brief)

1. Collect the rubrics for your case in one of the clipboards. Go to the Rubrics menu and select "All Remedies" (either by grade or alphabetical)
2. From the Rubric Clipboard (or Graph, or Repertory) highlight one of your selected rubrics and drag that rubric onto the minus side of the Elimination Tool.
3. Repeat this procedure with the other rubrics that you feel are central to your case.

**Note:** You are not limited to 2 rubrics, you may select any number.



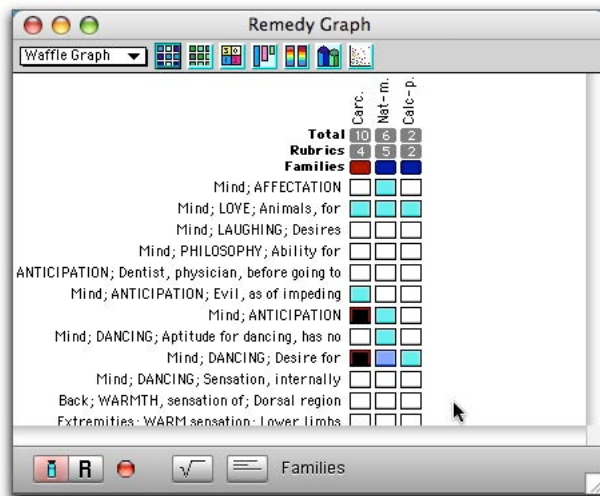
(The highlighted Rubrics are rubrics that have been eliminated)

4. Activate a Graph (by clicking on the Icon Tool Palette Graph icon).

The screenshot shows a window titled "Remedy Graph" with a toolbar at the top. The main area contains a grid with the following columns: Citi-I., Clad-F., Carc., Uran., Ana-I., Mata-I., Hyos., LSD, Tub., and Tracet. The rows are categorized as Total, Rubrics, and Families. The Families section includes: Mind; AFFECTATION, Mind; LOVE; Animals, for, Mind; LAUGHING; Desires, Mind; PHILOSOPHY; Ability for, ANTICIPATION; Dentist, physician, before going to, Mind; ANTICIPATION; Evil, as of impeding, Mind; ANTICIPATION, Mind; DANCING; Aptitude for dancing, has no, Mind; DANCING; Desire for, and Mind; DANCING; Sensation, internally. A context menu is open in the bottom-left corner, listing options: All Remedies, Individual Remedies..., Individual Families..., Polychrests..., **✓ Elimination**, Underline or Stronger, Bold or Stronger, Bold-Underline Only, Save Current Limits..., and Edit Saved Limits...

5. Go to the Limit Menu by clicking on the remedy bottle icon in the lower left hand corner of the graph and select Elimination. This can also be found in the Windows Menu located in the menu bar or by selecting cmd/ctrl 7.

6. The Graph now will display all the rubrics of your case, but show only those remedies that cover your selected rubrics! Now, you can concentrate and do a proper comparative materia medica amongst these remedies.





## THE PARTS

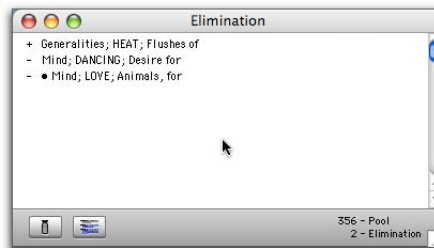
The Elimination Tool has two parts: “Plus” on the left and “Minus” on the right. The Plus side adds together the remedies of any rubrics dragged into it. It “combines” rubrics. The Minus side “crosses” any rubrics with what has been put into the Plus side. Using the Minus side eliminates the remedies between all the rubrics placed into the window and shows what remedies are common to ALL rubrics in the window (both Plus and Minus sides). Said another way, if you put rubrics into the Minus Side, you will be shown only the remedies that are in both rubrics. This technique is often called Crossing Rubrics and is a valuable tool in the analysis of any given case.

## Rubrics

You can put rubrics into the Elimination Tool, by simply clicking on the rubric and dragging it over the tool. You can use rubrics from the Repertory, the Rubrics Clipboard or from a Graph!

Rubrics put in the Plus side have a plus in front of them; those put in the Minus side have a minus.

You can change whether the rubrics are combined or crossed. Click on a rubric and press either the Plus or Minus keys. You will see the symbol before the rubric change.



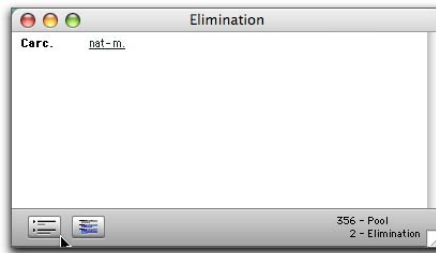


To move a rubric from the Plus side to the Minus side, click on the rubric and press the minus key.

To move a rubric from the Minus side to the Plus side, click on the rubric and press the Plus key.

To remove a rubric from the Elimination, click on it and press the delete key.

To see the Remedies, press the Remedy bottle in the lower left hand corner of the window.



You will notice that the Remedy bottle button has changed appearance to a Rubrics button. Pressing this will take you back to your rubrics list.



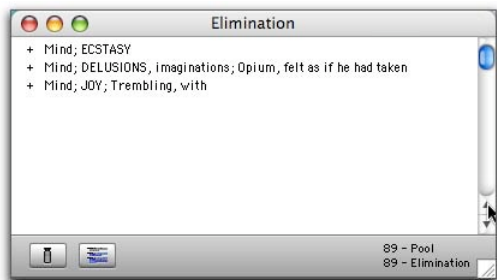
## PLUS/COMBINING

For example, you want to make sure you are covering a symptom that runs through your case but you can not find that perfect rubric. Often there are several rubrics in the repertory that reflect a single symptom in the patient. You want to use all of the remedies from these rubrics in your case, but if you drag them in separately to the clipboard, the strategies may give too much emphasis to that symptom in your graph.

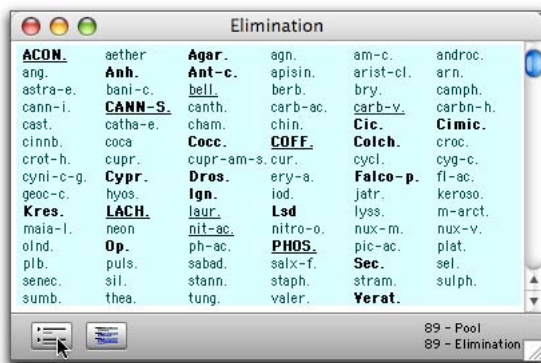
**Note: Be sure to clear the Elimination window before you begin your combining.**

You can combine all of the rubrics into a single rubric using the Elimination Window. This is a very convenient feature to use. You can create one rubric that is sure to contain the simillimum. Place the following rubrics into the Plus side of the Eliminations Window:

- 1) MIND; ECSTASY
- 2) MIND; DELUSIONS, imaginations; opium, felt as if he had taken
- 3) MIND; JOY; trembling, with

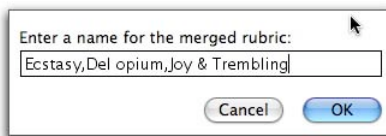


By dragging them all into the Plus side; their 89 remedies are combined together.



To use your combined collection of remedies as a rubric in your clipboard, press the Remedy bottle button, highlight and drag the remedies from the Eliminations Tool to the Rubrics Clipboard.

You will be prompted to name your new collection-



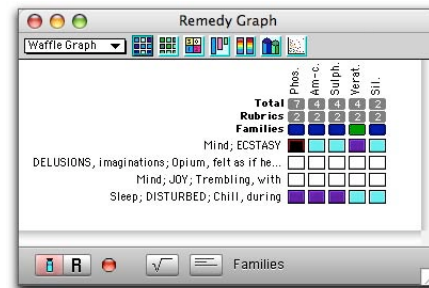
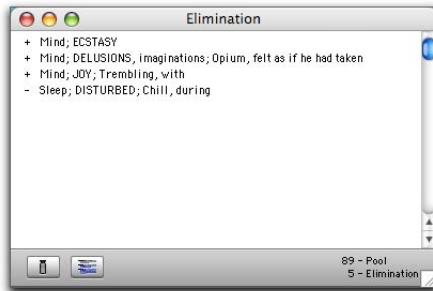
Note: There are other ways of combining rubrics together which may be easier. See the Rubrics clipboard section of this Manual, or the Combining Rubrics page, or use the special new rubrics found in this manual under Special Rubrics Clipboards.



## MINUS/CROSSING

Looking through each of the 89 remedies may be cumbersome. To pare down the pool, you may want to see which of the 89 remedies are ALSO in an indicative Physical symptom found in the case.

Drag "SLEEP; DISTURBED; chill, during" to the minus side. Your results show that there are only 5 common remedies between all four rubrics. The number 5 is in the lower right-hand corner.



As each rubric is placed into the Minus side, the numbers of remedies in the common pool will diminish.

After you have crossed/combined, choose "Elimination" from the Limit menu and your graph will limit itself to display ONLY those remedies found in your Eliminations window. You can see, in the graph above, how well this pool of remedies covered the rest of your case in your clipboard.



## Caution

You have to be careful when crossing rubrics. The assumption is the repertory contains every possible remedy in the rubrics and this is often not true. If the pool of remedies that you choose to eliminate from, or the rubric you use to cross, does not contain the curative remedy, you will be misled!

For example, crossing “Desires ice” with “Obesity” gives you Veratrum as the only common remedy. But because “desires ice” is incomplete, this does not have to be the right remedy at all!

**Note:** If the rubric you are using is central to the case remember you can use ReferenceWorks to increase your pool of remedies. (See exporting rubrics in the ReferenceWorks manual)

Here are some guidelines to help you with the Elimination Tool:

- Choose rubrics that would be vital in any description of the patient’s case.
- Start with a pool in the plus side that is fairly large.
- Choose rubrics to eliminate that have 20 or so remedies and rubrics that would have been found in provings.

The coolest thing to do after you collect your eliminated remedies is to have the Graph reflect only these remedies. The next section of the manual will tell you how to do this.



## Show Eliminated Remedies

For those of you who miss your old fashioned card repertorization where you can see the faint light glowing through the holes, you can view the "Eliminated Remedies" by pressing the second button in the lower left-hand corner of the Elimination window. The eliminated remedies will be highlighted in blue.



## COMBINING RUBRICS FROM THE CLIPBOARD

Perhaps you have a patient who is animated. You can combine the rubrics “MIND; GESTURES, makes; animated, MIND; ANIMATION agg. and FACE; EXPRESSION; animated, evening” into one big, complete rubric.

An easier way to combine rubrics would be to combine them DIRECTLY in the rubrics clipboard rather than using the Eliminations Tool.

1. Drag each of them to a Rubrics' Clipboard.
2. Select them all.
3. Press the Plus key (+).
4. Give the new rubric a name and select “OK”.

Enter a name for the merged rubric:

Cancel OK



5. After you have been asked for, and have given a name for the new, combined rubric you will see your new rubric in the Rubrics's Clipboard. You'll see that your new rubric has seven more remedies than would have been found if you simply took "MIND; GESTURES, makes; animated" by itself.



The original rubrics are still there, and highlighted, but they are "crossed-out" and will not be used to weigh the remedies in your analysis. However, they will still appear in your graph, they are just not being used in your current strategy (for more information, please see your manual section on Strategies.)



Tip: If you want to remove the original rubrics once you have made your new rubric just press delete, since they are currently highlighted.

It is often useful to see the individual rubrics you combined, even though you don't want to use them to determine the analysis.

Tip: In this case you wouldn't delete them. You would sort the rubrics (Rubric Menu/Sort) by Grade and Descending order, the crossed out rubrics are put at the end. Then when you view the waffle graph you can quickly scan the rubrics to see exactly where each remedy was found.

### **How the Remedy Grade in the Elimination Tool is determined**

When several rubrics are added together, the grade of a remedy that is found in more than one rubric in different grades is determined by the Elimination Strategies in the Options/Preferences item. (The default is maximum grade.)

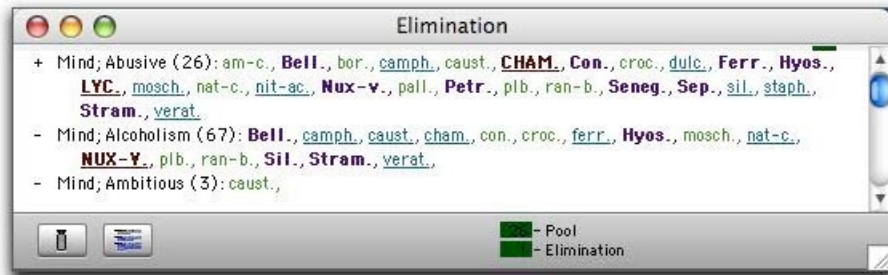


## Progressive Elimination

The point of "eliminating" remedies is to find remedies that run through all of the important rubrics in the case; you "eliminate" any remedies that can't cover the main symptoms. This is a very powerful analysis technique if you select central rubrics that are well represented in the repertory (and the needed remedy is also well represented). Some repertories such as the Complete 2005 and Boenninghausen are well suited to this.

All rubrics put into the Plus side of Elimination are combined into a Pool of remedies; these combined rubrics are always displayed first in the Elimination window and have a plus in front of them. Eliminated rubrics are shown with a minus in front of them in the order they were included. With the rubrics displayed and remedies showing (from the Rubrics menu or pressing cmd/ctrl r) the combined rubrics have all of their remedies displayed.

Now comes the Progressive Elimination part - the Elimination rubrics show only the remedies that are also found in the combined Pool. Each successive Elimination rubric only shows the remedies that are in the previous rubrics. i.e. the number of remedies shrinks with each rubric in accordance with the elimination.



In this example, you can see that the only remedy that is in all three rubrics is Causticum. And you can see that even though Alcoholism has 67 remedies only the 16 found also in Abusive are shown.

To see all of the remedies toggle the button in the lower left of the window.



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+ Mind; Abusive (26): am-c., Bell., bor., camph., caust., CHAM., Con., croc., dulc., Ferr., Hyos.,  
LYC., mosch., nat-c., nit-ac., Nux-v., pell., Petr., plb., ran-b., Seneg., Sep., sil., staph.,  
Stram., verat.  
- Mind; Alcoholism (67): acon., agar., ant-c., ant-t., arg., arn., ARS., asar., Aur., Bell., brv., Calc.,  
camph., caps., carb-v., caust., chem., chin., cic., Cocc., Coff., con., croc., dig., ferr., Graph., hell.,  
hep., Hyos., ign., ip., kali-bi., kali-c., Lach., Laur., Led., mag-c., merc., mez., mosch., nat-c.,  
nat-m., Nux-m., NUX-Y., Op., ph-ac., plb., puls., ran-b., rhod., rhus-t., ruta., sabad., samb.,  
sars., sec., sel., Sil., spig., spong., Stram., sul-ac., Sulph., tarax., valer., verat., zinc.  
- Mind; Ambitious (3): acon., caust., puls.
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Remedies not found in previous rubrics are shaded in blue.

### Tips:

- Up and down arrow keys move the selected rubrics up or down in the Elimination window rubric's list
- Command keys move a selected rubric(s) from the repertory to elimination
- Cmd/ctrl + moves the rubrics from the Repertory or Rubrics Clipboard to the plus side of Elimination.
- Cmd/ctrl - moves the rubrics from the Repertory or Rubrics Clipboard to the minus side of Elimination.
- Dragging a Rubrics' Clipboard icon to the Elimination window creates a super rubric made of the remedies from all of the rubrics.  
(Especially useful when you use Rubrics' Clipboards to hold themes)

Results from a search can be sent directly to the Elimination window.



## **SUMMARY OF THE ELIMINATION TOOL ON THE ICON TOOL PALETTE**

We have discussed the following procedures in this chapter:

1. How to drag rubrics to the Elimination Tool.
2. How to cross 2 or more rubrics.
3. How to combine 2 or more rubrics from the Elimination tool, and from the Rubrics clipboard.
4. How to change the views in the Elimination Tool from Rubrics to Remedies.
5. How to limit the graph to reflect only the remedies in the Elimination Tool.
6. How to do Progressive Elimination
7. How to send your search results to the Elimination Window