

Centre for Integrative Medical Training
In Association with London Integrated Medical Health Education



Pre-membership Course in Medical Homeopathy

A Blended Course in Homeopathic Medicine for Healthcare Professionals

Unit 49

Materia Medica Studies and Therapeutic Pointers for Week 5



Gynae Therapeutics (B) The Vagina



Vaginal Discharge

The healthy vagina is complex environment which, although it requires to be physiologically adaptive, also needs to be immunologically stable. The mucous environment comprises interstitial fluid, epithelial cells, some leukocytes and mixed commensal flora. It is acidic due to lactic acid synthesis by bacillary flora which utilises glycogen produced in the endothelium. The local pH varies in different hormonal phases and with menstruation.

Healthy lactobacilli produce bacteriocins which inhibit the growth of yeasts and pathological flora. The apposition of the vaginal walls, prevents the static loculation of fluids that might harbour infection and normal cervical and vaginal mucus contains immunoglobulins and antibodies which provide important additional protection

The following interfere with the natural defence mechanisms:

- Age: different flora predominates at different times of life, due to the different hormonal states that prevail over time.
- Menses: the secretions are more alkaline at the menses
- Pregnancy: alkalinity of secretions, trauma at delivery
- Oral contraception: oestrogens increase alkalinity of the fluid
Foreign bodies: e.g. forgotten tampons, IUCD
- Diet: poor diet reduces resistance to infections

Inflammatory conditions

Vaginitis usually refers to infection with a identifiable and specific pathogen

- Infection ie *Candida albicans*, *Trichomonas*, *Gardnerella*

Vaginosis usually refers to a dysbiotic state where multiple groups have colonised and where there is no single dominant organism, but the net result is an unhealthy environment characterised by repression of health lactobacilli and other benign non-inflammatory species.

- Cervical ectropion or erosion: an area of columnar epithelium, which usually coats the inside of the cervix, which seems to have extended beyond the boundaries onto the outside of the cervix - remnant of congenital situation or after oral contraception or delivery
- Chronic cervicitis

Some Rubrics

FEMALE GENITALIA leukorrhea, burning
cream-like
thick
thick, white paste
white

Some Remedies

Sulphuric acid
Borax
Mercurius solubilis
Mercurius corrosivus
Arsenicum album
Muric acid
Sabina

Activity:

Look at the Female paragraph in the materia medica descriptions for each of these remedies and identify their differentiating features.

Nosodes:

These are mostly indicted as part of a wider treatment strategy, which might include, for example, vaginal prebiotics, and appropriate pathological prescribing

Bacillus No 10 See Bowel Nosodes from last semester

Candida Nosode

Gardenerella nosode

Trichomonas nosode

Two more important remedies in Vaginitis / Vaginosis which have some additional differentiating features;

Kali chloratum (Potassium chlorate)

fetid grey discharges
tendency to ulceration

Kreosotum (Beechwood Kreosote)

corrosive, itchy vaginal discharge
yellow acrid discharge worse between periods, stains linen yellow
post-coital bleeding



A short **case study**
from Family General
Practice presented by
Dr Mollie Hunton.



Candida albicans

Trichomonas Infection

Some rubrics

Female genitalialeukorrhoea,
burning
brown
frothy
greenish
greenish-yellow
offensive
yellow



Some remedies

Pulsatilla
Nitric acid
Medorrhinum
Sabina
Sepia
Kreosotum
Hydrastis
Sulphur

Refresh your memory regarding the above listed remedies and their peculiar symptoms in respect of the type of discharge they present with.

Carbolic acid

languid, painless, foul, destructive remedy
offensive discharges
cervical erosion
thick discharge leading to itch
pustules around vulva filled with pus

Carbo animalis

staining linen yellow
burning in vagina and labia
thin discharge
uterine cancer

Alumina

inveterate cases,
profuse discharge,
acid, transparent, ropy leukorrhoea
raised itching spots in vagina

GENITO-URINARY INFECTION - Cystitis

 A short presentation on [Recurrent Cystitis treated homeopathically in Family Practice](#) by Dr Mollie Hunton

Dr Hunton refers to the useful rubrics in the repertory. As you watch, have your own repertory open and locate the rubrics as she describes them.

