



Scope Of Homoeopathic Medicines In The Management Of Acute And Chronic Cervicitis

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ABSTRACT

Cervicitis, inflammation of the cervix, presents a significant health problem worldwide, affecting women of reproductive age. This article provides a comprehensive overview of cervicitis, encompassing its etiology, clinical manifestations, diagnostic methods, and treatment strategies. Infectious agents, particularly sexually transmitted pathogens such as *Chlamydia trachomatis*, *Neisseria gonorrhoeae*, and herpes simplex virus, are major contributors to cervicitis. Non-infectious causes, including mechanical trauma, chemical irritants, and allergic reactions, also play a role. Symptoms of cervicitis vary widely, ranging from asymptomatic to vaginal discharge, bleeding, dyspareunia, and pelvic pain. Diagnosis typically involves a combination of patient history, physical examination, laboratory testing, and cervical cytology. Timely identification and management of cervicitis are crucial to prevent complications such as pelvic inflammatory disease, infertility, and adverse pregnancy outcomes. Treatment strategies focus on addressing the underlying cause, along with homeopathic medicines and lifestyle modification.

Keywords: Cervicitis, Causes, Complications, Homoeopathy

INTRODUCTION:

According to WHO, Cervical cancer is the fourth most common cancer in women globally with around 660 000 new cases and around 350 000 deaths in 2022.[1]

Countries around the world are working to accelerate the elimination of cervical cancer in the coming decades, with an agreed set of three targets to be met by 2030. The WHO Global strategy defines elimination as reducing the number of new cases annually to 4 or fewer per 100 000 women and sets three targets to be achieved by the year 2030 to put all countries on the pathway to elimination in the coming decades:

- 90% of girls vaccinated with the HPV vaccine by age 15 70% of women screened with a high-quality test by ages 35 and 45.
- 90% of women with cervical disease receive treatment.

Cervical health is a crucial aspect of overall well-being for women, and maintaining proper hygiene plays a pivotal role in preventing various issues. Neglecting cervical health can lead to a range of problems, including infections, inflammation, and even serious conditions like cervical cancer.[2]

One of the primary concerns associated with poor cervical hygiene is the increased risk of infections. Inadequate cleanliness can pave the way for the proliferation of harmful bacteria and viruses potentially leading to conditions such as Cervicitis and PID.

Most of the women in the villages are very shy to discuss menstruation and related complaints even within themselves. Causes of Cervicitis in rural people are Lack of personal hygiene, Not aware of difference between normal and abnormal. At present there has been an increase in cervical cancer among women and most of them are diagnosed at later stages as they are not aware of the condition.

It is essential to be aware of the potential risks and take proactive measures to ensure optimal cervical health.

CERVICITIS

Cervicitis is one of the most common. More than 1 million sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are acquired every day worldwide, the majority of which are asymptomatic. Each year there are an estimated 374 million new infections with 1 of 4 curable STIs: chlamydia, gonorrhoea, syphilis and trichomoniasis[3]. Cervicitis affects almost 80% of women.

Definition:

Infection of endocervix including the glands and stroma.[4]

Types:

1. Acute cervicitis
2. Chronic cervicitis

Acute Cervicitis

Etiology:

- Following childbirth
- Abortion
- Operation on cervix

Causative Organisms:

1. Gonococcus
2. Chlamydia trachomatis
3. Trichomans
4. Bacterial vaginosis
5. Mycoplasma
6. HIV

Pathophysiology:

1. The causative Organisms gain entry into the glands of endocervix and produce acute inflammatory changes.[4]
2. The infection may be localised or spread upwards to involve the tube or sideways involving the parametrium.

Prognosis:

1. It may resolve completely.
2. The infection may spread to involve the adjacent structures or even beyond that.
3. Becomes chronic.

Chronic Cervicitis**Etiology:**

1. N.Gonorrhoea
2. Chlamydia
3. HPV
4. Mycoplasma
5. Bacterial vaginosis

Pathophysiology:

1. The mucosa and the deeper tissues are congested, fibrosed, and infiltrated with leukocytes and plasma cells.
2. The glands are also hypertrophied with increased secretory activity.
3. Some of the gland opening mouths are closed by fibrosis or plugs of desquamated epithelial cells to cause retention cyst - nabothian follicles.

Clinical Features:

1. Mucopurulent discharge
2. Low backache
3. Post coital bleeding
4. Tenderness of vagina

Diagnosis:

1. History taking
2. Pelvic examination
3. Pap smear

Differential Diagnosis[5]:

1. Syphilitic ulcer
2. Tuberculosis of the cervix
3. Carcinoma in situ
4. Cancer cervix

Prevention[6]:

Avoid irritants such as douches and deodorant tampons.

Make sure that any foreign objects you insert into your vagina (such as tampons) are properly placed. Be sure to follow instructions on how long to leave it inside, how often to change it, or how often to clean it.

Make sure your partner is free of any STI. You and your partner should not have sex with any other people.

Use a condom every time you have sex to lower your risk of getting an STI. Condoms are available for both men and women, but are most commonly worn by the man. A condom must be used properly every time.

RUBRICS

From Kent Repertory[7]

Female Genitalia - Inflammation - Cervix
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Mucus, mucous
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Yellow
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Greenish
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Bloody
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Offensive
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Painless
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Profuse
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Thin
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Thick
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Transparent
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Acrid
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Burning
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Albuminous
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Copious
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Cream-like
Female Genitalia - Discharges - Cervix - Frothy

HOMEOPATHIC MANAGEMENT [8]

Thuja Occidentalis

Ailments after: After vaccination suppressed or maltreated gonorrhoea, sexual excess. Chronic cervicitis with a history of suppressed gonorrhoea. Leucorrhoea: thin, acrid, greenish and excoriating with fishy odour. Low backache, vagina very sensitive, preventing coition. Profuse perspiration before menses. Worse night, cold and damp air, heat of bed.

Sulphuricum Acidum

Ailments from: Surgical operations, during climacteric. Cervicitis with leucorrhoea which is acrid and burning especially during climacteric age, milky or transparent Metrorrhagia after intercourse. Worse open air, cold, touch, pressure; better by warm applications.

Arsenicum Album

Ailments after: Alcoholism, ptomaine poisoning, dissecting wounds, chewing tobacco, ill effects from decayed food or animal matter. Cervicitis with hypertrophy and elongation of cervix. Oedematous swelling of the genitalia. Syphilitic ulcers of the endocervical region with burning pain. Pain: burning like fire, as from red hot wires. Leucorrhoea: acrid, excoriating, burning, offensive, worse standing. Worse mid-day and mid-night, cold; better by warmth.

Hydrastis Canadensis

Cervicitis with leucorrhoea; thick, yellowish, ropy, hanging from os in long strings; worse after menses
Endocervicitis, sometimes associated with metrorrhagia or intermenstrual bleeding. Inflammation of cervix with heat and itching of vagina. Vagina sore, prevents coition. Tendency to malignant conditions with marked derangement of gastric and hepatic functions. Worse warmth, night; better rest, open air, cold in general

Nitricum Acidum

Ailments after: Syphilis, abuse of mercury. Cervicitis with multiple ulcers in the endocervix, cervix looks angry red with sloughs on it. Leucorrhoea: brown, flesh coloured, watery or stringy, offensive Menses: early, profuse, like muddy water. Hair on genitals falls out. Pain appears and disappears quickly. Worse touch, motion, night, cold; better by warm covering and hot applications.

Mercurius Solubilis

Ailments from: Suppressed gonorrhoea, suppressed foot sweat. Chronic cervicitis with itching and burning; worse after urinating; better washing with cold water. Leucorrhoea: acrid, excoriating, greenish, bloody Menses: profuse with abdominal pain. Sensation of rawness in parts. Formation of multiple boils in and around the genitalia. Worse night, heat of bed, perspiration, damp wet weather.

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