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Role of viperid group of medicine in menopausal syndrome

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Abstract

Menopause is the stage in woman's life when her ovaries permanently stop producing ova and estrogen leading to the outburst of transitional symptoms. The belief is that this "change of life" is largely filled with negative experiences, which are attributed to the social and personal circumstances and not the endocrine events of menopause. Viperids group of medicine have been attributed for different complains related to menopause and other diseases in life of women. Menopause symptoms range from psychological to gynecological during different stages and viperids are found to cover the whole array of such symptoms, during this assessment moreover Kent's repertory / Murphy's repertory is found to be of much useful in selecting rubric according to homeopathic mode of symptoms totality.

Keywords: Menopausal syndrome, climacteric, gonadotropin, viperids

Introduction

Climacteric is the phase in the aging of women marking the transition from the reproductive phase to the non reproductive state. This phase incorporates the peri- menopause by extending for a longer variable period before and after the peri- menopause. It generally occurs around 50-51 years of age but can happen anywhere from 40 - 65 years of age. About one in five women residing in India are likely to experience menopause by the age of 41, according to a study conducted by India based Institute for social and economic change, London's Times reports. Research has shown that 20% women report distressing symptoms at menopause, 15% do not have any problem and the remaining 65% have variation of symptoms. By the year 2025, the World Health Organization estimates that 1.1 billion women will be aged 50 or over.

The Viperid drugs are prepared from the venom of a poisonous snake called common European adder or the common European viper. This snake belongs to a poisonous species of snake that is very wide spread. Viperid drugs acts very well during the transitional period of menopause in order to balance hormone level. Viperids acts on the nerves, circulation, brain, liver and glands with haemorrhagic diathesis and melancholic temperament. As viperids are the haemotoxins they affects the blood and blood vessels, conducting to haemorrhage and inflammation of the vessels themselves. They control abnormal vaginal bleeding along with other symptoms like debility and prostration, constructiveness, hypersensitiveness, irritability, sudden emotional disturbance, 0edema, palpitation and paralytic feeling which are very commonly seen in today's menopausal women. The correctly chosen remedy among the viperids drugs can work quickly for menopausal symptoms like menorrhagia and other complaints.

Stages of menopause

Stage I: From the earliest perimenopausal symptom (usually vasomotor instability or menstrual irregularity) to menstrual cessation (menopause). The stage can last from 3 to 5 years.

Stage II: "Five years after menopause". This stage is further subdivided into stage IIA and Stage IIB

Stage IIA: "From the cessation of menstruation up to 1 year" (that is up to confirmation at menopause by WHO definition). The main symptoms of menopause during this stage are vasomotor instability and urethral syndrome.

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Stage IIB: From end of stage IIA up to four years. The common issues here are: a). Atrophic symptoms, vaginitis, dyspareunia. b). Urinary symptoms. c). Weight gain d). Skin and hair changes. e). Genital prolapse. f). Late psychological symptoms. g). Sexual disorders.

Stage III: "From 5 years after menopause up to an indefinite period; probably life time". These are divided into the following:

IIIA - Residual atrophic symptoms.

IIIB - Stage of Ischemic Heart Disease and early osteoporosis. IIIC - Very late complications like cerebrovascular changes and Alzheimer's disease.

Symptoms Associated With Menopausal Syndrome:

- Vasomotor symptoms hot flushes and sweating.
- 2. Psychological symptoms - depression, irritability, fatigue and insomnia.
- 3. Urinary symptoms - symptoms like frequency, urgency, stress incontinence and rarely retention of urine.
- 4. Sexual symptoms - Vaginal atrophy and dryness of vagina can cause dyspareunia in 1/3rd of postmenopausal women.
- 5. Perimenopasual bleeding Appearance ofdysfunctional uterine bleeding.

Menopausal symptoms are conveniently divided into two groups

- Acute symptoms associated with immediate imminent cessation of menses.
- Late symptoms that appear after some years of menopause.

Diagnosis of Menopausal Syndrome Diagnosis of menopause is approached by means of

Clinical features suggestive of irregular menstrual

- function, amenorrhoea, hot flushes, sleep disturbance, sexual function abnormality etc.
- Hormonal changes few years prior to menopause ii. there is a significant fall in the level of serum estradiol from 50-300 pg/ml before menopause to 10-20 pg/ml after menopause. Gonadotropin levels greater than 30 mlu/ml are typically diagnostic of menopause, with the ratio of FSH to luteinizing hormone (LH) being greater than 1.
- iii. Investigatory procedures like endometrial sampling, vaginal ultrasound, hysteroscopy.

Homoeopathic approach

According to homoeopathic concept of disease, the alteration of this morbid state can only be accomplished by an agent which causes such morbid state in healthy individual. Viperids drugs acts very well during the transitional period of menopause in order to balance hormone level. Viperids acts on the nerves, circulation, brain, liver and glands with hemorrhagic diathesis and melancholic temperament. As viperids are the haemotoxins they affects the blood and blood vessels, conducting to haemorrhage and inflammation of the vessels themselves. They control abnormal vaginal bleeding along with other symptoms like debility and prostration, constrictiveness, hypersensitiveness, irritability, sudden disturbance, edema, palpitation and paralytic feeling which are very commonly seen in today's menopausal women. The

correctly chosen remedy among the viperids drugs can work quickly for menopausal symptoms like menorrhagia and other complaints.

Characteristic Mental Symptoms of viperids

- Anxiety, mental excitement and fear. Fear is basic mental feature, it leads to nervous depression.
- Loquacity: They are compelled to talk continuously. They jump from one topic to the other without any connection.
- Suspicious, there is a fear of being poisoned. These people are suspicious because of their survival instincts.
- Delirium, muttering.
- Irritable and Ouarrelsome.
- Misanthropy
- Greedy, jealous, quarrelsome, malicious and always playing dirty tricks.
- Desire solitude

Characteristic physical symptoms of viperids

- Hemorrhagic diathesis, blood dark red and oozes profusely from every orifice of the body.
- Dark red blood which changes rapidly to purplish color.
- Petechial hemorrhage or spots seen
- All viperids are left side except crotalus.
- Pain in all viperids go from left to right except crotalus.
- Hypersensitiveness is a marked feature of all viperids specially to slight noise or touch, to motion, to cover and to walk on floor. Cannot wear tight clothes and tight bandages around neck and waist.
- Debility and prostration.
- Constructiveness: choking sensation due to irritation of pneumogastric nerve.
- Dryness of the skin, inability to sweat.
- Discharges are very offensive, profuse, bloody and dark. Suppression of these discharges gives rise to the complaints.

Viperid drugs in menstural and menopausal complaints

- Borthrops: The diagonal course of symptoms is marked. Slight shivering followed by very profuse cold sweat. Metrorrhagia, mental confusion.
- 2. Crotalus horridus: Flushing and sinking of menopause. Breathing difficult sensation as if larynx constricted. Perspiration profuse during menopause.
- 3. Crotalus cascavella: Intermitting metrorrhagia (vermilion- coloured). Anxiety, mental confusion.
- 4. Cenchris contortrix: Restlessness and sense of suffocation; palpitation; sensation of dying. Must lie with head drawn back, she chokes so. Tight clothing unbearable. Pain in r.ovary. Menstrual flow very profuse; light with dark clots.
- 5. Lachesis: In females who never get well from the change of life." have never felt well since that time"; may have unnatural unwell periods. During change of life, where she has flashes of heat all day, and cold flashes on retiring at night.
- **Toxicophis:** Palpitation, pulse full, perspiration, A peculiar feature is that the symptoms of pain and fever recurred annually at exactly the same period for many years with decreasing intensity each year.
- 7. Vipera torva: Haemorrhagic tendency. Epistaxis.

Anxiety, confusion, bursting feeling after mental exertion.

Some of the rubrics found in Kent's repertory for menopausal syndrome are

- 1. MIND irritability: crot-h., lach.,
- 2. MIND mood agreeable: lach.,
- 3. Female Genitalia menopause: crot-h., Lach.
- 4. Female Genitalia menses copious menopause, during: lach.
- Female Genitalia metrorrhagia climacteric period: Lach
- 6. Perspiration sudden: *crot-h*.
- 7. Generalities heat- flushes of: crot-h., Lach.

Some of the rubrics found in Robin Murphy's repertory for menopausal syndrome are

- Breathing difficult- constriction, of, larynx: CROT-H., LACH.
- CHEST congestion, chest, hyperemia of, menopause, at: LACH.
- CONVULSION general, menopausal, period, during: lach.
- FAINTING menopausal, period, during: crot-h., LACH.
- 5. FEMALE menopause, period, ailments, from: *crot-h.*, LACH., vip.
- 6. FEMALE bleeding, uterus, metrorrhagia: BOTH-L, *cean*, crot-c., CROT-H., LACH.
- FEMALE menopause, period, ailments, from: CROT-C., crot-h., LACH.
- 8. FEMALE pain, ovaries: cench., crot-h., LACH.
- 9. MIND anxiety, general: cench., crot-c., crot-h., lach., vip.
- 10. PULSE full: crot-c., crot-h., lach., toxi., vip.

Discussion

Menopause not only causes physical difficulties but also mental and social problems for females in old age and it is very important for half of the population to have a smooth transition so that they can contribute fully. Homeopathy and especially viperids are found to be pretty useful in alleviating such symptoms of menopausal syndrome improving the quality of life of females at such an important juncture of their life.

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