



Cases From Our Heritage-Uterine Disorders

Fraxinus-americana or White Ash is a forest tree growing rapidly to a height of 60-80 feet and often rises more than 40 feet without a branch. It is found chiefly in northern USA and Canada and is a valuable wood. The trunk is covered with a gray, furrowed and cracked bark. It is the bark which is used medicinally. Rademacher and Burnett found this remedy very useful in uterine problems. It is the so-called "medicinal pessary" in cases of hypertrophy or enlargement of the uterus, where there is heavy menses and profuse leucorrhoea; when bearing down and drawing pains of the loins are present. Even when a myoma or fibroid tumour with painfulness and heaviness of the uterus, is found, *Fraxinus-americana* is one of the important remedies to be considered." (Dr Dorothy Shepherd). Dr Burnett and Dr Dorothy Shepherd had cited several cases where this remedy had proved curative in uterine fibroid and other uterine problems. Some cases briefly presented below.

CASE 1: EXCESSIVE ENLARGEMENT OF UTERUS

A lady, aged 38, consulted Dr Burnett for a hugely atrophied uterus and it occupied so much space that she could prop it up with a pessary only with great difficulty. The allopathic doctors whom she consulted, were of the uniform opinion that surgical removal of uterus was the only solution. The lady was not interested in operation. The womb had been curetted and cauterized by surgeons in the past. The patient, except for the huge uterus, seemed to be healthy in other respects. Dr Burnett persuaded her to postpone the operation, scheduled next day, for a week, to try Homoeopathy. He prescribed *Fraxinus-amer* Q 5 drops in water three



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times a day. In a week she was improving and so the operation was further postponed. Medication continued; dose increased to 10 drops TDS. In 7 weeks the womb diminished to its normal size and gravitated back to its normal place. The history revealed that the lady had taken a lot of quinine and was very cold and chilly, which were set right by *Natrum-mur* 6. To remove the ill effects of earlier vaccinations, *Thuja* was prescribed after *Fraxinus*. The lady was so well after this, that she could walk long distances without discomfort.

- BEST OF BURNETT - CHITKARA, PG 675

CASE 2: SUBINVOLUTED UTERUS WITH BACKACHE

A young woman, after giving birth to a dead child, became very weak from profuse haemorrhage. Her womb was found to be very enlarged and she had severe backache. She had consequently lost weight and her inguinal glands were also found enlarged. Dr Burnett prescribed *Tuberculinum* and in 3 weeks the haemorrhage entirely ceased. Then the lady was given *Fraxinus-americanus* Q, 6 drops in water TDS, as the organ remedy for her enlarged womb, for some weeks, which reduced considerably the size of her womb. Later she was prescribed *Saw-palmetto* Q and later *Quassia* Q which restored her health completely.

- BEST OF BURNETT

Dr Dorothy Shepherd has also cited 5 cases where she successfully used this remedy for fibroids in uterus.

CASE 3: UTERINE FIBROIDS

A young woman in her early thirties consulted Dr Shepherd for diagnoses of uterine fibroids for which surgery was advised. As she was a nervous person and already under psychological treatment, it was felt that she might not be able to stand the operation. At this stage she consulted this doctor. She also had haemorrhage and bearing down pains. She was put on



Fraxinus Q – five drops a dose three times a day and was to be seen at monthly intervals. The results were miraculous, in the sense that her periods, which had been irregular –every 6-10 weeks-now came on the scheduled time and dysmenorrhoea improved with each period and the profuse haemorrhage also lessened gradually. In 6 months her fibroid had disappeared completely. This was confirmed by her gynecologist.

Dr DOROTHY SHEPHERD-A PHYSICIAN'S POSY PG 76

CASE 4:

Mrs A, aged 41, was told by her gynecologist that she had several uterine fibroids. Her main trouble was profuse haemorrhage, prolapse of the abdomen and a heavy ante-flexed uterus. After a short course of *Sulphur 6* three times a day for her general constitutional defects, Dr Shepherd prescribed *Fraxinus-a Q* five drop doses three times a day for several months. In one year it was found that the uterine fibroids had disappeared and the uterus, three fingers above the symphysis pubis, had shrunk to normal size. Her general health also improved.

Dr DOROTHY SHEPHERD - A PHYSICIAN'S POSY

CASE 5:

A woman in her forties consulted Dr Shepherd for bleeding from uterine polypus. She was hospitalized for 3 weeks and the scheduled operation could not be done as she was very weak. O/E the uterus was enlarged, bulky with a small cervical polypus. Dr Shepherd put her on *Fraxinus Q* for a month. The bleeding, however, continued and as the patient felt faint and collapsed and the blood was bright red, she was prescribed *Ipecac 30* some doses, which relieved her somewhat. History also revealed that she suffered from flushes and headaches and was extremely loquacious. On this basis she was given *Lachesis*. But she was only slightly better. She was again put on *Fraxinus Q* TDS to diminish the heavy congested uterus. After 2 weeks she was worse than ever; she had a severe attack of haemorrhage again, the blood poured from her

and the patient was emaciated and looked ghastly. She was therefore prescribed *China 1M* twelve doses TDS and told to stop the powders when the bleeding ceased. Thereafter this doctor could not follow up the case due to various reasons. After 3 months the patient met her smilingly and said that her haemorrhage ceased with two powders of *China*. On examination her polypus was gone and uterus was nearly normal. She was followed up regularly thereafter and her periods became normal and she did not need any further dose of *China*.

Dr DOROTHY SHEPHERD, MORE MAGIC OF THE MINIMUM DOSE

CASE 6: CA PYLORUS FROM SUPPRESSED LEUCORRHEA

A woman, 72 y and mother of 6 children, consulted Dr Burnett for insomnia and vomiting. She was diagnosed as having cancer of the pylorus; there was some dullness on percussion in the pyloric region and attacks of dyspepsia came on at night. O/E the womb was very large, introverted and pressing on the bladder and causing much distress, as the patient was not able to pass urine except in the erect position, so as to take the pressure off the bladder. History revealed that the patient had suffered much from leucorrhoea and for a number of years after change of life, she had a bad discharge from the womb which was suppressed through injections.

Dr Burnett prescribed *Thlaspi-bursa-pastoris Q* in 5 drop doses four hourly and later 6 drop doses in water BDS. The patient was restored to full health in a short time and no other remedy was needed in her case. "My choice of this remedy was because it is very apt to set up uterine discharge and it is most certainly a uterine medicine. Moreover, it seemed to me, from the patient's narration that the nature of the case was gouty rather than cancerous; there had been a gouty catarrh of the endometrium; this was refused outlet as leucorrhoea and so it was reflected back on to the duodenal region."

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**CASE 7: INFERTILITY**

A 28 yr old woman consulted Dr Burnett for her childlessness even though she was married for five years. Her uterus, on examination, seemed to have no cervix at all and she had so far only 17-18 menses since puberty and none for the past 11 months. For 10 years she also had fixed pain in the left side of the abdomen just under the ribs. The pain dated from enteritis of ten years ago, and was constant. She also suffered much from hysteria; was very thin, pale, washed out and above all very depressed.

As there was much dullness on percussion in the painful spleen region, Dr Burnett started the treatment with *Urtica-urens* Q 10 drops in water BDS; initially her pain became much worse, but in four days all pain and swelling had gone. The Rx was continued and at the next follow-up after 3 weeks, the patient said the pain was coming off and on and was relieved by fomentation, for which *Thuja* 30 was given and after 45 days of treatment the patient again complained of pain and hence Dr Burnett gave *Thlaspi* Q 7 drop doses in water twice a day. This remedy restored her menses and the patient felt better. For her painful menses, *Puls* Q 6 drops at bedtime was prescribed. She had her regular periods twice since then and at the next follow-up it was found that her spleen was very large; she was chilly. Rx changed to *Bellis-perennis* Q 10 drop doses in the morning and she conceived after one and half months thereafter. She gave birth to 2 more bonnie children since then.

BEST OF BURNETT, PG 682

CASE 8:

A 25 yr old lady consulted Dr Burnett for her infertility. She was married for two years. Her investigation reports showed that hers was a case of tubular pregnancy, effusion of blood from the fallopian tube, left side, and the doctors opined that it could not be cured without operation. O/E the doctor found a tumid mass in the region of left ovary of the size of a man's fist; the uterus was found to be enlarged and was pulled over to the left; the cervix almost obliterated. The patient's

periods were stated to be normal though she complained of a brownish discharge from vagina in between menses.

The patient's father died of fistula. This was tubercular miasm inherited and a number of her brothers and sisters died in infancy. Dr Burnett therefore prescribed her constitutional correction remedy of *Bacillinum* CC for a month. The lump after one month was much smaller; she however felt sick. She was therefore given *Fragaria-vesca* Q, 5 drop doses night and morning. By the end of the month the brownish discharge entirely ceased. Rx *Sabina* 30; the next period was normal but there was whitish leucorrhoea; lump was still there but smaller. She was prescribed *Arnica* 1X BDS and also one dose of *Bacillinum* CC. In two months her tumour was gone but the womb was still heavy. She was therefore put on Rx *Fraxinus* Q drop doses for a month and by end of next month was discharged as cured.

BEST OF BURNETT P 683

CASE 9: OVARIAN TUMOUR

A 25-year-old woman consulted Dr Gilchrist for the following complaints: She had extreme weakness; cannot walk much on account of that and there was trembling of her legs; worse from heat and warm weather; walks with a bend with the hand supporting the rt side; occasionally a sharp pain like a stab in the pelvic region, obliging her to bend double and causing her to scream and toss about in agony. She also complained of difficulty in breathing during menses and hence was confined to bed during the whole period. In between menses, she had yellow, thick and offensive leucorrhoea; bowels constipated. O/E a well defined tumour in the right iliac fossa, as large as a coconut, elastic but hard and immovable. Uterus was prolapsed and inclined to the left side and the tumour was exerting pressure on the womb. It was causing occasional severe cutting pain. She was under allopathic treatment for these complaints for four years without much relief. She had attacks of colic with bilious vomiting. Dr Gilchrist gave her *Colocynthis* in varying potencies not lower than



200th and the lady was cured in one year. Dr Burnett also cited that Dr Dunham cured a similar case with *Colocynthis*. **QUOTED BY DR BURNETT, PG 587**

CASE: UTERINE FIBROID FROM SILENT GRIEF?

A 28 year old woman consulted Dr Amol Mokashi in January 1994 with the complaint of a fibroid in her uterus measuring 5.1cm x 4.2 cm as revealed by sonography. She had a 40 days menses cycle with profuse bleeding lasting for 6 days. She also complained of low backache agg by bending and lifting things. Thirst was less and desire for fruit, salad and milk; aversion to oily food and fried items; was better in open air. The fibroid was noticed in her 7th month of pregnancy in 1991 and because of it there was premature labour but she delivered a healthy child. No other major illness. History revealed that she lost her mother when she was pregnant and she could not visit her mother, as she was very far away. While narrating the incident, the patient wept; it was found that consolation aggravated and she was fastidious and possessive about her loved ones.

Rx *Natrum-mur* 1M on these symptoms, 2 doses and *Sabina* 30 SOS for bleeding. Later the potency of *Natrum-mur* was increased to 50M in May 1994 and bleeding decreased. In June 94 she again complained of heavy bleeding per vagina; hence Rx *Thlaspi-bursa* 30 two hourly given for two days; bleeding stopped; on 30-6-94, *Natrum-mur* 50M was repeated with sac lac for two months. As the patient complained of severe bright red bleeding on 15th Sept, *Phos* 1M was given with no improvement. The case was therefore reexamined with another sonography test. It revealed another fibroid along with an ovarian cyst on the right side.

The mental make up of the patient was explored. The patient was highly sensitive but mild and submissive. She was being constantly humiliated by her in-laws after marriage. Though she never reacted or retaliated, she was in the habit of brooding over such humiliation and insults. She said: "I cannot stand all this, but I can-

not hurt anyone. I would like to leave them so that all the family members can be happy." She was concerned and worried about her husband and child. The repertorisation of the case on the prominent mental symptoms such as silent grief, AF from death of parent and after effects of mortification; mild and yielding disposition etc along with physicals pointed to *Ignatia* with the highest marks and the remedy matched the totality and essence of the case. Rx *Ignatia* 30 TDS for 3 months. The ultrasonography taken at the end of 3 months revealed the fibroid had regressed and there was no cyst; menses became normal and regular once in 30 days. The patient was well.

DR AMOL MOKASHI, CLINICAL CASE RECORDER, JAN-MARCH 1995

CONCLUSION: What better way than quote one of the greatest Homoeopaths of USA.

He says that "personally I have an idea that *Colocynth* is an ovary medicine in the Rademacherian sense. But both Gilchrist and Dunham cured their cases simply by considering the totality of symptoms, so it must follow that tumours can be cured symptomatically". He adds: "There are good many cases of cure of tumours by medicines strewn about in the very large homoeopathic literature of America; however, they, for the most part are very isolated and solitary. *Taken singly they are curious, interesting and not infrequently somewhat of the nature of flukes; collectively instructive.* None of these cures seem to have caused the curing physician to go on steadily and perseveringly at medicinal tumour-curing: in almost every case, but nothing more came of it and in the end the surgeon alone remained in the field." (Best of Burnett p587). In our present days the surgeon is having the last laugh as women resort to hysterectomy at the least discomfort, without having the patience to try Homoeopathy. Should we allow it?



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