

Agnus castus

Common chaste tree, Lilac chaste tree, Abraham's balm, Wild lavender, Monk's pepper tree, Hemp tree [*Vitex agnus-castus* L.]

David S. Riley

Important Proving Symptoms and Themes Noted by the Investigators Frequent symptoms associated with alternations of the menstrual cycle. Uterine cramping and copious menstrual flow. Mood alteration causing sadness, irritability, despair, and weeping. Breast swelling and tenderness. Bloating and distension of the abdominal area that affect both the uterine and intestinal systems.

Mind Anger, alternating with weeping. Biting nails. Concentration difficult. Delusions that mind and body are separated, one is odd-looking and unattractive. Despair; as if in a dream. Irritability. Irritability before menses. Dullness during menses. Disturbed emotions before menses. Aversion to company before menses. Fearful before menses. Sadness before menses. Sensitivity before menses. Forsaken and isolated feeling. Indifference. Reproaches self. Desire for sympathy. Amorous thoughts. Tranquility. Weeping before menses; weeping during menses, causeless.

Vertigo Dizziness on moving the head quickly, particularly when lying in bed.

Head Constriction like a band or hoop. Pain drawing, tightening; localized in the forehead; in the forehead extending to the occiput. Right-sided; pressing pain on waking.

Eye Twitching, left-sided.

Nose Discharge and sneezing in the morning.

Face Eczematous eruptions. Premenstrual eruptions. Pimples. Tingling in fore-head and nose, numbness in cheek and forehead. Heat in the morning.

Mouth Aphthae on lips. Numbness of lips. Stitching pain under the tongue.

Proving Director: David S. Riley

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Throat Inflammation with pain of the tonsils. Pain on swallowing. Swelling of the tonsils.

External Throat Swelling of left-side cervical glands.

Stomach Nausea. Insatiable appetite. Burning pain after waking. Thirst during menses. Bitter vomiting.

Abdomen Distension, after eating and during menses. Flatulence. Hardness after eating. Pain, burning, cramping. Cramping of the colon. Cramping with diarrhea. Cramping of the hypogastrium, lancinating on the right side; also dull and pressing, throbbing.

Rectum Constipation. Offensive flatus. Relaxed anus. Urging for stool suddenly.

Stool Frequent.

Female Stitching pain in labia; burning of the labia. Coldness of the vagina. Vaginal dryness. Vaginal itching. Leukorrhea, between the menses, offensive, stringy. Menses copious, clotted, copious with large clots. Delayed onset of menses. Menses stops and restarts (menses intermittent). Menses sour, pungent offensive menstrual flow. Dysmenorrhea. Menses flow shorter than usual. Aching of uterus and vagina. Uterine cramping, especially during menses, also before menses. Uterine contractions like a pulling sensation; sense of prolapse of the uterus. Ovarian pain at ovulation and during urination. Increased sexual desire.

Urethra Cold, contracted feeling with pain on urination.

Urine Dark yellow.

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Respiration Difficult after exertion.

Chest Painful sore mammae, especially before the onset of menstruation. Rightand left-sided soreness, swelling of the mammae. Awakes after midnight with rapid heartbeat and shortness of breath.

Back Pain, with constriction in the sacrum, in the lumbar region extending to the thighs; with a soreness and tearing pain of the sacral region, especially while sitting.

Extremities Awkwardness. Red eruptions on the thigh. Stiffness of the fingers and joints. Aching of joints and elbow. Generalized neuralgic pain; in the groin. Tearing in the hip while sitting; tearing in the joints.

Fever & Perspiration Fever alternating with perspiration.

Skin Red, blotchy eruptions; eczematous eruptions; itchy, hard, inflamed pimples.

Sleep Deep sleep. Unrefreshing sleep. Waking from dreams and waking with the sensation of chest palpitations.

Dreams Dreams, amorous, of angry quarrels, that breasts appear bruised, night-marish, prophetic.

Generalities Desire for open air in the morning. Desire for sugar. Sensation of heat; influenza-like feeling. Faintness. Motion or rubbing aggravates. Weakness, before eating, before menses, with nausea. Weariness, during menses, in the morning.