

Some months ago I was consulted by a young woman who had suffered from scanty, fetid menstruation, accompanied by a great deal of pain, since the birth of her first child seven years previously. Her labor had been followed by a tear of the perineum which had been left unrepaired, and also a laceration of the cervix uteri. This patient consulted a specialist, but his treatment did not give her relief. Examination revealed the presence of the uterine and perineal lacerations already mentioned, and disclosed a chronic endometritis that had given rise to a fetid discharge and to pain during each menstrual period. I repaired the tears, curetted the uterus, and hoped in this manner to obtain permanent relief of the patient's symptoms. After she had recovered from the operations, she declared that she was feeling better than she had been for years. But very soon the fetid discharge and the pain returned at each menstrual period, and evidently something else had to be done if I wanted to save my reputation. I then tried local applications, alteratives, uterine tonics, etc., all without avail, until finally Ergoapiol (Smith) was given. The result was immediate relief and a gradual and permanent improvement in the menstrual flow until it was free from pain and devoid of any disagreeable odor.

This patient was evidently suffering from congestive dysmenorrhea which was intensified by the presence of lacerations of the cervix and the perineum which had existed since parturition. The result attained illustrates very well how Ergoapiol (Smith) acted upon the uterus, restoring its tissues to normal condition and re-establishing the menstrual function upon its normal basis.

Another type of dysmenorrhea, that which I term "nervous," but which the authorities term "neuralgic," is illustrated by the following case which recently came under my care :—

The patient was a young woman who had been married two years, but had not borne any children. She stated that she had pain during the menstrual period from the first onset of menses, and at the time of examination she also complained of a fetid discharge. The menstrual flow was scanty and rarely of blood red color. Just before and after the period she had backache and headache, her complexion was unhealthy, not bright and clear as that of her sister, and she appeared older than she really was. She always dreaded the onset of the menses which recurred with a regularity that is not always present in these cases. She was easily excited, and received impressions vividly and indelibly. Her digestion was poor, and she was often sleepless, irritable, and peevish.