

#[Scroph-n.]

Scrophularia nodosa

{DD Carbo-v.}

Scofularia fetida, Figwort, Knotted figwort, Heal-all, Scrofula plant, Carpenters square, Square stalk, Feverweed.

Genius

Scrophularia nodosa is a remedy that has just now entered into its adolescence. It was proved twice but on men only and would greatly benefit from a larger proving that would include women. Despite a long history of having been clinical used, beginning with the Native American and eclectics, it is almost absent from our repertories, as it couldn't even be found in large general rubrics such as headaches, back pain or skin itchiness.

Its special field of affinity is for **conditions of the lymphatic system** and more particularly **cancerous conditions in which the lymphatic system has been invaded**, primarily or secondarily. It has other fields of application, such as skin and joint affections and respiratory conditions.

It should be highly considered in cases presenting with **congestion of the lymphatic system, enlarged glands** and **lymphoma (Hodgkin's disease)**.

It is interesting to note that it has been referred to as the remedy to use when Conium maculatum fails.

The symptomatology of Scrophularia nodosa tends to be marked by intensity: for example, its state of exhaustion can be so pronounced that the person can't even rise from bed or talk; the headaches and shortness of breath are "violent;" the body pains, colics, asthma and diarrhea are "severe;" the joint pains are "excruciating;" the blepharospams and photophobia are as severe as the one of Conium; palpitation the heart is beating so loud that it can be heard at the distance of several feet.

The main character of these intense pains are of **cutting** and **stitching** nature.

Patients requiring this remedy tend to also be very **sensitive**, and in particular to grief, injustice, the welfare for others and noise (all similar to Conium).

Here if we also have to compare the mental picture of Phosphorus (sympathy), Causticum (injustice and fear something will happen to others), Natrum muriaticum (sensitivity to grief), and Conium for all the above symptoms.

It tends to be an anxious remedy with fear of separation (Phosporus); it tends to be sympathetic with a particular love for animals.

It will be most indicated in patients with cancer of the lymphatic system, breast, skin, uterus and rectum, especially if there is marked glandular invasion.

It eill indicated in patients with **Hodgkin's disease**, **especially with a history of ringworm or skin eruptions.**

It is indicated in cancer patients with low energy and constipation. It is interesting to note that one of the first changes reported by Cooper's cancer patients after taking Scrophularia was regularity and easiness on passing bowel movements, which has since been confirmed.

Scrophularia nodosa has a special affinity for skin conditions, including all types of **vesicular eruptions**, **herpes**, **eczema**, **crusta lactea**, **pemphigus**, **boils**, **contusions**, **abrasions**, **ulceration** and **suppurations**.

There is a particular skin condition that calls for this remedy which is related to lymphatic congestion with a peculiar pinkish tint of the skin that is puffy and edematous (a type of cellulitis).

It has been found to be highly beneficial in hepatic and dropsical diseases particularly associated with congestion or obstruction of the lymphatic system.

It has been used for the prevention of rabies and was recommended by Robert T. Cooper for people affected with bubonic plague.

Scrophularia nodosa should also be considered in cases of **injury to soft tissues** to limit the inflammatory process, prevent suppuration and heighten the speed of granulation and overall healing. Similar to Calendula, it can be given in potency or applied locally on contusions, abrasions, **wounds** and **burns**.

It has been successfully used in cases presenting with **cellulitis** and **gangrenous process following injuries**.

Here are some of the red flag symptoms for Scrophularia nodosa:

Tiredness with chronic and obstinate constipation in patients with cancer.

Vertigo, felt in the vertex, worse standing.

Vertigo (spinning round) when turning in bed (Conium).

Extreme drowsiness, particularly **in end stage diseases**.

The symptoms of the chest resemble the ones of Bryonia and the ones of the extremities resemble Rhus tox.

Ulcerations of the skin.

Ulcerations readily following contusions.

Inflammation of the breasts; fibrocystic breasts.

Ailments from vexation, anxiety, shock or mental exertion.

Asthma in scrofulous patients.

Pruritus vaginae.

Ophthalmia neonatorum; intolerance of light; raw lids; pustular ophthalmia.

Severe photophobia (Conium).

Tuberculosis.

Puerperal fever from suppressed lochia.

Offensive leucorrhoea and lochia.

Generalities

Scrophularia nodosa is especially indicated in cases presenting with **cancers of the breast, skin, uterus, rectum, especially if there is marked glandular invasion.**

This remedy is of service in cases with **diseases of the skin, eczema, crusta lactea, eruptions of a vesicular character, pruritus vaginae, herpetic ulceration and scrofulous swelling**, when there is a tendency to **ulceration following the slightest contusion** and indications of perverted nutrition.

A powerful medicine whenever **enlarged glands** are present. **Hodgkin's disease**. **Scrofulous swellings** (Cystus).

Hodgkin's disease with a history of ringworm or skin eruptions.

Threatened abscesses that show no sign of disappearing.

Promoted suppuration of enlarged glands.

Pain in all flexor muscles.

Great bodily weakness, being almost unable to walk a short distance.

A very disagreeable feeling of languor and nervous prostration, with inclination to lie down and rest.

Intense exhaustion.*

It has produced, according to Cooper, a sickly, giddy feeling, with a sense of weakness and sinking at pit of chest, too weak to speak, along with pain from forehead to back of head.

Muscular debility, etc.

*Weakness intense all through body.**

Cannot stand, weakness like Stannum—cannot stand, has to sit, drops down.*

Weakness when walking.*

Cutting pain in the articulations, similar to Rhus tox, but more intense, lasting much longer, aggravated by rest in the open air, and relieved by being in a warm room; darting from the knee and ankle joints, which feel stiff.

The symptoms are worse on right side, and aggravated by rest, in open air, and relieved in a warm room.

Tuberculosis.*

Family history of Tuberculosis.

Indicated whenever enlarged glands are present, even acting beneficially on cancerous glands when locally applied, but of course specially on those of scrofulous and tubercular origin. It also seems to be specifically related to breast tissue.*

(Bubonic plague suggested by Robert T. Cooper.)

It has been used for the prevention of rabies.

It seems more indicated in patients with dark complexion.

Poisoning of a cow: dull and "all of a shake," and that she only gave a very small quantity of milk. Pulse 50, temp. 100° F., horns and ears very cold, muzzle cold and dry, drooping of the eyelids, and lopping of the ears. When made to move she did so with difficulty, staggered about, and seemed half stupefied. The near hind-quarter of the udder was slightly enlarged and inflamed, and the milk contained in all the quarters resembled curds and whey. The cow gradually recovered, and by the 5th day all the symptoms had disappeared, save that the secretion of milk remained arrested. (Walley)

Highly beneficial in **hepatic diseases**, **scrofula**, secondary syphilis, **cutaneous diseases**, **dropsy**, and **as a general deobstruent to the glandular system**.