# Pelvic Floor Pain/Burning and Relief

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### Disclosure

Inventor of S/he\*Pak

President and Owner of Femicorp.com

Sells Uberlube and Sutil/Hathor lubricants

## Agenda

My Story
Healing Cascade
What We Know About Healthy
Vaginas
Causes of Pelvic Floor Inflammation
With Whom to Seek Out Care
Relief - Cooling/Icing









## My Story

- MSPT, CWS
- Chronic Yeast Infections
- Not given much information
- Brought PT to OB/gyn
- Invented and had to learn more; not exhaustive





## Wound Healing Cascade

Hemostasis

Inflammation

Proliferation

Granulation

Contraction

Angiogenesis

Epithelialization

Remodeling

## Healthy Vaginas

- Not sterile
- Microbiome balance chemicals can upset, pH
- Self cleaning pH is important
- Tissues stretch and recover but decrease with loss of estrogen; can atrophy if not used
- Needs moisture but needs to "breathe" Not too wet, not too dry
- Tissues are pink not red for skin color type

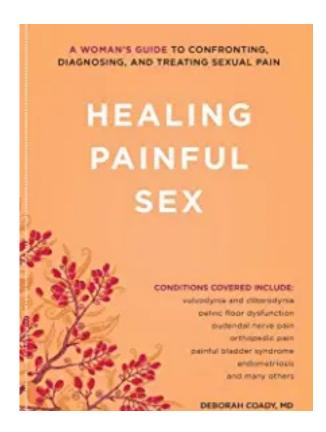
#### Causes of Pelvic Floor Inflammation

- Vaginitis Yeast and Bacterial
- Vaginal Childbirth
- Period of Increased Intimacy
- Post Menopausal Intimacy

- Cancer Treatment
- Surgery
- Interstitial Cystitis
- Pain Syndromes clitorodynia, vulvodynia, vestibulodynia

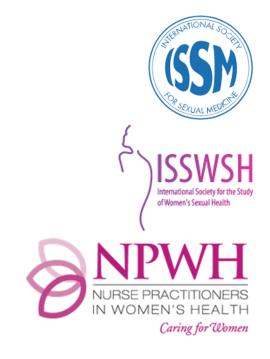
### Healing Painful Sex

Deborah Coady, MD



## Who to See – Get a good diagnosis

- OB/Gyn Professional
- Nurse Practitioner in Women's Health npwh.org
- Vulvar/Vulvovaginal Pain Clinic parknicollet.com
- Vaginal Rejeuvenation wayzatacosmeticsurgery.com
- Physical Therapist in Women's Health aptapelvichealth.org
- Incontinence Clinic
- Sexual Health and Medicine isswsh.org; issm.info;





#### **ISSWSH** Pain Course

- Designed for healthcare providers across disciplines to address the important and common concerns expressed by women regarding sexual pain, ISSWSH launches a dedicated course on Sexual Pain. This course dives deep into the evaluation, diagnosis, and treatment of sexual pain in women and aims to give the healthcare provider the tools needed to support patients suffering with vulvovaginal and pelvic pain. This course will address the conditions and treatments for:
- Vulvodynia
- Clitorodynia
- Genitourinary Syndrome of Menopause (GSM)
- Interstitial Cystitis/Urethritis
- Dyspareunia
- Vulvovaginal and Vulvar Dermatoses
- Persistent Genital Arousal Disorder (PGAD)
- Conception Pregnancy/Post-Partum Pain
- Recurrent/Resistant Vaginitis
- Endometriosis and other Gynecological Causes of Pelvic Pain

## Relief – When Having Issues

- Cotton underwear not just the gusset; no styles that rub the area
- Cool/Ice the tissues decreases inflammation; pain, itch, burning, swelling
- Coconut oil
- Use healthy lubricants <u>Lubricant 101 Article</u>
  - Most OTC lubes steal moisture
  - https://www.femicorp.com/articles/does-your-lubricant-help-or-hurt-lube-101/
- No soap with perfumes, dyes, scents unscented glycerin soap
- Avoid baths with salts and essential oils
- Apply yoghurt or kefir restore microbiome
- Boric Acid especially with BV
- Aloe Vera Lubricant desertharvest.com healing

#### Vulvar Skin Care – Health Partners

- Laundry
  - Use free of scents and chemicals All Free Clear and use less amount.
  - No fabric softners
  - May use dryer balls
  - Rinse stain removers off before washings
  - May use white vinegar or lemon juice to freshen clothing and remove oils

- Clothing
  - All cotton
  - No nylon even if cotton gusset
  - No thongs
  - Loose fitting bottoms when sleeping
  - Thigh high stockings or cut out the crotch
  - No tight clothing or synthetic fabrics
  - Remove wet and damp clothing ASAP

#### Vulvar Skin Care – Cont.

- Bathing
  - Don't rub with wash cloth
  - No soap
  - No bubble bath, salts, or scented oils
  - Use gentle soaps on rest of body
  - No lotions in the area with perfumes or dyes
  - No douching
  - Pat dry



#### Hygiene

- Protect skin coconut oil
- After every toilet event
- White, unscented TP no aloe
- No baby wipes
- Do not shave, wax, or use hair removal products. May use scissors or clippers. Laser hair removal okay.
- Non-deodorizing tampons
- Pads cotton liner, not nylon mesh

## Vulvar Skin Care – Cont.

- Sexual Activity
  - Use lubricant decreases dryness and microtrauma
  - Use healthy lubricant
  - Do not use lubricated condoms or contraceptive jellies, creams, or sponges



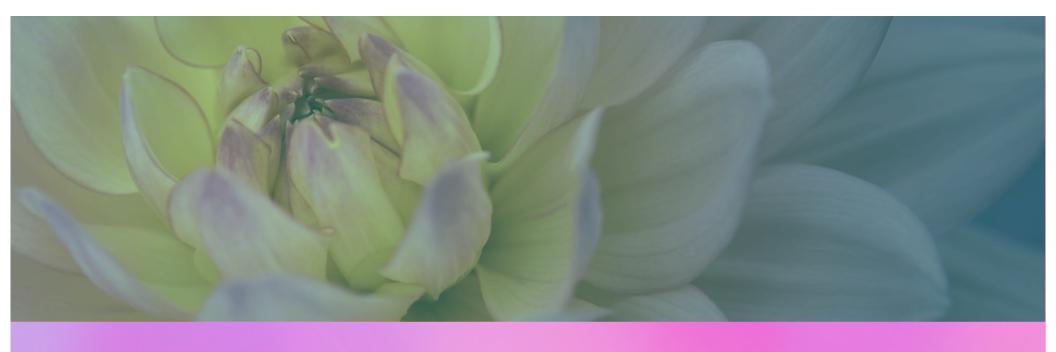


## Aging and Vaginas

- If you've been on the bench and are back on the court, you may experience challenges, but don't give up! You are not out to pasture! You deserve intimacy.
- Use healthy lubricant
- Consider dilator sets
- See a pelvic floor PT muscles spasms, strengthening
- Ice after intimacy not just relief but healing faster







# Thank you and Questions

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