

## Galien. Des lieux affectés

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### Références éditoriales

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galien. De l'urine affecté.

Med. par R. E. Siegel  
Bâle - 1976.

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When a woman conceives easily but loses the fetus after two, three or four months, a mucous fluid accumulates around the cotyledons [of the placenta]. This results in a weakness at the junction between the veins and arteries developing in the chorion [on the fetal side] and the openings of the uterine [maternal] vessels. Therefore, their connections become unable to carry the weight of the fetus and tear easily.

### Chapter 6

Only a few specific symptoms based on a discharge with the stools point to an affection of the neighboring organs, mostly of the bowels, stomach, spleen (K 438) and liver. They often indicate even [a disturbance of] the humors of the entire organism. Likewise, there are few signs based on a discharge from the external sexual organ (*aidoion*)<sup>39</sup> which indicate a disease. But they mostly point to an involvement of the urinary bladder, kidney, liver and spleen, of lungs and chest and of the humoral condition of the whole body. The differential diagnosis is based on other signs which are associated with each part, as already explained.

You can recognize a disease of the external [male] sexual organ by the following symptom. Manifest pain is a certain sign of an ulceration [or inflammation] of this organ. Excretion of some matter with the urine derives from the neighborhood of the ulcer, since this material is distinctly eliminated with the first urine voided. But when this matter originates in the bladder itself it is mixed with [the whole] urine. Ulcers located in the genital organs cause constant pain during urination, and even more severely when they cleanse themselves by discharge of a scab or other impurities.

We can much more easily diagnose an inflammation and similar affections in the absence of [special] signs. I prefer to give you more details about gonorrhea and priapism (K 439). To speak about the loss of semen (*gonorrhoea*):<sup>40</sup> Since the discharge of sperm is involuntary, it is also possible to define it as independent of our will. To be more definite, we can also call it a continuous discharge of semen without erection of the penis. Priapism is, however, an increase in length and circumference of the male genitalia without sexual desire and without the acquired increase in heat which some people experience in recumbent position. Other physicians describe it in the following manner which is a shorter definition: a persisting increase of the external genitals or a persisting swelling. It evidently obtained its name from [the god] Priapus, for the sculptors and painters represent him with genitals of this type.

The term *gonorrhoea* is evidently derived from *gonos* [seed] and *rhein* [to flow]. The sperma is also called *gone* or *gonos*. There are two ways in which the sperm is affected as are all other secretions of our body: either it is secreted by

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