



St. Catharines Naturopathic Doctor Unveils New Resource on the Interplay of Stress and PMS

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Dr. Aoife Earls, ND, a licensed naturopathic doctor serving the St. Catharines community, has published a new educational blog post titled "The PMS/Stress Cycle: A St. Catharines Naturopathic Perspective." The article offers a look at how the body's stress response and natural hormonal fluctuations may interact to amplify premenstrual syndrome (PMS) symptoms, creating a cycle that may impact women's daily mood, energy, and overall well-being.

The new resource addresses a common experience for many women: the intensifying effect of chronic stress on monthly symptoms. Dr. Earls, ND notes that for many, PMS is more than just a monthly inconvenience; it is a dynamic interplay between stress, hormones, and overall physiological balance. The blog positions understanding this connection as a crucial first step toward individualized support for hormonal health and sustainable relief.

The article explores the mechanics of this relationship, focusing on the role of cortisol, the body's primary

stress hormone. It explains that when stress is high, elevated cortisol levels may influence the production of progesterone, a key hormone in the luteal phase of the menstrual cycle. The post details how a decline in progesterone may intensify common PMS-related issues such as irritability, mood swings, and sleep disruptions. This creates a feedback loop where premenstrual symptoms may increase stress, and stress, in turn, may worsen the symptoms. A St. Catharines naturopathic practitioner, as the blog details, understands the importance of addressing both hormone balance and stress management to explore ways to interrupt this cycle.

Further expanding on the complexity of PMS, the blog outlines common symptoms and their potential links to hormonal changes. These include mood changes like anxiety or sadness tied to estrogen and progesterone shifts, physical symptoms such as bloating and breast tenderness linked to fluid retention, and sleep disturbances influenced by the decline of progesterone and elevated stress hormones. The post emphasizes that a naturopathic doctor may use these symptoms as clues to identify underlying patterns and craft personalized strategies for support, moving beyond a one-size-fits-all approach to monthly challenges.

The blog post takes a holistic view, emphasizing that PMS is not driven solely by hormonal changes; lifestyle factors may significantly influence the severity of symptoms. Key lifestyle areas discussed include sleep patterns, noting that poor sleep may disrupt hormone regulation and worsen mood swings; dietary habits, where foods high in refined sugar or excess caffeine may exacerbate symptoms; and the impact of chronic stress levels on the progesterone-cortisol balance. Physical activity, with both insufficient and excessive exercise, is also described as a potential factor in influencing hormonal balance. Addressing these daily factors is foundational to the individualized, tailored plans a St. Catharines naturopathic practitioner may create to support women in breaking the PMS?stress cycle.

The article offers a shift in perspective, advocating for viewing PMS not just as a condition to be managed, but as a signal, a chance to address deeper hormonal health and lifestyle patterns. This lens is designed to empower women to engage with self-care and long-term well-being, transforming PMS from a recurring challenge into an opportunity for greater self-awareness and hormonal understanding.

This new educational release builds on Dr. Earls's commitment to providing accessible, reliable information on women's health. It follows an earlier publication that addressed menstrual cycle challenges, furthering the conversation on individualized care. Residents are invited to read more about this topic by clicking on a previous resource from the Naturopath St. Catharines on PMS Symptoms.

Dr. Earls, ND concludes the post by noting that breaking the cycle requires creating long-term strategies that encompass hormonal health, emotional well-being, and balanced living. For women in St. Catharines seeking to explore individualized support for their premenstrual symptoms, Dr. Aoife Earls, ND, offers tailored discussions that may combine lifestyle strategies, nutritional guidance, and natural therapies. Her practice

focuses on helping women navigate these challenges by offering a pathway toward sustainable changes that aim to improve energy and support overall well-being throughout the entire month.

By combining an educational tone with practical, insight-driven content, the post encourages women to seek supportive care that respects the complexity of hormonal and stress interactions. It highlights that persistent PMS challenges may be explored as part of a larger health conversation, not just an inevitable monthly burden.

Residents in St. Catharines interested in understanding their hormone health, energy, or monthly patterns are invited to learn more about Dr. Aoife Earls ND's work. Her clinic continues to welcome new and returning patients and offers virtual services across Ontario. Contact Dr. Aoife Earls, ND at (289) 815-1668.

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