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CANCER SUPPLEMENTARY POINTS 1926

Wm. F. KOCH, Ph.D., M.D.

The papers in this section of the BULLETIN have covered the general and the more practical characteristics of cancer, and those who have read them carefully must have gained fairly comprehensive conception of the disease. The constitutional nature of the disease has been adequately established. The significance of the growth has been clearly demonstrated, and the mechanism of the recovery process described in detail. We have also observed the body's remarkable powers of reconstruction of destroyed tissues that accompanies the absorption of the neoplastic tissue following the removal of the etiological toxin and the acquirement of immunity. Something has also been taught regarding the management of the case under treatment. It has been our purpose to present a common sense practical working knowledge that will help the physician cure his patient. A good deal of ground has been covered and a brief survey might be advisable before we take up some of the special features of the disease.

Cancer has been regarded by the less progressive division of our profession as a local disease, although there is neither one dot of scientific proof, nor one clinical experience to substantiate the assumption. Even though early surgical removal has in a very few cases apparently postponed death from malignancy, we must remember that some cases take as long as eighteen or twenty years to prove fatal when no treatment whatever is employed. It is also perfectly in accord with the etiology of the disease to expect a few months or years to elapse before a new growth effort will be aroused, or recurrence manifested, for the etiologic toxin may have been in the body as long as twenty years before the first growth was found. The rare supposed benefits following local plans of attack, therefore, do not substantiate the theory of a local nature for this disease. The great mass of evidence demonstrating that surgery totals less than three months increase in longevity over the average course of the disease, and that early operation has not reduced the mortality rate one bit, should prove to any observer that the disease does not lend itself to local extirpation or destruction simply because there is something beyond the locality of the growth that determines its presence, find that this something is too general an affliction of the body to be removed by any local procedure.

The preeminence of the local lesion in our modern conception of disease is unfortunate. Little thought is given the initial changes that lead to the production of the lesion. The very first alteration in the normal chemistry that finally progresses to a tissue change is far beyond our present system of observation or disease classification. Yet it is this essential etiological factor that is responsible for the incidence of a cancer growth as well as for its metastasis and the rapidity of recurrence following operation. The stimulus to growth production and the demand for such a phenomenon must have existed prior to the growth, and as we have shown, evidences itself for years in a vast majority of cases by definite toxic symptoms. Is it asking too much of the clinician to have recorded these toxic manifestations? Is it too much to have expected him to note an amelioration of the toxic symptoms in so many cases after the growth has gotten well under way, and therefore to have observed the detoxicating function of the growth? Could he not also have observed in such cases as show no amelioration of these toxic symptoms after the growth has come, certain reasons why the rate of toxin production exceeded the detoxicating activities of the growth? We understand that those who like to be looked upon as experts generally refuse, any data that reflects upon their stupidity and obstinacy. The profession right now throughout the extent of this continent is confirming our observations on the constitutional nature of cancer, the manifestations of the etiological toxin, and the immature inadequate attempted function of the growth.

Nor is it sufficient to make the simple admission that a cancer growth is a protective response directed against a definite toxin and not yet matured in this period of our evolution. It must also be admitted that the employment of local measures as surgery, X-ray, and radium in the established case is neither scientific nor desirable. For the terrible results of such measures are well enough known, yes, even to the extent that the public revolts against their use, and only those who are uninformed and those who are easily deceived permit themselves to submit to them. The silence of the tomb cries out to overwhelm the propaganda of the American Society for the Control of Cancer. Such propaganda ridicules our profession as it injures the public we should honestly serve. It is not necessary to recite the case histories of those unfortunates that were promised everything from surgery, X-Ray, radium, gold, and lead and who were brought to us in depleted vitality, fatally toxic, and with the whole disease process very greatly stimulated. The failure of destructive measures again proves the constitutionality of the disease and demonstrates that the etiological factor is the matter of first importance, and that it is unscientific to attempt to cure the disease by combating one of its total manifestations. We must remove the cause, and so correct the body chemistry that the etiological factor can no longer exist in that patient. Then the growth will be disposed of by normal physiological processes, and a true cure is established. We have demonstrated how to do this.

The diagnosis of cancer deserves lengthy consideration and we will devote a special paper to this subject. But we must mention here that no disease is masked with so many diagnostic alibis as cancer. Nevertheless, no disease is so clear cut, unmistakable, and so correctly diagnosable as the established cancer case. No disease presents so definite a history, such definite physical findings, and symptoms, nor so characteristic a clinical picture as this disease when well established. The extremely early case, which is rarely seen, may require a histological study of the growth, but do not be deceived into the notion that the pathologist can make the diagnosis for you by the microscope. The most

reliable pathologists tell us that they cannot do this. He may guess at it with the aid of the clinical history, and the description of the gross physical findings, but if the early growth has been removed he must await the future turn of events, the advent of recurrence, metastases and the like, to give a true diagnosis. Let me quote from this country's most reliable authority, Dr. MacCallum, Professor of Pathology at Johns Hopkins Medical School. "The malignant character of the tumor is evident in the infiltrating, destructive manner of its growth when it is well established, but in the beginning it may be difficult, to recognize this. Nevertheless, unless the tumor is extirpated it soon reveals its true nature, and even if it is removed at operation, the tendency to recur in the same place from traces of the tissue left behind is associated with other evidence of its malignancy. Above all, the appearance of colonies of the same tissue elsewhere in the body leaves no room for doubt. It appears then that in order to decide upon the nature of a connective tissue tumor which, as for its microscopical morphology is concerned might be a benign fibroma or a malignant sarcoma, it is necessary to know the history of the growth and its gross relations to adjacent tissues. Even then it may be impossible to be completely sure until recurrence or metastases have appeared. It is at this point that the greatest uncertainty may exist, but ordinarily, as will be explained, the morphology of the tumors has become sufficiently well known in connection with the history of their growth to allow one to for tell the progress of the growth and decide upon its nature."

What MacCallum has said of the connective tissue growths often holds for the epithelial growths. The great difficulty that the microscopist must face is the lack of absolute criteria for differentiating a cancer cell from a normal or adenomatous cell. Sometimes the variation may be great but not always is this so, and the cancer cell and the normal cell are too often non differentiable.

It must be remembered that so far as the physical findings are concerned the criteria as to malignancy are, infiltration, metastasis, and recurrence after attempted removal. Infiltration gives gross evidence of its existence about as early as it does microscopically. Metastasis gives evidence of itself first to the clinician, and only to the pathologist after another piece of tissue is removed. Likewise, recurrence is first observed by the clinician or the patient, and then no pathologist is needed. So whether infiltration is observed grossly or microscopically the diagnosis is established. Any growth that attaches itself to surrounding tissues and becomes a part of the surrounding tissue to any degree is malignant. Any growth that gives rise to new growths, before or after removal, is also malignant. Any growth accompanied or proceeded by certain toxic changes and cachexia is malignant, and no pathologist is required to make an adequate true diagnosis. Moreover a good clinician can give the microscopic characteristics of the growth exactly from the gross manifestations. This is a fact that has been amply proven. Let us not divorce common sense from diagnosis, if we would be efficient.

We wish to emphasize one fact here, and that is that it makes little difference what the cellular classification of the malignant growth may be, the fact that it is malignant points to the existence of the etiologic toxin, and therefore simplifies the choice of treatment. There is but one practical thing to do for the patient—get rid of the etiological factor—better still, make use of the etiological toxin by converting it into its antitoxin. Make the patient immune to the disease by converting the cause into the cure!

Nature is wonderfully efficient, and this is her way of working. We have imitated her successfully and that is why our treatment is successful in the hands of the profession generally. We care not what tactics organized medicine or rather organized surgery under the spokesman ship of Mr. Fishbein may do to prevent the acceptance of our treatment. It is not a matter of stupidity or inability to appreciate one of the greatest beauties of nature, her means of combating disease and accomplishing something of tremendous importance to the future welfare of the race. It is a matter of shortsighted sordidity, a common spirit of selfishness. The treatment of cancer rightfully belongs to the family doctor. He is coming into his own, and the surgical business will be curtailed. The family doctor can make the diagnosis correctly and can be educated to manage the Koch Treatment efficiently.

Success in the use of the Treatment depends upon a correct understanding of, first, the nature of cancer; second, the mode of activity of the antitoxin, third, upon the ability to differentiate reactions from the symptoms of the disease, and fourth, upon an appreciation of nature's mechanism of absorption of the growth, and of the healing process. There is no particular mystery associated with any of these affairs, although they are not customary subjects of concern or appreciation by the surgeon.

THE KOCH PROTOCOL:

Any case that can be cured by any number of doses of the antitoxin can be cured by one single dose, and in the well-managed case one dose should prove sufficient. We are very anxious that those who use the treatment employ one dose and give plenty of time for it to act, instead of trying to rush the case to recovery by forcing treatment. Attempting to force treatment may overtax the whole recovery process and defeat it entirely or delay it greatly. Only where the second or third dose is given in correct synchrony can recovery be rushed, and a good deal of experience is needed to be successful in the attempt. By taking all the time that is needed for one dose to accomplish the cure, and by correctly preparing the patient for treatment, and maintaining this state of correct metabolism for recovery, there should be a high percentage of recoveries in even the well advanced cases, on but one dose of the antitoxin.

The correct preparation of the patient is therefore a matter of first importance. I am giving a brief outline. The object of the preparation is to clean out the bowel of old adherent toxic material, and at the same time to correct any metabolic deficiency that might exist. A simple routine has proven itself efficient. We give apple and pear juice or either one in such quantities as the patient wishes to take. Vegetables may be cooked in this juice, and the juice strained off and taken in as large an amount as the patient desires. Thus nothing solid is taken into the digestive tract, and the bowel is able to contract and squeeze material from the periphery of its sacculations and pockets to the center of the lumen. This material is thus made accessible to the action of the enema. Two enemas are given each day, and more may be given to wash the bowel clean. It takes about five days or a week to clean the bowel.

Apple and pear juice are prepared fresh each day, by grinding the raw fruit through a meat grinder, adding a little water and squeezing the juice out through a cloth. This juice contains the needed vitamins, malic and isomalic acid, and other valuable constituents that increase the rate of oxidation in the body. Citrus fruits depress oxidations and should

not be used.

After the antitoxin has been given, the diet should consist of the solid raw or cooked foods outlined below. This selection is made after much experience, and is designed to include the non-injurious materials and omit those, that interfere with recovery chemistry.

WHAT TO EAT:

Fruits: Apples, Bananas, Dates, Fresh huckleberries, Fresh raspberries, Fresh blueberries

It would not be amiss to supplement the previous discussion on the reactions of the recovery process with a brief discussion of the reflexes that accompany the healing and replacement of destroyed tissues.

We have several times mentioned and illustrated the febrile reactions and grippiness of the detoxication and immunity mechanisms, and those that accompany the absorption of

the growths.

Very little was said regarding the vicero motor and vicro sensory reflexes that should be correctly interpreted in order to judge the patient's status from the recovery viewpoint.

In cases where extensive abdominal growths are being absorbed considerable re-adjustments are taking place, pressure on certain nerves is being relieved, and new sets of impulses are again reaching the cord. Moreover, with the in-growth of vascular tissue that serves the absorption of the digested cancer cells, nerve filaments are developed that increase the reflexes associated with the part. Thus the somatic, sensory and motor nerves are reflexly stimulated until healing has become completed, and accordingly, hyperasthesias, hyperalgesias, and muscle spasms are maintained during this period. Thus where healing is going on below the umbilicus, a muscle spasm may hold sway in the abdominal wall below the ribs on the right or left side, and the lower ribs may be very painful and hypersensitive for a period—in fact until healing is completed. The spastic muscle may be located right over the part affected.

Visceral reflexes intended to splint the part to promote healing are very usual, and the sphincters go into spasm while the musculature of the viscus relaxes. Thus meteorism is common in abdominal cases during the healing period. This condition is successfully combated by use of the enema or colon tube, but violent measures are to be avoided. In the healing of the uterus, anal, and bladder reflexes of the same order may come about. First there may be sphincter spasm and later a relaxation of the sphincter, before normal function returns. These altered reflexes may not be convenient but they are non harmful, and last only over a short period.

Bleeding is liable to occur with the recovery. It may happen during the digestion of the cancer cells, when plugs of these cells that have destroyed and scaled a part of a vessel wall, undergo digestion and leave a hole in the vessel. Pressure and ice are the remedies. Drugs and hemostatic agents should never be used, with the possible exception of Methylyne Blue solution locally, which will cause rapid blood coagulation. Bleeding may also occur in mild form during the period of absorption and vascularization of the growth that is about the fourth to sixth week period. It may also occur during the period of retraction of the vascular tissue, generally the ninth and twelfth weeks. It is never serious in my experience, and the ice bag, and quiet is all that I have ever recommended.

Examination of patients should be so conducted that undue pressure and manipulation is avoided. There is no necessity to destroy the delicate blood vessels that grow into the growth to accomplish the removal of the digestion products of the cancer cells. Destruction of these vessels delays the recovery and may result in unhandy complications. One can learn as much about the changes going on in the growth by very slight and circumspect palpation. Nothing is more disgusting than to observe a clumsy untrained finger study of a growth. One must decide what characteristics are to be sought in the growth regarding movability, elasticity, extent, and lobulation or nodulation, and then use the least possible force in making the palpation. It is surprising what easy handling will give the characteristics to an intelligent observer. The patient will appreciate your care, for most likely she has been through the hands of a number of ruffians or "butcher" examiners who she knows did her definite harm. Recovery takes place better if it is not