

2. A bath of soap and water and a vaginal douche are given daily for the three days preceding operation.

3. A cathartic is administered two nights before the operation, followed next morning by a saline purgative, and, if it has not been thoroughly effectual, by an enema shortly afterwards.

4. If the bowels have not then been moved satisfactorily a simple enema is given in the afternoon.

5. Only light diet is allowed, and during the last 48 hours the patient is restricted to milk or broth. Some albumen water or broth is given three hours before operation, and, unless in need of some stimulant, nothing afterwards.

6. On the morning of operation a thoroughly effectual enema is administered.

7. The urethral catheter is passed before the patient is taken to the operating room.

8. When being brought to the operating room, and during the administration of the anæsthetic, every precaution is taken to avoid the danger of becoming chilled, and of undue exposure. Long sterile stockings which reach well above the knees are put on, and the patient protected with sterile blankets and sheets.

B. PREPARATION OF THE FIELD OF OPERATION.

1. The abdomen, pubes and vulva are shaved during the afternoon preceding the day of operation.

2. The skin from the ensiform cartilage to the pubes, as well as the vulva, is given a thorough scrubbing with soap and water, paying particular attention to the umbilicus and folds of the skin.

3. A vaginal douche of bichloride (1-2000) followed by one of sterile water is given when the vulva is being prepared.

4. A poultice of green soap is now applied to the abdomen for two hours.

5. With hands well sterilized the soap is then removed by scrubbing with a brush and hot sterile water, changing three or four times, or until clear. Then wash the area with alcohol, next with mercuric bichloride solution (1-1000).

6. A large sterile gauze shield is next laid over the cleansed part, and a separate one over the vulva, and kept in position.

7. On the morning of operation, and subsequent to the enema referred to, a bichloride douche (1-1000), followed by