

citing bronchial or peribronchial lesions of Tubercle or be transmitted to the bronchial or mediastinal glands without lung lesion.

Primary Tuberculosis of the digestive tract is a food borne disease. The food may be infected in two ways (a) by becoming infected from tubercle laden dust, (b) the most common way is however by milk, rarely by meat from infected animals. Practically primary tuberculosis of the intestinal canal is a disease of children—the milk age. As in the lung the bacilli not infrequently pass through without local lesion and lodge in the mesenteric glands.

Tubercle in other parts of the body is practically always derived from a focus in the respiratory or digestive tract. In the majority of instances Louis' law holds good. This law is, that in adults the lungs or their lymphatic glands usually contain tubercle, when it is present in the body. The tubercle bacillus is thrown off from the body mainly in the sputum of phthisical patients, in which it is found frequently in vast numbers. True, it is also thrown off in the bowel contents in intestinal tubercle, in the urine in genito-urinary tubercle and from the pus in tubercular abscesses and sinuses, but practically the germ is disseminated by the sputum. This bacillus can live and remain actively virulent for 9 to 18 months in dried sputum. So little care has been taken to destroy tubercular sputum in the past, that the germ is fairly ubiquitous, but it is particularly common in tubercle infected houses. For Tuberculosis is essentially a house disease, much more than it is a family disease. Is it any wonder that such is the case? What care is taken to secure any isolation of a consumptive or to disinfect his sputum? What steps are taken at present, to prevent him infecting the air and dust of the whole house with tubercle bacilli, which are then breathed in by other individuals? Practically none. It is well then that Tuberculosis requires a suitable soil on which to develop. Given the bacillus constantly present as it is certain to be in an infected house, will not the time come sooner or later when something will render us susceptible.

What are the conditions which lead to susceptibility?

Most practitioners place heredity first on this list. I believe its influence to be overestimated and a proper explanation of the fact that tuberculosis attacks member after member of a family