

NOTE ON THE DIAGNOSIS, BY MEANS
OF THE MICROSCOPE, OF PAGET'S
DISEASE OF THE NIPPLE AND
BREAST.

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In Paget's disease the carcinomatous condition of the breast is generally supposed to follow on a long-standing affection of the surface of the nipple, which is comparable in certain respects to chronic eczema, but which, on histological examination, presents characters not observable in the latter trouble. As the usual methods of treatment for eczema are useless here, it is of importance at the outset to determine whether the case in hand is ordinary eczema or the disease in question. The ordinary methods of diagnosis have been hitherto purely clinical: the long duration of the supposedly eczematous condition, the infrequent itching, the feel of the nipple like a coin under a cloth, etc. Recently Darier and Wickham have proposed a new test,*

*Darier—*Comptes Rendus de la Societe de Biologie de Paris* of the 13th April, 1899.

Wickham—*Archives de Medicine Experimentale*, January, 1890; also his monograph, *Maladie de la Peau dite Maladie de Paget*, Masson, Paris, 1890.

See also Prof. R. Ramsay Wright's lecture on Sporozoa, *PRACTITIONER*, January, 1890.