

Where such an accident has happened, the fact is recognized that the instrument has passed deeper than the previously estimated size of the uterus should allow. In such a case, the prognosis is good if operator, instruments and field of operation are aseptic and no further intra-uterine interference is attempted. If the operator had originally intended to open the abdomen for some other condition, this opportunity may be taken advantage of to suture up the opening, otherwise the patient may be returned to bed, having ice applied externally and a dose of opium administered.

Where irrigation of the uterine cavity (and therefore of the abdominal cavity) has taken place, one may have, (1) a mild local peritonitis with spontaneous recovery; (2) acute septic peritonitis requiring hysterectomy and vaginal drainage; or (3) localized abscesses may form and require evacuation.

Where not only perforation of the uterus, but a protrusion of the intestines through the opening has taken place, abdominal section must be done at once and the bowel treated by resection or not, as its condition indicates.

Vaporization of the Uterus.

BLACHER, G. F. "The effects of Vaporization of the Uterus, etc."
Jour. of Gyn. and Obstet. of the British Empire, May, 1903.

The specimen described was removed from a patient aged 47, fourteen days after atmaukosis and curetting, the scrapings showing evidence of carcinoma.

The uterus was slightly enlarged and a vertical section through the whole organ from before backwards reveals the fact that the cavity is divided into two parts, an upper and lower, the latter being about four times as long as the upper as well as having entirely lost its normal appearance.

The inner surface of the upper part is smooth and, for the inner 3 m.m., of a reddish-gray colour. No trace of mucous membrane can be seen, even with the aid of a microscope. Even the superficial muscular tissue shows but little affinity for the staining fluid.

In the lower part of the uterine body both mucosa and muscular tissue have been destroyed, the effect in one place extending to a depth of 5 m.m. from the surface.

The upper part of the cervical canal was affected in manner similar to the above.

After dilatation of the cervical canal, and curetting, steam at 120 degrees, down to finally 110 degrees C. was applied by means of a metallic cannula, which was introduced not quite up to the fundus, for 90 seconds.