

the skin is almost a normal color, and this without destructive cicatrix. In these cases, however, the treatment is often prolonged, as it is necessary to avoid anything approaching a destruction of the skin. The beneficial effect is due to its irritating action, producing obliterative endarteritis and fibroid change.

On true keloidal tissues radium seems to exercise again its selective action and cause the ready disappearance of these disfiguring hypertrophies of scar tissue.

Various other affections of the skin respond to radium treatment after other methods have failed. Thus it has been our own experience as well as that of others that in the treatment of lupus, chronic eczema, psoriasis, sycosis, acne rosacea and acne keloid radium is an invaluable agent.

A case of a tuberculous ulcer on the finger of a confrere which had resisted all treatment may also be mentioned. It healed readily with a few applications of a strong radium plaque. Treatment in these conditions of the skin must be very carefully conducted, as we aim to avoid anything approaching a too destructive action.

Dr. Abbe was the first to employ the method of introducing tubes containing the radium salts into the centres of tumors, and this method he has particularly employed with excellent results in cases of sarcomata. Dr. Wickham, of Paris, has also used the same method and with equally good results.

This brings us to what seems to be the great hope from radium treatment. It is the combination of surgery with the use of radium. The surgeon can devise methods by which the apparatus may be brought into contact with deep lying malignant growths particularly those in the various hollow viscera, such as the stomach, bladder, rectum and uterus, as well as the liver and other organs. Cases are reported in which, by such a combination, either an inoperable case has been converted into an operable one, or after the surgeon has removed all he could, radium has been used with good effect on the malignant tissues remaining.

Furthermore, radium has been used after operation for malignant growths, infiltrating the operative area with the rays, so as to kill any cancer cells which may have been missed at the time of operation. Naturally in such cases the question can never be determined as to the necessity or value of the use of radium in any particular case. There might have been no recurrence without its use, but when, as has been reported, recurrence has appeared two or three times, and finally after radium treatment it has not appeared in the same patient, one cannot help but feel that a large share of the eventual good result should be ascribed to the action of the radium rays.