

The mechanical changes in the heart, such as dilatation and hypertrophy, have a position subordinate to the myocardial changes. The practical deduction is that women with myomata should pay especial attention to diet and exercise.

All those pathological changes usual in such cases may follow the cardiac changes and thus result in far-reaching disturbances in other viscera. Kelly and Cullen have found that most of the cases showing heart lesions were those in which there had been much loss of blood, and considered the heart lesion to be due chiefly to disturbance of its nutrition. Such conditions usually disappear after a successful operation.

I saw recently in this hospital a case in which we recognized myocardiac change before the operation, and although the operation was most skilfully performed and the patient bore it well, she died within a week from myocarditis or gradual failure of the heart. I relate this as an instance showing the very great importance of this visceral change. In regard to visceral changes due to pressure, these may be most extended and varied. There may be pressure upon the intestines, the bladder, the ureters, the rectum and even upon the iliac vessels, which produce their corresponding pathological conditions. Mechanical changes in the circulation may take place as a result of these pressure symptoms, such as dilatation and hypertrophy of the heart, and the establishment of new branches of circulation. Oftentimes the omentum will become adherent to a large fibrinous tumor and a new circulation will be established there. Enormous veins, like cords, may pass up through the omentum.

We will not attempt to go into the particular condition produced upon the viscera, because within the short time at our disposal we shall have to confine ourselves mainly to broad issues. Certain changes of the greatest pathological significance may take place in the tumors themselves. The most common is that of coagulation necrosis and cystic degeneration. A condition apparently favoring another degeneration of the most serious nature, that is, sarcomatous degeneration. The latter change occurs in about two per cent. of the cases