

treatment temporarily when systemic toxemia first appears, and allow the organism time to rid itself of the noxious accumulation before a further influence is invoked. From these deductions, together with the almost uniformly favourable reports by others, the author believes that the attitude in regard to the use of the x-ray in cancer may be expressed as follows: First, x-light can be relied upon to effect a greater proportion of cures of external cancer than any other measure or combination of measures now known, with the possible exception of massive mercuric cataphoresis as conceived, developed, and recommended by Massey. Second, in all cases of cancer in which it may be considered advisable to use the knife, the influence of x-light in antagonizing cancerous degeneration may be looked upon as indicating its application for a time immediately succeeding the operation in all cases, and in some cases for a time immediately preceding the operation as well. Third, in all inoperable cases the x-ray is indicated, because in a few instances it has apparently effected a cure of processes the most deeply located; in a considerable proportion of cases it has removed pain effectually, and improved the victim's general condition markedly, thereby rendering the remainder of his life comfortable; and, lastly, because it is the only measure that offers the patients anything whatever in the line of hope for ultimate recovery or prolongation of life. The author believes that the reciprocal therapeutic relation of the knife and the x-ray, as regards the management of cancer, will be found ultimately to be an important one. This relationship is considered from three aspects: one of election by the patient, another of election by the x-ray therapist, and a third of necessity, by which the x-ray therapist and the attending physician jointly must be the judges. This third aspect obtains in those cases in which benefit does not follow upon the use of the x-ray alone in which the malignant characteristics continue to be manifest in spite of it. A case should not ordinarily be considered as having assumed this aspect until the rays have been thoroughly tried for at least six weeks, then followed by a cessation of treatment for three weeks longer.—*N. Y. Med. Rec.*—*St. Louis Med. Rev.*