

in the former year, owing to the urgent need for men, as many as possible were fitted with trusses,* so that those operated upon were of a less suitable type. Though some time may have been saved, it is probable that the slightly longer time required for operative treatment would have made the men much more fit to stand the strain of active military duties.

In 1918, owing to the demands upon hospital accommodation for wounded men, these cases were largely transferred for treatment to special hospitals, where the pressure was not so great.

* Cases suitable for operation were often provided with trusses as a temporary measure. The men were instructed to apply for operation at a later and more suitable time.