

Report or Certificate of a Legally Qualified Medical Practitioner.

"I, the undersigned, a legally qualified medical practitioner, hereby certify that on the day of 19...., at, I examined and found.....suffering from Venereal Disease in the form of"

The examination comprised the following procedure, viz.:
(Signed)

Date M. D.

In making the report or giving the certificate, the following regulations are enjoined upon the medical practitioner to follow:

REGULATIONS RESPECTING VENEREAL DISEASES.
METHODS OF EXAMINATION.

"The examination of any person with a view to ascertaining whether or not such person is infected with venereal disease shall be as follows:

(a) In the case of *suspected* gonorrhoea, the examination shall include a physical examination of the person with a microscopical examination of the erethal and prostatic discharges in the male, and of the urethral, bartholinic, vaginal and uterine discharges in the female.

(b) In the case of *suspected* syphilis, the examination shall include a physical examination of the person and an examination of the blood, by means of what is known as the Bordet-Wassermann test, and a complete spinal fluid examination if such is deemed advisable by the Medical Officer of Health.

(c) In the case of chancre of chancroid, the examination shall correspond to that detailed under (b), with the addition of the dark field microscopical examination, india ink preparation, or one of the recognized stains for *spirochaete pallida*. In all cases the report of the examination shall include full details of the methods of examination carried out."

It will be seen at once that no amount of clinical or practical experience in the diagnosis of these diseases is of any value. There must be a microscopical examination and a blood test. This is carrying this aspect of diagnosis too far. One cannot make an examination of discharges when there are none, or of sores when such do not exist. There is an early stage of suspected syphilis when the Wassermann test must be negative.