

5. Discharge from the meatus may be profuse or scanty. If there is drainage of the mastoid abscess through the middle ear the amount of discharge will be greater than is found with simple middle ear involvement. If this pathway is obstructed by granulations or polyps the discharge may be very scanty. The former of these two conditions was exemplified recently in my own practice in a very striking manner. Aside from the history of the case, the profuse discharge and persistent loss of strength, in spite of the exhibition of powerful tonics, were the only symptoms.

6. Tenderness on deep pressure is the most characteristic sign of the involvement of the osseous structures. This varies in location and gives some hint as to the direction in which the necrotic process is extending. It is usually most marked directly over the antrum. Recently a case of subacute mastoiditis in a man was under observation. The discharge, pain and temperature lessened, but a point of tenderness an inch and a half behind the antrum persisted. On operation there was but little destruction in the neighborhood of the antrum, but careful search discovered a necrotic tract leading back to an extradural abscess. In eliciting this symptom great care must be exercised not to disturb the auricle, else a furuncle may be diagnosed as mastoiditis.

7. If one is familiar with the use of the forehead mirror and aural speculum he will almost invariably find bulging of the inner end of the canal at its supero-posterior angle.

This corresponds to the anterior wall of the mastoid antrum, which is much thinner than the external wall.

If the intracranial structures are involved the symptoms are characteristic of the particular region attached.

A. In the case of an infectious thrombosis of the lateral sinus the temperature changes give the key to the situation. They consist in sudden elevation of T. to 104 or 105, which persists but for a few hours and then falls to normal or even lower spontaneously. These changes are easily overlooked unless the T. is taken frequently. The access of the fever is often accompanied by a chill and is followed by a profuse sweat. If the condition persists all the symptoms of general sepsis appear, such as great lassitude, an ashen hue to the skin,