

strychnine, advising absolute rest of the eyes. Coming to report progress in a few days, I found the pupils beginning to respond to light, and found that the use of a solution of eserine contracted the pupil to a marked degree.

She came back and forth for about a month, varying in her condition, one day seeming much better than the next, and giving most contradictory answers to my enquiries, all this time being the object of the sympathy and solicitude of her relatives and employers, who were very much alarmed at her growing blindness. One day she came complaining of great dimness of sight, telling me she had to give up her position, and appeared in a pitiable condition. I found the pupils widely dilated and not responding to the light. I instilled a strong solution of eserine, asking her to see me the following day, when I found the pupils as widely dilated and insensitive as before. I immediately accused her of using belladonna. Upon her vigorous denial, I told her plainly she was not telling the truth, and kept at her until finally she admitted that she had been using a four-grains-to-the-ounce solution of atropia sulphate. She could give no reason for it, except an uncontrollable impulse to excite the sympathy of her friends. It is needless to say that her vision for distance had all along been perfect, her answers to the tests being the result of her intent to deceive.

This brief clinical sketch will serve to indicate the necessity for the practitioner being ever on his guard against the machinations of the victims of hysteria.

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