

That radium is of great value in the treatment of malignant tumors can be asserted with extreme definiteness, but it is too early in the use of this therapeutic agent to be positive that it leads to a complete cure in all cases. On account of its great expense experimentation has been limited to the few, who were privileged to make trial of the costly mineral and to judge of its power in combatting diseased conditions.

Many have been using waters which were ascertained to be radio-active in internal cancer, such as of the stomach, and beneficial results have been claimed in relieving subjective symptoms, also minute quantities of the bromide of radium have been employed in injections and in the form of salves for permanent radiation.

The Heidelberg Institute of Cancer Research has collected much experience both with the injections and the salves. Prof. Czerney has used in his clinic the bromide of radium, and Dr. Richard Verner has reported results in connection with small epithelioma, angiomas, keloids, warts and isolated tumor nodules connected with cancer of the breast, and the results indicate a quick resolution of epitheliomatous tissue under the formation of a scab, which, when it becomes detached, leaves a small white scar and a good result from the cosmetic standpoint. Metastatic nodules also resolved if not over the size of a hazel nut, but complete healing was found to result in the angiomas and several cases of lupus. The conclusion arrived at as the result of the use of radium at the Heidelberg Institute is that taking all in all the experience of radium treatment of malignant tumors, notwithstanding all the skeptical views expressed, gives a strongly grounded hope that we may look forward to a permanency of cure in many cases.⁽⁴⁾

My observations have confirmed the statement that rodent ulcer, epithelioma of some degree, one might almost say extensive epithelioma, has been treated with success. This also applies to epithelioma of the inside of the mouth.

Finzi states that the cure of rodent ulcer when it can be reached at all is as certain as anything in medicine, and any one can improve his statistics by including this class of case.

Let me quote from Sir F. Treves' remarks of last year, founded on observations made at the Radium Institute in Paris, in speaking of the curability of rodent ulcer. He said: "Radium will cure rodent ulcers. Of what grade? Rodent ulcers that have existed for many years, in which the tissues have become adherent to the bone, or apparently to the bone, in which there is ulceration, and in which—and this is the most important point of all—in which the Finsen light, the X-rays and cataphoresis