

Associated with the enlarged bones of the face, hands, and feet seen in acromegaly there are in some cases other features; these are glycosuria, amenorrhœa, impotence, and, in the young, failure of the secondary sexual characters. The temperature is subnormal. This train of symptoms will recall the effects of total or partial removal of the anterior lobe of the gland in animals.

Fröhlich and others have shown that there is another group of cases, totally distinct from acromegaly, but again associated with tumours of the pituitary gland. These are characterized by excessive fatness, by infantile stature and development, by a childish type of the genital organs, and by absence of the secondary sexual characters. It may be that we shall yet find abnormalities of the pituitary gland in other varieties of infantilism or of adiposity.

Most cases of pituitary tumour which have been diagnosed during life have given additional evidence of their presence by involving the optic chiasma and causing blindness of the nasal half of each retina.

There are already many successful cases on record of removal of a tumour of the pituitary gland in cases of acromegaly. Most recovered from the severe operation, and there was usually a definite shrinking of the enlarged bones. There are also cases in which tumours or cysts of the pituitary have been removed successfully for Fröhlich's type of infantilism and adiposity with bi-temporal hemianopsia.*

* A list of about fifty operations for tumours of the pituitary is given by Bode (*Deutsche Zeitschr. f. Chirurg.* 1911, p. 480).