

tissues, it will require the utmost care and vigilance during the whole operation. Sometimes, where the conditions have been severe, it would be wiser not to operate.

Rheumatic conditions contraindicate an operation, especially where they attack the periosteum. Happily these conditions are not often found in patients requiring orthodontic operations.

Scorbutic diseases demand attention, and should be corrected and the system placed in a thoroughly healthy state before attempting to operate, and these diseases are frequently found in the young as well as in older patients.

Uremic diseases should be corrected when present. Elimination is just as essential for health as assimilation, and it would be well if more attention was given to bringing it about.

Phthical patients should be dismissed at once without operation, as anything that tends to lower the action of the vital forces will have a tendency to accelerate the disease.

Sometimes the hereditary conditions are such that an operation cannot be made without fear of stirring up a sleeping lion that may be difficult to quiet.

Often the character of the deformity is a family trait, and has been handed down from generation to generation. In such cases you can generally feel assured that though you succeed in bringing the teeth into perfect position, they will, as a rule, find their former position, or approximate to it.

Long, severe operations should not be undertaken on patients while attending school, as the mental work takes up so much of the vital force to supply its needs that there is little or nothing for the physical system to appropriate.

After eliminating the impossible and doubtful cases, and correcting, as far as possible, any diseased condition that may have been present, we are ready to consider that which will have to be done with the case in hand. Above all things, do not be in a hurry, but study the case in all its phases, the probability of success or failure; the amount of improvement in the appearance of the patient by the operation.

After having gone thus far, you will be ready to commence the work of accomplishing the desired result.—*American Dental Weekly.*