

notice, 131 were in females and 17 in males. In 126 instances the lesion was on the right side, in 3 only was it on the left, while in 19 examples both kidneys were movable.

Legry states that 87 per cent. of the cases are in women and Dentu considers that from 85 to 90 per cent. of the instances are on the right side. One writer is so far impressed with the frequency of movable kidney in women as to assert that 22 per cent. of all adult females present this condition.

There is no doubt but that a movable kidney is quite uncommon among men. I have never been called upon to seriously treat this condition in a man, and while operations upon movable kidney are only too common, such records as I have encountered are almost silent as to operations upon men.

A displaceable kidney on the right side in a male subject is now and then met with, but such a condition on the left side is, in my experience, exceedingly rare. The diagnosis of a left movable kidney in a man is not so uncommon, but the tumor has not always realized the diagnosis and has usually proved to be some such thing as a fecal mass in the colon or a sarcoma of the omentum.

A large proportion of the women who are the subjects of movable kidney are individuals of feeble muscular development, of lax tissues, with flabby abdominal walls, and with possibly a tendency to general enteroptosis; on the other hand, a movable kidney is by no means to be discovered in all cases of pendulous abdomen.

The trouble is more common in those who have had many children than in those who are childless, and quite a striking proportion of the subjects have become more or less rapidly thin. There is no doubt but that the rapid loss of intra-abdominal fat is a common and immediate cause of loose kidney. Sometimes the diminution in weight has come without apparent reason, while in other instances it has followed upon some exhausting illness.

The mere loss of the perirenal fat will not, however, produce a movable kidney. This state of the organ is by no means of necessity a feature of emaciation. On the other hand, a movable kidney may be met with—although rarely—in the corpulent, and every surgeon will testify that the wandering organ when exposed by operation is not always found to be deprived of its fatty envelope. Now and then the investment of fat has appeared to me to be normal, although there can be no doubt but that in the majority of the examples of movable kidney the amount of the perirenal fat is diminished.

There is evidence to support the view that undue mobility of the kidney may be produced by injury. Such a sequence of