

## NASAL AND POST-NASAL SYNECHIAE.\*

BY J. PRICE-BROWN, M.D., TORONTO.

(Abstract.)

The presence of synechia within one or other of the nasal cavities is a pathological condition frequently met with by every rhinologist. During recent years many monographs, long or short, have been written upon it, among which I might mention those of Kyle, Moliné, Scheppegegrell, Vansant, Watson, and White.

Many cases are the result of injudicious treatment. This may arise from unwise operations, lack of care in after treatment, or from one cause or other our inability to keep sufficient control over the future progress of the case.

A synechia may be described as a bony, cartilaginous, or fibrous band, unnaturally connecting together the opposite walls of a cavity. It occurs most frequently between the middle turbinal and the septum; next between the inferior turbinal and the septum. It may also occur between the lower turbinal and inferior meatus, the middle turbinal and the external wall, or between the two lower turbinal bodies. In the naso-pharynx the synechia is usually found connecting the lip of one or other of the eustachian tubes to some part of the pharyngeal vault.

Pathologically it is almost invariably either osseous or fibrous in character. The synechia can only be cartilaginous when situated in the extreme anterior region, where the septum lies directly opposite the superior or inferior lateral cartilages; and the condition in this region is so exceedingly rare as to be practically non-existent.

When osseous, it usually consists of solid union between the septum and the outer wall, either of the middle turbinated with the perpendicular plate of the ethmoid or the inferior turbinated with the vomer.

Almost all other synechia, wherever situated, are of a fibrous character, the result of inflammatory adhesion between two abraded surfaces.

The cause, in all cases, I believe to be either directly or indirectly traumatic. By directly traumatic, I mean direct physical injury of one form or other, either by the surgeon's knife, saw, or cautery, or whatever other instrument he may use in operating upon his case, or from direct accidental injury to the parts themselves.

By indirect traumatism I mean simple abrasion of the surfaces from forcible blowing, when the swollen tissues are either

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