

tissue builders, gains the mastery ; and thus we have a replacing of normal tissues by connective tissue structures, or a sclerosis. The theory has an element of the picturesque, though as a practical working hypothesis it will probably not be of great value in overcoming the effects of age and of advancing sclerosis. Modern science appears to be looking for the fountain of youth with all the enthusiasm of Ponce de Leon.

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DIAGNOSTIC AND THERAPEUTIC IMPORTANCE OF THE X-RAY IN MEDICINE AND SURGERY.

Among the diagnoses which may positively be made by the X-rays are : Early diagnosis of aneurysm of the aorta ; determination of the boundaries of the heart in emphysema ; determination of apparent and real hypertrophy of the heart. With the aid of the fluoroscope abnormal rhythm of the heart and the effects of drugs upon it can be carefully studied. The differential diagnosis between tumors of mediastinum and aneurysms of the aorta can absolutely be made. Aneurysms of the various arteries and the calcification of these various arteries can be made out. Respiratory tract : Tumors and foreign bodies in the larynx, Tumors, foreign bodies, gangrenous areas in the lungs, exudate into the pleural cavity, thickness of the pleura and pneumothorax are all distinctly to be made out. Gastro-intestinal tract : Foreign bodies in the esophagus, stomach and bowel can be detected, and the differential diagnosis between the tumors and diverticula of the esophagus made. Furthermore, abnormalities in the shape and position of the stomach can be made out by means of inflation, or the introduction of sounds and bismuth. Tumors of the omentum, the bowel, the pancreas and the liver have been made out. Urinary apparatus : Stone in the bladder and the kidney and tumor of the kidney. Head : Fractures of the skull, splinters of bone and tumors in the brain, foreign bodies in the eye and in the nose, empyema of the frontal sinuses and of the antrum of Highmore. The importance of the X-ray in purely surgical cases needs no explanation here. Therapeutically, the author has good reports of the effect of the X-ray in cases of neuralgia of the facial, occipital and intercostal nerves. In some cases joint and muscle rheumatism were favorably influenced ; in others they were not. In the treatment of certain affections of the skin, notably lupus, eczema and psoriasis, excellent