

true that by sweating a collection of serous fluid is absorbed. In one case of typical retinal detachment with a floating retina and the tension normal, I saw after fourteen days of sweating, a complete absorption of the subretinal serum. However, after the retina became reattached, a small sarcoma was seen which required enucleation.

Even when bandaged rest of the eyes is not obtained and it seems to me a hardship to keep such patients in bed. The use of the pressure bandage is absurd. Will it elect to act only on the fluid under the retina? No one has been convinced that the pressure bandage exerts a favorable influence on this fluid. Indeed we know that the eyeball becomes soft under the pressure bandage and that the volume of the vitreous lessens. Hortsmann insisted that the prognosis of detachment is bad when the eyeball is soft. After one reads the instructive article by Hortsmann one is impressed by the fact how few cases are cured and they spontaneously, and that the condition of the eye is made worse after the treatment of Samelsohn. I for my part permit with sweating, mercury and iodide of sodium only a light occlusive bandage, avoiding violent or sudden movements and reject the pressure bandage as uncertain and directly injurious.

To the rage of the medical treatment was added the injection of iodine or Lugols solution into the vitreous (Schöler (4)) which was found by other physicians to be pernicious. Schöler himself afterwards discarded it.

Of the operative methods of treatment are the scleral puncture, the method of Deutschmann to be discussed later, the transfixion of the retina as with gold wire through the sclera and choroid with other precedures which have only historical interest.

Horstmann stated that the emptying of the subretinal fluid by puncture always hastens the extension of the detachment. I have also had this experience and gave up the puncture because it was injurious. What happens from this puncture and afterwards? The subretinal space is evacuated and the eyeball contracts. Naturally it refills again quickly and does it not by an increase of the volume of the vitreous