

# Selections.

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## SURGICAL HINTS.

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Warts and moles may be removed by touching them daily with glacial acetic acid, which must not be permitted to touch the healthy skin. If this is carefully done no scar will be left.

Since, in modern surgery, it has been recognized that the skin is the principal source of infection, it is well, in operating, to use one knife to cut the skin and to replace it by another for the deeper work.

In all emergency cases of operations in which the patient shows any evidence of bronchitis, begin the treatment of this condition at once. A good sized dose of digitalis with one of the salts of ammonia before operating is useful.

It is never likely that gonococci are present in the female genitalia when the mucous membranes appear to be perfectly healthy; on the other hand, they may be present in any case in which an unhealthy secretion appears, however mild the latter may be.

After amputations, never wait to apply an artificial limb beyond the time when the stump is well healed and the patient is strong again. Disuse of the stump for too long a time makes it less able to stand the artificial limb. The only exception to this rule is where the operation was done for malignant disease, where early pressure and concussion might favor a return.—*International Journal of Surgery.*

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### Night Sweats in Phthisis.

All physicians know the difficulty of keeping the night sweat of phthisis in control. Almost every known remedy has been tried since the Greeks used agaricin down to the present. Graves and Stokes used Dover's powder, which in time gave place to mineral acids, zinc and belladonna, atropine, and a host of other specifics. To the long list Nolda adds tannoform, the external use of which he recommends. In seven out of eight cases in which he had the front and back of the thorax dusted with powdered tannoform it checked the sweating (*Berl. Klin. Woch.*). This method of treating the symptom has the advantage of not interfering with the digestive function, which is usually so imperfectly performed in such cases, neither does it in any way preclude the use of any of the other