

importance as was formerly the case. Childbearing seems to have an important influence on the production of cancer of the cervix; this variety of cancer being very rare in nulliparæ, and relatively frequent in those who have borne children, and especially in those who have lacerations of the cervix. This speaks for the influence of trauma and irritation as a causal agent. Recently Leopold claims to have found pure cultures of the blastomycetes in fresh carcinoma of the ovary, and by injection of a pure culture into the testicle of a rat he claims to have produced on the peritoneum nodules in which similar blastomycetic organisms were found. From these experiments he infers that this organism may be the cause of carcinoma in man.

Clinically, we may divide cancer of the cervix into four classes, (1) Cauliflower carcinoma of the vaginal portion of the cervix. This form tends to grow superficially into the vagina and is seen as a sessile or pedunculated growth arising from one or both lips of the cervix. It may be of any size up to completely filling the vagina. The surface is uneven, nodular or polypoid, covered with a slimy gangrenous deposit. The whole mass bleeds readily to the touch and is very friable. (2) Infiltrating or Nodular cancer. This form appears in the early form as an irregular thickening of the cervix. It may appear on either the anterior or the posterior lip, but most frequently the anterior lip is first involved. In this form the whole cervix soon becomes involved. Before disintegration the surface is hard friable and uneven. Later in the disease as disintegration sets in, we find an ulcer with hard, elevated margins, and rough uneven base, covered with a stinking slough, of a dirty yellow or gangrenous character. This bleeds very readily on handling. The growth may now spread to the vaginal walls, producing extensive ulceration, or it may pass beyond the internal os into the cavity of the uterus. The pelvic connective tissue, broad ligaments and utero-sacral ligaments are infiltrated relatively early. The bladder is involved late, and the rectum still later as a rule. Only in the very late stage is the peritoneum invaded. (3) Cancer of the cavity, Boring or Eating cancer. This form develops first in the mucous membrane of the cervix.