

Treatment of Alveolar Pyorrhea.

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The symptoms and causes of this affection have been carefully studied from the standpoint of Messrs. Magitot and Galippe's views. I shall speak upon the treatment and cure.

From the point of view of the severity, I consider the malady as separable into four degrees, as facilitating the application of the treatment which I recommend.

I regard the disease as of the first degree when the suppuration has only extended to the neck of the tooth, the alveolo-dental periosteum being unaffected. The cure of this stage is extremely easy by the following treatment: In the first place, the tartar or other irritating deposits are to be completely removed; the gums are to be scarified as thoroughly as possible with a steel instrument wrapped in cotton, which should as a preliminary be dipped in a 1 to 1000 solution of sublimate. This is at once followed by an application having the following composition:

Tincture of iodine,
Tincture of aconite, equal quantities.

The patient is directed to cleanse the mouth thrice daily with a brush and the following antiseptic lotion:

Tincture of thyme.....	2 grams.
" eucalyptus.....	1 gram.
" benzoin	4 grams.
" mint	120 grams.
" lavender	2 grams.
" rosemary	1 gram.
" cologne.....	2 grams.
" anise	4 grams.

Sig.—One teaspoonful in half a glass of water.

Have the patient return at the end of a month; he will be entirely well if he has followed directions.

Second degree: suppuration having extended to the upper portion of the cement. Treatment the same as for the first degree, only it will be necessary to have the patient return several times for scarification and painting of the gums. The cure will be complete at the end of two or three months.

Third degree: suppuration involves the whole of the cement and the periosteum, but the teeth have not given way entirely.

The visits must be more numerous, and the strength of the sublimate solution is to be increased to 2 to 1000. After scarifying the gums by means of a bistoury, I introduce with a Pravaz syringe the sublimate solution between the tooth and the gum, and at once apply the iodine and aconite preparation.