

Although occasionally present in the cervix, it usually commences in the body of the uterus and while showing a tendency to bleed, the haemorrhage is usually not so severe as is noted with cancer. The exact diagnosis is only of interest to the pathologist as it cannot be clearly established, except on histological examination and further as the treatment of cases of sarcoma and carcinoma is identical—namely, complete abdominal hysterectomy.

*Adeno-myoma of the uterus.* This occurs in about 2 per cent. of all myoma cases and is usually accompanied by free uterine haemorrhages. The inner uterine walls are converted into a coarse-textured diffuse myomatous tissue and the uterine mucosa flows into the chinks between muscle bundles. At each menstrual period this mucosa between muscle bundles naturally swells up and on account of the increased tension thus produced gives rise to much uterine pain and at the same time it pours its quota of menstrual blood. This added to the normal amount given off by the uterine mucosa causes profuse haemorrhage. As the uterine mucosa itself is normal scrapings will give us no clue. The condition while very interesting to the clinician can only be diagnosed after removal of the uterus. I have examined over twenty cases of this character at the Johns Hopkins Hospital.

*Cancer of the Uterus.* We now come to the most frequent and dreaded cause of uterine haemorrhage—cancer of the uterus. The mucous membrane of the uterus is of three varieties—that of the vaginal portion of the cervix which closely resembles skin, that lining the cervical canal consisting of branching glands and secreting mucus and that lining the uterine cavity, consisting of tubular glands. From each of these three varieties of mucosa different forms of cancer may develop.

Cancer of the outer or vaginal portion of the cervix may roughly resemble a cauliflower growth. It bleeds so easily on account of the great number of blood vessels it contains and the various blood vessels have so little support that the merest touch is sufficient to rub the tops and free oozing follows.

Adeno-carcinoma of the cervix or the variety from the cervical canal consists of glands which penetrate in all directions and may grow entirely through the cervix but giving rise to much bleeding.

Cancer of the body of the uterus also consists of glands. It forms tree-like growths in the uterine cavity and also penetrates the uterine walls.