

interference should not be influenced by the size of the tumour. You should operate as soon as your diagnosis is complete.

Moreover, you will still see cases where an epithelioma, situated, for example, on the right side of the tongue produces its effect on the glands of the left side, and you must not on this fact establish a false security. It is a fact difficult of clinical explanation, although anatomy teaches us the anastomoses which exist between the lymphatic vessels of the two sides of the tongue. Another fact which should influence you in operating early, is the difficulty you will find in extirpating degenerated glands in the neck, which are sometimes adherent to the great vessels of that region.

In a general way epithelioma of the tongue is particularly malignant, a fact clinically true, but not easy of explanation. You see, on the contrary parts, the penis, for example, where the growth remains stationary for a long time, and seems a local affection.

Moreover, if having removed the bulk of the tumour, and also, a part of the neighboring tissues, you have no recurrence in the original seat of disease, there is great likelihood of its occurring in the glands of the neck.

With regard to the operation in itself, it is not so difficult if the growth be of limited extent, but it is another matter when the disease has involved a great part or the whole of the organ. Here the difficulty of operation is very great. Above all things the loss of blood is to be avoided. In this purpose the compression of the carotid or lingual arteries has been recommended. The use of the *écraseur* does not exempt one from this great drawback to the operation.

You know, that in this region one cannot use ligatures without the risk of secondary hæmorrhages. I will have recourse, in this case to preventive hæmostasis, by means of my "pincés hémostatiques," of larger size. The mouth having been previously kept open by a suitable instrument, I am in the habit of surrounding the growth with these forceps. In a small tumour nothing is easier. Three forceps are required: two, at a right angle to separate the mouth, the third is applied to the ranine artery.