

EARLY SYMPTOMS OF RACHITIS.—Professor A. Jacobi says: "The very young infant and the young child suffer from rachitis in many ways. Insomnia is quite frequent. Many sleep better when carried about on the arm, because the cerebral congestion is lessened in the erect posture. As soon as they are laid down the brain becomes hyperemic, the child wakes up and makes night hideous. Such children have night terrors on waking up, they are very irritable, easily frightened, peevish or morose and bad-tempered, sometimes to a degree of moral or intellectual insanity. The suspicion of rachitis ought to be aroused when children perspire copiously all over, or mainly on the head. They rub their heads on the pillow to such a degree as to become bald on the occiput. I wish I could impress the necessity of connecting these signs with rachitis, and the advisability of not waiting for all its most prominent symptoms to appear before the diagnosis is made. The regulation of the diet is the principal remedy; but it is a mistake to believe that a food which does not disturb the bowels is for that reason alone a sufficient nutriment and a safe-guard against rachitis."—*Archives of Pediatrics*.

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