

stomach is nauseated, it is washed out and castor oil given through the tube. Vaginal or panhysterectomy cases have the evening previous to the operation a vigorous scrubbing with soap and water, followed by bichloride of mercury, 1/3,000, or hot boric acid douche and sponged out with alcohol.

In cancer or infected vaginal cases the douching is followed by packing the vagina with iodoform gauze wet with tincture of iodine, which usually remains five days. This is followed by one or two vaginal douches daily of bichloride solution or creoline. Diet, in these cases, is hot water for twenty-four hours, followed by beer and buttermilk, gruel and milk-toast for three days, in a week general diet.

In protracted vomiting, rectal feeding is resorted to, which consists of beef, milk, gluten, two ounces, hot water, one ounce, repeated every six hours, endeavoring to use also two saline enemas of one quart each in twenty-four hours.

Chloroform is rarely used as an anæsthetic, only when compelled to upon a patient with lung complications, or when the cautery is to be used about the mouth.

Suture materials used are catgut, silkworm gut, horse hair and celloidine linen.

METHODS OF STERILIZATION.

Catgut.—First, dry catgut in hot air chamber, covering bottom of this chamber with asbestos paper, being careful not to permit the gut to come too near the side wall of the sterilizer on account of causing the gut to become hard or brittle. This is heated slowly, endeavoring to reach a temperature not exceeding 220 F. This should be continued thirty minutes. Secondly, the gut is transferred to an asbestos-lined kettle where it remains in liquid albolene for twenty-four hours. Third, it is then heated in a sand bath carrying temperature gradually to 320 F. in one and a half to two hours, holding at this degree one hour. Fourth, the catgut is kept in sterilized glass jars, containing 1 per cent. of crystal iodine in best Columbian spirits.

Silkworm gut is sterilized by boiling with instruments eight or ten minutes, or in a steam sterilizer with dressings for two hours. This is kept in alcohol, 60 per cent., water, 40 per cent., crystal iodine, one per cent.

Horse hair is washed in soap and water for five or six days, changing water each day, then put in bichloride, 1/1,000 for twenty-four hours, boiled three minutes, not longer, and kept in the same solution as silkworm.