

Pathology:

The pathology of this condition is apparently that it is not the result of subperiosteal gummata such as is frequently seen on the sternum clavicle or ribs but that it commences as a definite periostitis because in these subperiosteal gummata one usually finds a worm eaten appearance of the bone and not the regular osteo-sclerosis which we find here. This condition would start with the thickened and chronically inflamed periosteum with a subsequent laying down of subperiosteal new bone. The surface of the new bone in these conditions is usually smoother than that presented in this patient. We explain, however, the irregularity of the surface here by the fact that we have direct access to pyogenic infection through our cutaneous ulceration, and this irregular formation of bone we take to be characteristic of the so-called pyogenic periostitis ossificans.

Summary:

(1) This appears to be a case which we are definitely of the opinion to syphilitic with a pyogenic infection superadded.

(2) The most interesting part to our mind is the position and nature of the new bone formation.

(3) The failures of the therapeutic measures taken also present an interesting phase.

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