

- 442 Cigarette Smoking, Chronic Bronchitis, and Emphysema. R. S. Mitchell, T. N. Vincent, and G. F. Filley. J. Am. Med. Assn. 188, 12-16 (April 6, 1964).

Of 150 patients with chronic bronchitis or diffuse obstructive pulmonary emphysema, 143 were cigarette smokers, most of them heavy smokers from an early age. Of the 60 who stopped smoking, 44 noted complete or almost complete relief from coughing. These 44 evidenced a lower mortality rate during the 20 years after the onset of their dyspnea than did the 84 who continued to smoke. The lungs of 125 persons who died after age 40 were graded for chronic bronchitis and the quantity of emphysema and black pigmentation. Emphysema and pigment were usually found in close proximity to each other. These three factors correlated well with each other and also with the cigarette smoking histories. The nature of the black pigment is unknown. -- Authors' abst.

- 443 Pneumonomycosis, Aspergillina. F. J. Bassermann. Beitr. Klin. Tuberk. 126, 155-176 (Feb. 1963). German.

A monograph of the deep mycosis known also as pulmonary aspergillosis is presented with case histories and illustrations. Some 13 species of the fungus were found to be pathogenic, among them Aspergillus glaucus, the pathogenicity of which had hitherto been doubtful. A primary form of pulmonary aspergillosis is not recognized, neither is it proven that antimicrobials and corticosteroids have an influence favorable to the development of the disorder. The role of the fungus as secondary invader of hollow spaces in the lung and the proposition that it may participate in provoking bronchiectasis should be considered as valid. -- Am. Rev. Resp. Dis. Absts.

- 444 Fungus Infection Complicating Leukemia. H. R. Schumacher, D. A. Ginne, and W. J. Warren. Am. J. Med. Sci. 247, 313 (March, 1964).

Medical records of 205 patients with leukemia admitted to Jefferson Medical College Hospital over a 5-year period were examined for evidence of fungus infection. Twenty-eight (13.7%) were found to have fungus disease. The most common fungus observed was Candida, which occurred in 25 (89.3%) patients with fungus disease. It was a major or contributory factor in the cause of death in 6 (24%) of the patients with moniliasis. There were 2 patients with aspergillosis; one patient with brain involvement, and one with liver and lung involvement. One patient with chronic lymphatic leukemia succumbed to cryptococcic meningitis. Eight patients received total body irradiation and the etiological significance of this was discussed. Multiple etiological factors were analyzed and antimetabolites, antibiotics, steroids, neutropenia, and the terminal condition of the patient seemed to be of varied importance. Antimetabolites seemed to be more important as an etiological agent in acute leukemia, while steroids seemed to play a more predominant role in the chronic leukemias.

-- J. Am. Med. Assn. References & Reviews

SKIN DISEASES AND BURNS

- 445 Abnormal Reactions of Man to Light. T. B. Fitzpatrick, M. A. Pathak, I. A. Magnus, and W. L. Curwen. Annual Rev. Med. 14, 195-214 (1963).

A review is presented of the effects of ultraviolet and visible light on human tissues. A brief discussion is given of the biophysical characteristics of light and of the normal responses of human skin to light. Photosensitization by light alone or by light in conjunction with exogenous agents and metabolites is discussed. Abnormal conditions of the skin and various skin diseases related to exposure to sunlight are reviewed. There are 80 references.

-- Aerospace Med. Absts.