

visualization of the inf. vena cava in cases of extensive carcinoma of the cardiac portion of the stomach or their lymph nodes metastasis and pancreatic tumors, and relative or no block if the extension of tumors was mild or not present. We believe that transosseous venography is very valuable for knowing spreads of tumors outside these digestive organs.

218. INITIAL CLINICAL FINDINGS AND PROGNOSIS IN GASTRIC ULCER

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It is of practical importance for the choice of an appropriate therapeutic method to predict the course of a gastric ulcer when it is detected. This report describes the prognosis of 499 patients with gastric ulcer under medical treatment and its possible relation to the characteristics of an ulcer at the first examination.

Overall cure rate of this series was 75 per cent in 3 months and 86 per cent in 6 months. Of 157 patients followed up over 3 years after healing, recurrence of ulcer was noted in 27 per cent within a year, 52 per cent within 2 years and 73 per cent within 3 years. In the respective periods, 5, 9 and 21 per cent of these 157 patients were subjected to surgery.

Gastric acidity: Cure rate of gastric ulcer in 6 months was 77 per cent in achlorhydric, 89 per cent in hypochlorhydric, 91 per cent in normochlorhydric and 95 per cent in hyperchlorhydric patients.

Depth and size of ulcer: There was an inverse relationship between the depth of ulcers on roentgenograms and their curability, *i.e.* deeper ulcers were difficult to be cured. However, no obvious correlation was found between the size and curability of ulcers.

Gastrocamera findings:

- 1) Elevated margin—Cure rate in 6 months was 96 per cent in ulcers without this sign and 86 and 76 per cent in those with moderate and marked ones, respectively.
- 2) Henning sign—91 per cent of ulcers without and 86 per cent of those with the sign healed in 6 months.
- 3) Radiated mucosal folds—91 per cent of ulcers without this finding healed in 6 months, while 86 and 77 per cent of those with moderate and marked ones healed in the comparative period, respectively.

On the other hand, a study on 244 patients observed for more than one year revealed no relationship between the findings described above and the tendency for an ulcer recurrence.

219. CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS OF GASTRIC AND DUODENAL ULCERS IN THE AGED

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Clinical observations of 269 gastric and duodenal ulcer operations performed during the past 6 years at the Tokyo Metropolitan Hospital showed that the incidence of penetrated ulcers is high among those in the aged group. Of the 269 cases a total of 23 cases had penetrated ulcers