

OUR EXPERIENCE WITH SELECTED ANTIGENS

BY

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Our experience with selected and concentrated antigens is based upon the results so far obtained with more than 1300 allergic patients to whom we have given not less than 40,000 subcutaneous injections of antigens. There were no deaths, and if in some instances a slight intolerance was noticed, this soon disappeared when the volume of the following doses was decreased, and cold was applied locally to make reaction milder.

The selection is made with local pyogenous germs mainly streptococci, staphylococci, pneumococci and catarrhal micrococci, and with the efficiency of the different moulds in producing a phenomenon to which further reference will be made later. And the concentration, depending on the patient's tolerance, which is sometimes 500 to 800 times higher than the initial dose of the common bacterial vaccinations, as regards the useful or selected content.

We have not observed any toxicity except due to mistake, when, in more than one case, adult doses were given to young children although fortunately no fatal consequences ensued. The immediate results sometimes involve an influenza syndrome or, alternatively, a momentary exacerbation of the diseases normal manifestations, but only in a few cases.

By applying a subcutaneous injection every 3rd day, or in the event if prior 36-hour spiræxia, as a minimum, in progressive doses, after testing 0,1 c.c. on healthy tissues, far from any vein, in patients whose general condition is good, over 6 months old, up to an age limit that has not yet been determined, but certainly over 70, outside the menstrual periods, with no intervening fevers, and confirmed allergic manifestations in the presence of pollens, environment dusts, including industrial, textile, foodstuffs, etc., we have seen sensitization to these allergens disappear together with its clinical manifestations without using them at all.

The regularity of this phenomenon, in the cases observed, some of whom have been free of any disease whatsoever for almost 4 years, with no treatment, and remaining in their usual habitat and eating foods which had been forbidden to touch for years is interesting. The number of ampoules vary from one to fifty and the results, at times are immediate and in many cases, during the month's rest between each fifteen ampoules

The increase in the phenomenon of the disease is momentarily fought with certain weak sedatives, and antibiotics in small doses, the use of antithermics such as aspirin not being advisable. When fever occurs, and it not infectious, it is useful and should be regulated rather than combatted.

Accurate data are as yet premature but it may be said that 30% may be considered as cured, 40% show average or great improvement, 15% are failures, and 15% of the results are unknown.

The most difficult cases are generally those of men from 35 to 45 years of age. It should be borne in mind that we only propose to deal with the allergy and not on the component infections, i.e., bronchiectasias, emphysemas or heart and kidney disturbances, etc. which always influence the final result, even if the improvement of a single factor enables easier balance of the remaining factors. This is evident when one recognizes the influence of the allergic factor throughout a study of pathology. Bearing in mind BURKY'S phenomenon, which has been fully established although little use has been made of it. However, there is reason to believe even if only as a working hypothesis, in the possibility of the INVERSE PHENOMENON, and this appears possible, changing the order of the elements in play

