

ERYSIPELAS GERMS AS CURE FOR CANCER

Dr. Coley's Remedy of Mixed
Toxins Makes One Disease
Cast Out the Other.

MANY CASES CURED HERE

Physician Has Used the Cure for 15
Years and Treated 430 Cases—
Probably 150 Sure Cures.

Following news from St. Louis that two men have been cured of cancer in the City Hospital there by the use of a fluid discovered by Dr. William B. Coley of New York, it came out yesterday that nearly 100 cases of that supposedly incurable disease have been cured in this city during the last few years, all through the use of the fluid discovered by Dr. Coley.

This fluid which is known to medical men as "mixed toxins of erysipelas and bacillus prodigiosus," has saved many lives all over the world, medical men say. It has in recent years come to be used in almost every country where the medical profession is in an advanced state of progress. A peculiarity of its effect is that it gives the patient a mild form of erysipelas, and the system in struggling against the new disease, throws off the other and more serious disease. There is no secret about the remedy, for, following his discovery, Dr. Coley gave its benefit to the medical world at large. That was about fifteen years ago. Since then the fluid has been improved upon and its effect is now more sure and safe than in its earlier use.

The fluid is now made at the Collis P. Huntington Research Laboratories in Germantown, Penn., of which Dr. Martha Tracey, a woman physician, is the head. The Collis P. Huntington Fund for Cancer Research in this city also handles the fluid and distributes it. The formula used at the laboratories in Germantown was discovered by Dr. Coley, and the latter has more cancer cures to his credit than any other surgeon in the world. Dozens of cases have been treated and cured free of charge by Dr. Coley in the General Memorial Hospital at 106th Street and Eighth Avenue. Many other sufferers from cancer have been cured at his private sanitarium.

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Unknown to Many Physicians.

"In the great majority of the cases the diagnosis of sarcoma was confirmed by microscopical examinations made by the leading pathologists of the United States, and in the few remaining cases the concurrent opinions of independent surgeons left no reasonable doubt as to the correctness of the diagnosis. In several cases there was also a history of recurrence after primary operation.

"Although the cases show that the mixed toxins have already been used with success by a very large number of surgeons and physicians besides myself, it is constantly being brought to my notice that the possible benefit to be gained by the use of the toxins, in inoperable and apparently hopeless cases and as a prophylactic against recurrence after primary operation, is still unknown to the majority of medical men. I also frequently receive letters from surgeons and physicians in this country, as well as in other parts of the world, who are aware of the use of the toxins, but are unacquainted with the recent developments in their preparation and application, or are in doubt as to the method of treatment in particular cases."

Dr. Coley says that he has personally treated about 430 cases of sarcoma, which is the medical term for cancer, with mixed toxins. In 47 of these cases, he says the tumor completely disappeared.

"And in 28 cases a period of from three to fifteen years has passed since the disappearance," says Dr. Coley. "Twenty-six patients have remained well from five to fifteen years. Moreover, these figures cover a period of fifteen years, and during this period important improvements have been made, from experience, in both the preparation of the toxins and the method of administration. The proportion of successes is therefore higher now than in the whole past period.

"Furthermore, the cases treated include cases brought to me in the last stages of the disease, cases of melanotic sarcoma in which I have had no successes, and many desperate cases which had become inoperable after one or more extensive operations. In these desperate cases the percentage of successes from the use of the toxins is necessarily extremely low, while in other cases, not involving the long bones, the percentage of successes is considerably higher than is indicated by the figures given above.

Chance of Permanent Cure Good.

"When the growth is slow, the patient is in good general health, and the case is treated at a comparatively early stage of the disease, before the involvement of any important organs or the development of metastases, the chances of success are certainly much higher than the general percentage of 11 per cent. derived from the total figures of my own cases. The cases, however, vary so much and in so many features that no pretense can be made to accuracy in estimating the chance of success in any particular case, or even in any particular class of cases.

"It can, however, be safely said that in a very large number of cases there is a very fair prospect of permanent cure, while no case is so desperate that the possible benefit from the use of the toxins should be withheld."

Dr. Coley says there is no risk from the treatment of sarcoma by the mixed toxins. He says that out of the 430 cases treated by him only in three instances could death possibly be attributed to the toxins. And these three cases were in the last stages of the disease.

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