Medical Department
of the University of Nashville

Note on Acute Metritis

James M. Rainey

Case of J. B. Lindsey M. D.

Dean
Nestritis

By Nestritis is generally understood inflammation of the entire uterus both of the body and of the neck in the pseudopenic state. I shall not enter into a detail of the inflammation of the neck of the uterus but the body internal and external, acute inflammation of the non-impregnated uterus is a rare disease. This is a fact which is generally admitted by uterine pathologists. I believe however that acute Nestritis will be found of even frequent occurrence than it is now supposed to be. When it is no longer confounded with the lateral ligament or mistake at present frequently made even by experienced practitioners the rarity of acute Nestritis is the natural result. The peculiar dense fibrous muscular non-cellular structure of the body of the uterus, diseases of this nature being but slight or susceptible to inflammation as a necessary consequence of this.
belias Structure if the uterine System is Exposed to the Causes of inflammation its perimeter the Mucus lining the Cervix or lateral ligament which are so much more highly vitalized are generally the regions attacked when the State of the uterus is modified by the extraordinary development and vitalization that are causing pregnancy or during the increase of a large fibrous tumor. We remark a very different State of things if the uterine System is then exposed to Causes of inflammation especially after parturition the belly of the organ is frequently attacked and Metritis observed under these circumstances manifests a degree of intensity and a virulence unknown in the unimpregnated condition of the uterus but quite consistent with the modifying Structure in reality the uterus is an anatomically a perfectly different organ when unimpregnated except Man Developed by Impregnation and the
pathology is as different in two cases as its anatomical
the nervous and wonderful changes while the uterus undergoes during
its physiological life are indeed a subject for admiration and
import extreme interest of the study of its disease, acute
metritis generally appears to effect the entire body of the
uterus, although no doubt it may attack a portion only of the
muscle. Metritis usually affects the anterior and sometimes the pos-
terior wall of the uterus and sometimes the sides and some-
times the fundus or apex. The symptoms varying in each case,
fall or nearly fall cases of acute metritis that I have seen, the
entire organ including the cervix was apparently not affected, the
inflammation might be more intense in one organ than
in another, but this is a
point rather difficult to determine as far as I have discovered in my practice, acute inflammation in the uninfected uterus seldom extends to the peritoneal involving membranous as do often aetiology in peritoneal inflammation. Indeed only I recall having seen two or three instances in which the symptoms of peritoneal inflammation were so decidedly marked as to render the existence of peritonitis certain. At the cases, of the kind have occurred, I have no doubt, but not as often as sometimes supposed, as predisposing causes to acute metritis, aetiology to the inflammation to the uterine system generally, I will mention a doubt of the uterine system generally, I will mention a doubt of the uterine system generally, I will mention a doubt of the uterine system.
There is a great many, families, persons who are attached in after life with the various forms of this disease. It would seem as if them either the ministerial menstruum hemorrhagicum was to give as to distend beyond measure the uterine tissue thus giving rise to extreme congestion and pain or as if the uterus was so peculiarly sensitive that even the physiological ministerial congestion could not take place without its sensibility being abnormal. Anomalous, this physiological congestion while may exist with or without independent of any physical implication. Vision of disease is evidently one of the principal predisposing causes of uterine inflammation. The chief causes that mind immediately to induce acute metritis are an arrested menstruation discal, dysm.
are local and general or sympathetic. The most prominent local symptoms are severe pain deep, situated in the hypogastric region above and below the pubis, and radiating medially into the vesical region and sometimes down the thighs accompanied by a very disagreeable sensation of pelvic weight and weakness. There is also general spreading severe pain in the lower or lumbro-cesal region from the umbilicus to the groin very sensitive to the touch but slight pressure on the abdominal parietes does not very much exacerbate the deep situated pain even when made immediately above the pubis. On examining diligently the vagina is generally found not and any from an impression sensation, the cervix is swollen and often but not always sensitive to the touch, the body of the uterus is no doubt always
Elusive but any attempt to appreciate its size by refining it for displacing it through the medium of solution is attended with too much pain to be persisted in. The influence tends to induce so extraordinary, painful that the slightest pressure exercised directly upon it through the vagina occasions severe pain often giving rise instantaneously to a sensation of nausea.

Notwithstanding these excessive sensativeness of the uterus it is possible in every case to ascertain without putting the patient to any great amount of pain that it is the uterus itself. The sensitive tumor is the immediate while is the seat of inflammation and not the adjoining tissues.

The sensitive tumor is the immediately connected with the cervix, occupying the medium line and is generally painful and
is evident out on the right side and on the left of the line unless however the uterus be naturally lying transversely from right to left as is sometimes the case. When the inflamed organ will extend more to the right than the left side. This is a very important point to determine as in inflammation of the lateral ligament the tumor is known to the inflamed tissues is generally applied annexed as it were to the side of uterus so as only to form one mass. Owing to the great sensiveness of the uterus if touched or moved directly or indirectly the patient is unable to walk or even to stand, and when sitting in bed the body is generally so inclined as to take all strain from the abdomen. In cases thus acute, the patient always lies down the patient always lies in a lying posture.
That being the position in which the uterus presses least on the surrounding organs, the passage of feces through the rectum is often attended with great pain owing to its position immediately behind the uterus. This is most especially the case when the motions are constipated; they are sometimes covered or coated with a sticky mucus. Swelling are irritative States of vesical mucus membranes. There is also frequently considerable irritation and pain about the bladder accompanied by more or less diarrhea.

The vesical and vesical connections between the uterus the rectum, and the bladder is too intimate not to suffer when one of them is inflamed. Severe, acute metritis there is generally speaking no discharge at first. The vaginal secretions being arrested as well as that from the uterine mucosa.
Sometimes however when the inflammation extends to the lining membrane of the uteri, there is more abundant secretion of a serosanguineous fluid from the uterus, on a decline of the inflammation a copious discharge of a variable nature will take place in most cases, more especially if the inflammation extended to the ovaries. Scurvy, erysipelas is always accompanied by considerable febrile reaction. The skin is hot; the pulse quick but not small, and already as when the peritoniun is compromised. The tongue is coated over with white fur and continued nausea is almost invariably experienced. But it is seldom that it produces vomiting, thirst, headache and restlessness.
times inclines to run off more especially if there is much exten
sion. The breasts are swollen and painful in most cases. I have
deed in some cases hysterical symptoms and in some that is wanting
since the symptoms vary almost in every case.

In some cases it is very difficult to detect metritis either by digital examination or by pressure over the pubis.

Progress and examination generally the inflammation gives way to treatment in from five to
ten days resolution taking place due to the absence of Cellular
structure of the uterus. The structure of the body of the uterus it is
destroyed by some that there is no pus in the substances of
the uterus but I am inclined to think that there is a purulent collection in the
uterus and it discharges itself.
The inflammation not extending itself to the peritoneum and to the ureters not being one organ leaving functions to perform. Proceeding to the preservation of life, a vast amount of their disease may consequently exist without life being directly endangered.

Diagnosis

Acute Metritis except from the purpuric state being very rarely a fatal disease there is little to fear for the life of the patient provided remedial measures be applied to subdue the inflammation. It may however especially if not treated with sufficient energy and promptitude may pass into the chronic stage prove the cause of very serious and prolonged evils.

There are diseases that occasion more suffering than chronic metritis and chronic infections.
of lateral ligaments,

Diagnosis

Though it is not difficult to recognize acute enteritis in a subacute form. Its existence is not infrequently passed over. Misdiagnosed, many practitioners are satisfied with mere knowledge that there is inflammation in the lower abdominal region and the case is treated as the anti-spasmodic principles calling it inflammation of the bowels.

In some instances this being the case, the treatment which is based on such loose notions of the real state of the patient is apt to fail short of the necessities of the case, leave only sublees, the morbid symptoms to leave behind the seeds of future and more intractable disease. It is of the greatest importance that the precise
That seat of the morbid action should be determined. No means should be neglected that can give the necessary information of diagnosis. The diseases with which Mithitis is most likely to be confounded is that of inflammation of the bladder and lateral ligaments as that both produce the same kind of pain and the same general sensation. In addition however to the symptoms peculiar to each while it differs considerably by a careful digital examination by passing the forefinger right hand in the region behind and above the pubis and pressing with the fingers of the left hand over the lower abdominal region. The state of the bladder may be ascertained if it is inflamed pressure will occasion great pain if not the pain will be but
Right, I have thus ascertained in several very obscure cases that acute cystitis was taken for uterine inflammation.

In one case, in particular, acute inflammation of the uterus in a young unmarried lady, and retention of the urine was the consequence, and the bladder not being relieved for some time owing to the patient conversing her sufferings cystitis ensued, the symptoms of inflammation thus obscure and intense inflammation all over the pelvic region. Considerable abscesses on the case, but by a careful vaginal examination the abscess was found free from sepsis and an already moodable while the bladder was found inflamed and acutely sensitive.
of the lateral ligaments pain lies more to one side of the Median line and the finger James up towards the thumbsalert to the inflammatory tumor lying on one side of the ulna

Pathological Anatomy

Acute Micturition as I have been so almost prove false that there is scarcely any claim to be gained for a description of the uninfluenced bladder. I have noticed some of the mitons for sustenance Church Hill, Tams Bottom, More, or on the diseases of the mitons say that the state of the mitons of the female that had an incision of a nonpurulent mitons Mitritus would be the same as purulent Mitritus. As I never have seen a case of the kind myself, therefore I can only repeat these as authority and say that the
Probably would be in a normal state.

July 19th 1853

James M. Duane