

Pathology of Diseases Common in Thailand

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I. Pathology of the Cardiac Conduction Disturbances in Diphtheric Myocarditis.

OBJECTIVE: A clinical—pathologic analysis of 2 cases of diphtheric myocarditis.

DESCRIPTION: The pathologic changes in the hearts of two patients with fatal diphtheritic myocarditis were studied, particular attention being focused on the involvement of the conduction system, correlated with cardiac conduction disturbances. Except for the absence of fat in sinus and atrioventricular node fibers, the changes seen in the specialized tissue of the heart were similar to those affecting the working musculature.

It is suggested that the extensive accumulation of fat in myocardial fibers, including bundle of His and bundle branches, may play a significant role in the genesis of the transitory conduction disturbances so commonly associated with the disease.

PROGRESS: The project has been completed. A manuscript has been accepted by the Archives of Pathology.

II. The Liver in Opisthorchis viverrini Infection.

OBJECTIVE: To describe the pathologic findings in the liver and biliary tract of patients infected with the fluke O. viverrini.

DESCRIPTION: Livers and extrahepatic biliary tracts obtained at autopsy in Udorn Provincial Hospital were studied by postmortem cholangiography, dissection, and histologic examination.

PROGRESS: Specimens from ten patients were examined. The project has been completed. A manuscript is in preparation.

III. Renal Lesions in Human Leptospirosis.

OBJECTIVES: To describe the histology and ultrastructure of renal tissue obtained from patients with leptospirosis and to correlate morphologic findings with renal function.

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DESCRIPTION: Percutaneous renal biopsy and renal function tests were carried out in patients with leptospirosis admitted to Chulalongkorn University Medical Center.

PROGRESS: Nine patients were studied. The project has been completed.

PUBLICATIONS:

1. Sitprija, V.; and Evans, H.: Renal Pathophysiologic Correlation in Human Leptospirosis. Abstract, IVth International Congress of Nephrology, Stockholm, June 22-27, 1969. Abstracts p. 186.
2. Sitprija, V.; and Evans, H.: The Kidney in Human Leptospirosis. Am. J. Med. (in press, 1970).

IV. Nephrotic Syndrome in Thailand.

OBJECTIVES: To describe the histology and ultrastructure of kidney biopsy specimens from patients with the nephrotic syndrome and to correlate morphologic findings with clinical picture, renal function, and response to therapy.

DESCRIPTION: Percutaneous renal biopsies and renal function studies were carried out in patients with nephrotic syndrome admitted to the renal unit of Chulalongkorn University Medical Center.

PROGRESS: The project has been completed. Twenty-seven patients were studied.

This work was presented at the Third Annual Meeting, Far East Chapter, Association of Military Surgeons, Tachikawa, Japan, 4-7 November 1969.

A manuscript is in preparation.