

WATER TEST OF ADRENAL FUNCTION

SUMMARY OF PATIENTS WITH POSITIVE RESULTS IN PART 1 AND PART 2

1. Addison's disease	16
2. Pituitary disease	
a. Acromegaly	2
b. Basophilic adenoma	8
c. Rathke pouch cyst	1
d. Pituitary cachexia	1
Total	12
3. Miscellaneous adrenal disease	
a. Carcinoma of adrenal	1
b. Cushing's syndrome	1
c. Water retention (?)	1
Total	3
4. Other conditions giving positive results	
a. Disseminated lupus erythematosus	1
b. Diffuse carcinomatosis	2
c. Rheumatoid arthritis	1
d. Renal tuberculosis	1
e. Duodenal ulcer	2
f. Incorrect technic	1
Total	8
Grand total	39

CONCLUSIONS

The results of 194 consecutive water excretion tests for adrenal function in 173 patients indicate its value in the diagnosis and exclusion of adrenal insufficiency.

Only one of the 112 patients giving negative results in both parts of the test was considered to have Addison's disease. All other tests for adrenal insufficiency gave comparable results in this instance.

Adrenal insufficiency was not proved to exist in any patient by completing part 2 of the test after part 1 was negative.

False positive results were obtained in 8 patients. Chronic cachexia, duodenal ulcer, or renal disease appeared to be the explanations for the incorrect results.

REFERENCE

1. Robinson, F. V., Power, M. H., and Kepler, E. J.: Two new procedures to assist in the recognition and exclusion of Addison's disease: A preliminary report. Proc. Staff Meet., Mayo Clinic 16:577 (Sept. 10) 1941.

ERRATUM

In the article "Exstrophy of the Bladder in Twins" in the October, 1943 issue of the CLEVELAND CLINIC QUARTERLY the following error appeared on page 140, "M. T. had complete exstrophy of the bladder with an associated hypospadias," which should read, "M. T. had complete exstrophy of the bladder with an associated epispadias."