

MAN-MADE DISEASE

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In the January 15, 1958 issue of *Modern Medicine* there was a "symposium on Man-Made Disease." This article said that good therapeutic agents and procedures may have untoward effects. It gave as an example stomatitis and other side effects resulting from mercurial therapy for syphilis. It stated that during the last twenty years medical gains have produced several types of man-made diseases and mentioned a number of conditions produced by various forms of treatment. Several therapeutic agents may induce disease states, sometimes without apparent relationship to dosage or duration of treatment.

Peptic ulcer¹ is common during treatment with ACTH and cortisone. Even in healthy individuals, ACTH raises the concentration of hydrochloric acid and pepsin in the gastric juice and reduces the viscosity and amount of mucus.

Peptic ulcer and migration of prostatic cancer to the breast are known side effects of therapeutic hormones.² Other untoward reactions are possible but not definitely proved. Metastasis³ to the breast may occur when estrogen⁴ is given for prostatic carcinoma.⁵ The hormone causes gynecomastia⁶ by increasing vascularity and growth of loose-textured fibrous tissue. Cancer cells may then be carried from the prostatic tumor, and the breast may offer a good medium for implants.

Fungus infections, staphylococcal enteritis,⁷ or vitamin deficiency may occur if the natural balance of gastrointestinal organisms is upset by antibacterial agents.

Antihypertensive agents⁸ have various undesirable effects. "Hexamethonium" in long courses may bring on acute interstitial pulmonary fibrosis⁹ and progressive dyspnea¹⁰ that is fatal in thirty days.

"Disturbances are initiated by hydralazine hydrochloride (Apresoline) in as many as 10% of persons who receive an average of 640 mg. daily for one year. Symptoms of rheumatoid arthritis, lupus erythematosus,¹¹ serum sickness, or col-

lagen¹² disease may develop. Chills, migratory joint pains, and myalgia¹³ occur, sedimentation rate ascends, and hemoglobin falls. Arthritis follows, and, with continued administration, fever, prostration, effusions in body cavities, skin sensitivity to ultraviolet light, rash, splenomegaly,¹⁴ and lymphadenopathy.¹⁵

"Hepatic disorders due to chlorpromazine (Thorazine) are reported at rates of 1 to 500 cases to 3 in 71. Viscosity of bile is increased; an obstructive type of jaundice develops as biliary canaliculi¹⁶ are plugged. Although some patients die, most recover on cessation of therapy. Similar changes may be brought about by therapy with thiouracil, methimazole, arsphe-
namine, and methyltestosterone.

"Toxic hepatitis¹⁷ with inflammatory infiltration and liver cell damage is caused by many drugs, including phenylbutazone and phenacetylurea (Phenurone).

"Neurologic disorders such as grand mal seizures and parkinsonism may result from *Rauwolfia serpentina* (Reserpine). These manifestations may vanish as medication is stopped or reduced or even when the drug is continued at the same dosage.

"Blood disorders are noted during anticoagulant therapy for recent myocardial infarction.¹⁸ Risk of hemopericardium¹⁹ is increased threefold, that of myocardial rupture²⁰ twofold.

"Viral hepatitis is frequently transmitted by human blood. From 0.3 to 0.5% of blood recipients will have infectious hepatitis. Carrier states may remain two to five years or more."

We can readily see that the use of the marvels of modern medicine is not without considerable danger and risk to the patient. People are anxious to have these drugs used in their treatment after reading the glowing publicity that is given to these preparations. However, this publicity does not warn of the dangers that may be encountered.

Has anyone ever heard of Homœopathy causing these dangerous aftereffects in the treatment of the sick?

Homœopathy treats the patient as a whole. It restores the body to as near a normal health as possible. It does not relieve one condition and cause another more serious ailment in so doing. After being restored to health by homœopathic treat-

ment in any acute disease, a patient usually enjoys better health than he did before his illness.

Modern medicine during recent years has certainly made radical changes in many diseases and infections, even causing new diseases, thus making the practice of medicine more complicated.

A homœopathic physician does not have to worry about producing man-made diseases when he treats the various ailments to which the human body is heir.

1. *Peptic ulcer*: The round ulcer of the stomach, due to erosion of the mucous membrane by gastric (stomach) juices.
2. *Therapeutic Hormones*: Hormones intended to be curative. *Hormones*: complex protein bodies found in the anterior pituitary gland which act on the endocrine glands.
3. *Metastasis*: Transfer from a primary location to a distant location by conveyance through blood vessels or lymph channels.
4. *Estrogen*: Drug producing sexual desire.
5. *Prostatic carcinoma*: Malignant tumor (cancer) of the prostate gland.
6. *Gynecomastia*: Excessive development of the breast in a man.
7. *Staphylococcal enteritis*: Inflammation of the intestine associated with micro-organisms in which spherical bacteria are clustered like grapes.
8. *Antihypertensive agents*: Agents to work against high blood pressure.
9. *Interstitial pulmonary fibrosis*: Development of fibrous tissue in the interspaces or interstices of the lungs.
10. *Dyspnea*: Difficult or labored breathing.
11. *Lupus erythematosus*: Slightly raised red patches on the skin, inclined to be symmetrically arranged, not associated with the tubercle bacillus.
12. *Collagen*: Substance existing in tissues of the body, especially in bone and cartilage, which converts to gelatin on boiling.

13. *Myalgia*: Pain in the muscles; muscular rheumatism.
14. *Splenomegaly*: Enlargement of the spleen.
15. *Lymphadenopathy*: Excessive and progressive formation of tissue of the lymphatic glands, associated with anemia.
16. *Biliary canaliculi*: Small canals conveying bile.
17. *Toxic hepatitis*: Poisonous inflammation of the liver.
18. *Myocardial infarction*: Production of a wedge-shaped area, either of hæmorrhage into an organ, or of necrosis (death) within an organ, resulting from the obstruction of a terminal vessel.
19. *Hemopericardium*: Effusion of blood into the closed membranous sac enclosing the heart.
20. *Myocardial rupture*: Severance of muscular tissue of the heart.

—*The Layman Speaks, May 1958.*
