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Bull. Blood Substitutes

7. Clinical and Laboratory Studies. It was felt that the opportunity presented by this study was so unique and so important that a great deal of effort should be devoted to very close observation of the patients from all points of view. In order to accomplish this, it was recommended that a group composed of specially qualified personnel be assigned to this project.

- (a) Period of Observation. Because rheumatic fever tends to appear late in convalescence, patients should be held in the wards four weeks and then followed for several weeks thereafter as closely as possible.
- (b) Clinical Observation. It was recommended that a special chart be designed to facilitate the recording of frequent observations on each patient in the study.

Special attention should be paid to:

- 1) Temperature, rash, and general toxicity, particularly in the early phase of the disease.
- 2) Accurate record of the pulse rate (not recorded soon after walking about ward or smoking).
- 3) Size and tenderness of lymph nodes.
- 4) Appearance of throat.
- 5) Condition of joints.
- 6) Heart action and sounds.
- 7) The appearance of purulent and late non-suppurative complications.

(c) Laboratory Studies.

- 1) Urine. Routine and microscopic examination on admission, once weekly, and more often if indicated.
- 2) WBC. Total and differential counts on admission and if there is evidence of complications.
- 3) Erythrocyte Sedimentation Rate. On admission and once a week thereafter.
- 4) Electro cardiogram. On admission, after one week, and twice weekly thereafter (the importance of specially trained personnel was emphasized).
- 5) Bacteriology. Cultures of nose and throat on admission and once weekly with typing of the hemolytic streptococci found.
- 6) Immunological Studies. Because of the unique opportunity, it was recommended that at least 5 cc. of sterile serum be collected

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on admission and once a week thereafter from 25 patients in each of Groups I, II, and III. This should be stored at 5° C. until used by interested collaborators or by members of the study group.

8. Collection of Additional Convalescent Serum. It was felt that it would be advisable to continue to collect blood from convalescents at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station for fractionation under Dr. Cohn's contract with the OSRD in order to have material available for the next season.

9. Personnel for Study. Because of the value of the material, the unique opportunity, and the amount of work involved, it was recommended that additional specially qualified personnel be assigned to the study.

For the Conference by

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