

Clinical Report.

NEOPLASM OF EYELID.*

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Mrs. E. M., aged 52, (in ordinary health,) about five or six years ago noticed what appeared to be a wart about the centre of the margin of the left lower eyelid. It gave no pain or inconvenience and was not treated in any way. For two or three years there was but little appearance of change and it was not large enough to be noticeable, but about two years ago it began to enlarge very slowly for the first year and then much more rapidly the past year, until it became from one-quarter to three-eighths of an inch wide and one-half inch long, becoming quite prominent. Its rapid growth lately gave rise to suspicion of epithelioma, and the question of its removal was a subject of serious consideration. But how? To use the knife meant an extensive removal of the lower lid with the surgical difficulties attending this proceeding, and as well the deformity which must result. Last fall it became painful, interfered with the comfortable closing of the eyelids, became inflamed and ulcerated. It healed partially and then it was decided to attempt its removal, and preference was first to be given to an escharotic.

There are many preparations from which to choose, but it was decided to use Bourgard's paste, as this exercises a selective affinity for neoplastic tissue and has but little effect on normal tissue other than causing a local inflammation. One of the properties of this preparation is to cause a whitish eschar of the neoplasm, leaving the normal tissue quite unaffected after its application. In addition to the local inflammation a conjunctivitis of a mild character was lighted up owing to a portion of the paste being carried on to the conjunctiva by the upper lid. In a few days this whitish slough separated and fell off. When the local inflammation had subsided the paste was again applied; this produced another large whitish eschar which like the former separated in a few days leaving a small, cupshaped ulcer, which gradually contracted and healed with scarcely an appreciable cicatrix. The paste was again applied but it had no effect on the cicatrix.

The removal of the neoplasm was complete and no appearance of its position was visible except that the sites of lashes of the eyelids became vacant on the edge of the eyelid. The result of the treatment was very satisfactory—1st. In the complete removal of the growth. 2nd. In the small amount of pain and inconvenience suffered, and 3rd. Leaving no cicatrix or deformity visible.

FORMULA OF BOURGARD'S PASTE.

Wheat flour.	
Starch,	aa ʒi.
Arsenious acid	gr. viii.
Hydrarg sulph rub	gr. xl.
Ammon muriate	gr. xl.
Hydrarg bichloride	gr. iv.
Zinc chloride cryst	ʒi.
Hot water.....	ʒiiss.

Grind all together except the zinc chloride and water. Dissolve the zinc chloride in the water and pour on the powder, stirring all the time.

The paste after standing 24 hours is ready for use. It can be spread on linen or cotton cloth and applied to the part for 24 hours, and if the whole growth be not removed it can be reapplied as often as necessary. Sometimes it causes considerable pain and then cocaine may be added to the paste.

For small growths it is most readily applied by spreading on a small particle with a tooth pick (wooden) and no dressing is necessary. This proceeding can be repeated as often as necessary.