
'Electromyographic studies were conducted on 37 patients with leprosy and 3 patients of dermatomyositis. Results obtained were compared with 25 normal controls. Five of the leprosy patients showed a complete nerve lesion with isoelectric recordings, even on muscular contraction, while others showed a partial nerve lesion with a specific mixed pattern, with polyand biphasic waves. Dermatomyositis patients showed a specific pattern of their own. The significance of these findings in the prognosis for such cases is discussed.'


1. 'Detailed clinical features, surgical observations, and gross morphologic findings are reported for 11 patients with polyneuritic leprosy, who presented with lagophthalmos with or without weakness of other facial muscles.'

2. 'All patients showed greater or lesser areas of anesthesia in the distribution of the maxillary division of the trigeminal nerve.

3. 'An extensive operative exposure, electric stimulation and biopsy of the affected nerve branch were possible as measures preliminary to surgical repair of the palsied eyelids.

4. In no 2 patients was the pattern of facial nerve branching identical; different forms of dichotomizations and anastomoses were encountered.

5. 'In accord with the clinical impression, the zygomatic branch of the facial nerve was found most affected and invariably unresponsive to electric stimulation; it was the one biopsied, and the biopsy specimen included the surrounding tissue.

6. 'Adhesions, and frequently compression of the zygomatic branches in the surrounding tissue, which appeared fibrosed, were observed.'

7. 'Preoperative electromyographic observations on the orbicularis oculi, the frontalis and orbicularis oris in 7 of the patients, revealed increased latency of conduction and abnormal muscle activity in the form of reduced interference patterns, giant single and polyphasic potentials.'

8. 'A chronic inflammatory and fibrosing neuritis of varying severity and duration was observed in all patients. Granulomatous reaction was noted in 3. The greater involvement of distal rather than proximal parts of the nerves to the orbicularis ocularis was noted in a number of patients, and suggested the possible ingress of infection in this motor nerve from the sensory branches of the maxillary nerve anastomosing with the zygomatic branch of the facial nerve. The role of secondary factors operating upon the facial nerve branches in the bony zygomatic region is discussed.

9. 'There was a good correlation in 9 of the patients between the clinical, the electromyographic, the operative electric stimulative and histopathologic findings. This was not so evident in severely affected patients with single unit activity in which correspondingly severe nerve damage was evident structurally.'

**Book Reviews**

*Elaboración de Leprolología Experimental (Rudiments of Experimental Leprology)* by Mexy Bizneri, Director del Laboratorio de Investigaciones Leproldicas, R. Zeballos 3411, Rosario, Argentina, 90 pages, 32 illustrations.

The booklet examines the methods used in experimental leprology and described the various techniques for the inoculation of *M. leprae*. Examples of standard investigations are described and the conclusions summarized. The author also gives general rules to be followed in clono-therapeutic experiments for the evaluation of new compounds on human leprosy. Tables and useful data for investigations in experimental leprology as well as general bibliography are added.


These 2 booklets give a comprehensive and very interesting report of the work of The Leprosy Mission and are recommended.