

In assigning diabetes as a cause of insanity care must be taken to exclude the part played by arterio-sclerosis and alcohol.

Leaving aside such "elementary" mental disturbances as change of character, etc., which have been attributed to diabetes, and directing attention to insanity proper, there are three groups of facts which deserve attention:

Firstly those cases in which diabetes is only a complication or passive accompaniment of an attack of insanity.

Cases of autotoxic origin and admittedly due to diabetes.

And lastly those instances in which diabetes exists, and by causing arterio-sclerosis causes cerebral deterioration.

The form of insanity is usually depression with morbid fears for the future, delusions of worthlessness, while hallucinations are not uncommon. The writers think that more clinical reports are required before the so-called pseudo-general paralysis and diabetes can be associated.

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3. Clinical Psychiatry.

Dementia Præcox in Imbeciles [Über *Dementia Præcox auf dem Boden der Imbezillität*]. (*Allgem. Zeits. f. Psychiat.*, Bd. lxxvi. H. 1.) Plaskuda, W.

Dementia præcox is described in fifteen cases of congenitally weak-minded adults from the Institution for Idiots at Lübben. There is nothing extraordinary in the course of the disease in any of the cases, but it is noteworthy that only four were under twenty years of age at the onset. The ages in the other cases varied from twenty-one to thirty-seven. The most common were the hebephrenic and catatonic forms, and the attacks were very severe.

These cases are not to be confused with early forms of primary dementia.

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On Cases of Primary Dementia in Childhood. (*Early forms of Primary Dementia*) [Über Fälle von "Jugendirresein" im Kindesalter. (*Frühformen des "Jugendirreseins"*)]. (*Allgem. Zeits. f. Psychiat.*, Bd. lxxvi, H. 34.) Vogt, H.

At one time all mental diseases in children were termed "idiocy," or "imbecility." It was not considered possible that an onset of insanity should take place in the charmed years of childhood. With the knowledge that the development of the brain is a process continued long after birth came further discoveries as to the pathology of this development, and with increased investigation we find more and more frequently that we can trace the roots of various mental diseases back to the years which precede puberty. One of the most common forms of insanity in these years is primary dementia. It runs a course similar to that observed in adults. In children, however, the catatonic state is particularly characteristic. Children with normal mental development may be affected, but often weakness of mind is inherent. The attack results either in imbecility or recovery with and without defect. Relapses are frequent.

Differential diagnosis may be made from hysteria, heightened tonic