

*Body Acidity as Related to Emotional Excitability.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, September, 1928.) Rich, G. F.

The author examined amongst other features the H-ion concentration of the saliva, the acidity of the urine, the alkali reserve of the blood, the creatinine content of the blood and the creatinine excretion in the urine. Definite results were obtained only in cases with aggressiveness and emotional excitability. Rich found that the least excitable persons tend to have the most acid saliva, while the most excitable tend toward neutrality or even alkalinity of the saliva. Less excitable persons tend to have a more acid urine.

The author quotes the effect of the ketogenic diet in epilepsy as additional verification of the relation between acidity and excitability. With regard to creatinine, the more excitable persons tend to produce less creatinine. The alkali reserve of the blood does not show any tendency to vary with emotional excitability, but the alkali reserve of the blood as well as the amino-acids of the urine correlate negatively with ratings of aggressiveness. The author thinks that possibly the products of metabolism of other tissues may act as internal secretions and continually stimulate or depress the nervous system.

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*The Sugar Content of the Blood in Emotional States.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, February, 1929.) Bowman, K. M., and Kasanin, J.

The authors found that in persons with mental disease the blood-sugar during fasting is usually within normal limits. There is no correlation between the mood of the patient and the height of the blood-sugar. That the blood-sugar content is not increased in psychotic patients with abnormal emotional states may be accounted for on the following hypotheses: (1) Lowered kidney threshold; (2) depletion of the glycogen content of the liver; (3) emotion in the psychotic patient may be a qualitatively different condition from emotion in a normal person.

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*The Blood-Sugar Reaction to Insulin in Psychoses.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, January, 1929.) Appel, K. E., and Farr, C. B.

The authors found that in psychotics a relatively sharp fall of 29% occurs in the majority of cases within 90 minutes. The recovery process is more gradual and is not complete in 3½ hours. There is no difference between the reactions of patients with affective and those with schizophrenic psychoses. The type of reaction closely resembles that occurring in subjects who are under weight.

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*Studies in Epilepsy. VII. The Basal Metabolism.* (*Arch. of Neur. and Psychiat.*, October, 1928.) Lennox, W. G., and Wright, L. H.

The authors measured the basal metabolic rate in 130 patients with epilepsy. They found the average rate to be 3% below standard.