

REPORT OF THE DIVISION OF ROENTGENOLOGY

1925-1926

This new division was organized to supply the needs of the anti-tuberculosis dispensaries in the radio diagnosis of cases of tuberculosis and to render like service to the charitable institutions under the Department of Health. Early in June of last year the X-ray laboratory was installed in the building which was constructed for this special purpose. By the first of July everything necessary to carry on the roentgenologic work was prepared and the work was started.

The roentgenologist in charge of the division attends also the X-ray department of the Insular Sanatorium.

Three days of the week are assigned to the radiologic clinic located at San Juan and the remaining three days to the radiologic clinic located at the Sanatorium. The mornings are set apart for roentgenoscopic explorations, for the preparation of the roentgenograms and for the reading of the negatives of the previous day; the afternoons are spent in the photographic operations and the filling of report cards.

During the one hundred and thirty-five days of the year, six hundred and eighty-five patients were examined, an average of five patients per day. Of these six hundred and eighty-five patients, six hundred and five correspond to the roentgenology of the thorax for the investigation of affections of the respiratory system and one to determine the presence of a foreign body. The number comprises the patients suffering for disorders of the gastro-intestinal apparatus, from the genito-urinary system or from diseases of the bones, including in the last item the radiographs that deal with fractures and tuberculosis of the bones.

The six hundred and five cases of broncho-pulmonary affections are classified in chart No. 1 according to age, and to the reading of the roentgenograms. Those radiographs which did not demonstrate an image showing a marked distinction from those accepted as normal were classed as negative or apparently normal. Suspicious, were those presenting an image with ill-defined streaks, whereby

the presence of a pneumopathy was suspected or where a difference to analogous densities in the normal texture required further study. Here the patient was the object of a more close and prolonged clinical observation. Those cases which presented lesions of the pulmonary parenchyma are classified in the chart as minimal, moderately advanced and far-advanced lesions according to the classification used by the American Sanatoria Association.

In chart No. 2 these cases are classified by sex, by age groups and by the stage of the disease. It may be noticed from this chart that the total number of positive cases is one hundred and ninety-two. Women are represented by one hundred and twenty-nine or sixty-seven and eighteen per cent of the total; men by sixty-three cases of thirty-two and eighty-one per cent of the total.

EXAMINATIONS OF THORAX

Patients Examined Classified by Age Groups and by Stage of Disease

Stage of disease	From 6 to 10	From 11 to 15	From 16 to 20	From 21 to 30	From 31 to 40	From 41 to 50	From 51 to 60	From 61 to 70	Total	Per cent of total
Cases										
Negatives.....	17	22	26	62	26	14	5	2	174	28.76
Suspicious	25	57	50	65	27	12	3	.....	239	39.54
Minimal lesions ..	3	9	16	34	12	19	1	.....	94	15.53
Moderately advanced .....	.....	4	11	19	12	7	.....	.....	53	8.76
Far advanced.....	1	1	8	12	11	6	3	3	45	7.43
Total... ..	46	93	111	192	88	58	12	5	605	100.02

Patients Examined Classified by Sex, by Age Groups and by Stage of Disease

(MALES)

Stage of disease	From 5 to 10	From 11 to 15	From 16 to 20	From 21 to 30	From 31 to 40	From 41 to 50	From 51 to 60	From 61 to 70	Total	Percent of total
Negative	8	5	7	15	10	4	2	2	53	28.64
Suspicious.....	9	14	18	16	6	4	2		69	37.20
Minimal lesions..		3	1	8	3	9	1		25	13.50
Moderately advanced		1	2	6	6	2			17	9.18
Far advanced.....	1		4	6	3	4	2	1	21	11.34
										99.86

(FEMALES)

Negative	9	17	19	47	16	10	3		121	28.80
Suspicious.....	16	43	32	49	21	8	1		170	40.00
Minimal lesions..	3	6	15	26	9	10			19	16.40
Moderately advanced		3	9	13	6	5			36	8.50
Far advanced.....		1	4	6	8	2	1	2	24	5.60
Total.....	46	93	111	192	88	58	12	5	605	99.30

Examinations Made of the Respiratory Apparatus

Respiratory apparatus (pneumopathy)-----	605
Respiratory apparatus (foreign body)-----	1
Gastro-intestinal apparatus-----	13
Genito-urinary apparatus-----	5
Tuberculosis and traumatism of the bones-----	61
Total-----	685

Institutions, Clinics and Dispensaries Referring Cases to This Division

Tuberculosis dispensary No. 1, San Juan-----	332
Tuberculosis dispensary No. 2, Santurce-----	180
Tuberculosis dispensary No. 4, Puerta de Tierra-----	15
Quarantine Hospital-----	33
Bureau of Social Medicine-----	7
Blind Asylum-----	2
Girls' and Boys' Charity Schools-----	35
Jail, Penitentiary and Insular Police-----	31
Insane Asylum-----	2
Other dependencies of the Department of Health-----	48
Total-----	685