

M0011386: Conclusions drawn from the pathological cases on the pathways of conduction of sensation in the spinal cord

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Wellcome Collection
183 Euston Road
London NW1 2BE UK
T +44 (0)20 7611 8722
E library@wellcomecollection.org
<https://wellcomecollection.org>

Reflex actions increased in parts receiving their nerves from the portions of the cord below the seat of the alteration.

8th. *Alteration limited to the gray matter.*—The same symptoms as in the preceding cases, except that at first there is a greater degree of anæsthesia than of paralysis, if the alteration begins in the very centre of the cord. Formication and other sensations referred to the periphery, in cases of inflammation.

9th. *Alteration of the anterior columns in the upper part of the cervical region.*—No paralysis, no anæsthesia, very slight hyperæsthesia, various sensations (particular pain) referred to several parts of the body.

10th. *Alteration of the lateral columns in the upper part of the cervical region.*—Paralysis of voluntary movements in the four limbs and the trunk. Increased sensibility and greatly increased reflex actions in the paralyzed parts.

11th. *Alteration of the anterior columns in any part of their length, except the neighborhood of the medulla oblongata.*—More or less complete paralysis of voluntary movements in all the parts receiving their nerves from or below the parts of the cord where the alteration exists. Slight hyperæsthesia. Reflex actions very much diminished in the parts which receive their nerves from the altered portion of the cord, and increased below these parts.

12th. *Alteration of the lateral columns in any part of their length, except the neighborhood of the medulla oblongata.*—Incomplete paralysis of movements. Hyperæsthesia. Diminution of reflex actions less than in the preceding case.

13th. *Alteration of the anterior half of the spinal cord, including the anterior columns, a good part of the gray matter, and a part of the lateral columns.*—Voluntary movements completely paralyzed. Sensibility very much diminished. For reflex actions, as in 11th.

14th. *Alteration of the various parts of the spinal cord, except the posterior columns.*—Loss of voluntary movements and of all kinds of sensibility. Reflex actions increased or diminished in certain parts of the body, according to the place of the alteration in the length of the spinal cord.

I know many cases in which one of the two last kinds of alteration has existed. In another lecture, I will relate three of them, which have been recorded by Mr. Cæsar Hawkins, by Dr. John W. Ogle, and by Dr. T. Inman.