Post operative conditions were dissatisfactory in 9 cases of these 24: 3 of them had intramedullary tumors and 6 had intradural extramedullary tumors.

Generally, patients with bad postoperative condition had a longer duration of suffering and severer clinical condition while being admitted than those with good ones.

As far as we have observed, an early diagnosis and early operation are necessary for tumors of the spinal cord, and a long-suffered patient showing progressed spinal symptoms at the time of admittance is considered to be treated just as one with malignant tumor, even though it is the benign tumor of spinal cord.

96. Surgical Treatment of Syringomyelia and Hydromyelia

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In 1892, Abbe and Coley incised a cystic swelling in the spinal cord with subsequent improvement. The procedure is usually referred to as 'Elsberg-Poussépp operation'.

Five cases were experienced in the period beginning from 1949 to April, 1965 which revealed cystic condition or cavity formation in the spinal cord in the series of department of orthopedics, Keio University Medical School. All cases were treated surgically.

1) Case

Details of each case are summarised in the Table 1.

2) Operative technique

In the operation the following points are stressed.

- a) The puncture is performed using a 1/4 mm needle at the site of maximum swelling of the spinal cord. After having confirmed the content and the exact location of the lesion, myelotomy is performed longitudinally slightly deviating from the midline.
- b) No foreign materials are left in the cavity for the purpose of drainage.
- c) As a rule, dura mater is sutured so far as the expansion of the cord is not remarkable, however, a piece of fascia is used for the coverage of dural defect, if necessary.

3) Evaluation of late results

Three out of five cases described here showed improvement. Post-operative results of fifty-five cases, including our five cases, have been reviewed in which 70 per cent showed improvement.

4) Summary

Five cases of syringomyelia and hydromyelia are presented. Myelotomy was carried out in each case which proved to be effective. The author believes that the possible remission is expected by myelotomy following laminectomy in syringomyelia.

Table 1. Summary of Details of Personal Cases

Case No.	Sex and Age at Op.	Motor Symptoms	Sensory Symptoms	Follow Up. Years	Late Results
1	M. 38	Paresis both hands.	Impaired pain and touch in ulnar side in hand	5.8	Sensory improvement of hands, returned to work
2	M. 29	Paresis right arm, hand and leg.	Impaired pain and touch C 4-T 6	0.5	Improved followed by deterioration
3	M. 7	Quadriplegia left worse	All forms impaired C 6 down	0.3	Died 3 months after Ope. from acute yellow liver atrophy
4	F. 49	Disturbance in gait	Slight impairment pain and touch C 4-6 and L 1-5	1.5	Initial improvement followed by deterioration and later a remission
5	M. 54	Spastic paraplegia, legs	All forms impaired T 2 down	0.3	No change

97. Studies of the Brain on Scoliosis

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Scoliosis has been studied on several pathognomonic items, but there are still many unknown problems. Recently, we studied on the brain chiefly