

**THE PNEUMOTHORAX
TREATMENT
OF PULMONARY
TUBERCULOSIS**

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The pneumothorax treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis by Clive Riviere

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PREFACE

THE treatment of pulmonary tubercle by collapse and compression of the diseased lung, through the medium of an artificial or induced pneumothorax, is a procedure which has certainly reached the stage where a convenient textbook should be welcomed. When the writer, some years since, first began to practise this treatment, he found himself greatly hampered by the difficulty of solving the various problems that confronted him through reference to a very voluminous, but scattered and highly polyglot literature. These difficulties have become no less of recent years: a convenient text-book has not arrived, and the writer has, consequently, been tempted to assemble together these results of his own and others' experience in the hope that they may smooth the way for those who wish to study this treatment.

The problems of pneumothorax treatment are many and complex, as might, indeed, be expected in a method of comparatively recent introduction, and one which involves so momentous a disturbance of the normal physical relationship of the chest organs. To some of these problems no final answer can be given at the present time, and the reader will have to content himself with an outline of recent views together with some indication of their trend. For the explanation of many phenomena the writer has been obliged to draw upon his own unsupported reasoning or experience, since the

literature, though abundant, does not touch in detail on all conceivable eventualities. Nevertheless the references to authority in the text are necessarily copious—so much so, indeed, as to have demanded, in the interests of practical utility, a somewhat severe pruning when the bibliography was reached. Into this latter have been admitted only such references as seemed to the writer of real historical interest, of conspicuous clinical value, or containing original work or first-hand information on points of special importance. To this limited degree the book may serve as a work of reference—the reader will obtain introduction to some of the most notable articles in the literature.

Pneumothorax treatment can be regarded as no less than a great and beneficent discovery; if this small volume helps to promote its progress or reputation in any degree, the writer will feel that his labour has not been expended in vain.

QUEEN ANNE STREET,
LONDON, W.

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