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Oliver WW, Stoller EA (1925). Notes on the therapeutic value of pneumococcus antibody solution subcutaneously administered in lobar pneumonia. Archives of Internal Medicine 35:267-286.

Key passages

NOTES ON THE THERAPEUTIC VALUE OF PNEUMOCOCCUS ANTIBODY SOLUTION SUBCUTANEOUSLY ADMINISTERED IN LOBAR PNEUMONIA *

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PLAN OF PROCEDURE AS OUTLINED BY THE INFLUENZA COMMISSION

1. In every hospital cooperating in this study, there should be some one person responsible for, and having general supervision of, the experiment.

2. Each ward will be considered an experimental unit. Every case of lobar pneumonia admitted to a particular ward will be numbered consecutively. First case, 1; second case, 2; and so on.

3. Every case receiving an even number shall have the antibody treatment. The odd numbered cases will not receive antibody treatment, but in other respects will be handled like the antibody cases. In the case of our particular work at Long Island College Hospital, the foregoing plan was deviated from to the extent of administering antibody solution to one half of the Type I pneumococcus pneumonia patients in the series, and to certain of the remainder of the Type I pneumonia patients administering Type I pneumococcus antiserum. By this means, it was hoped to obtain some data on the comparative value of antibody solution and antiserum in Type I infections. Also, on two occasions, when the supply of antibody solution was temporarily exhausted, the sequence was broken to the extent that an even numbered case failed to receive antibody solution, and vice versa.

4. In order to minimize the personal equation in the diagnosis and effect of treatment, it is necessary that both the antibody and control cases come under the direct observation of the same person, in each experimental unit or ward.

