

[Indian Plague Commission \(1902\)](#). Serum therapeutics. Investigations conducted by the commissioners. BMJ 1:1159-1160.

#### Key passages

## THE REPORT OF THE INDIAN PLAGUE COMMISSION.

As Yersin's serum appeared innocuous in every respect they determined to administer it to hospital patients. They did not feel justified in putting Lustig's to a similar use owing to its disastrous effect on plague-infected guinea-pigs. At the South Camp Hospital, Bangalore, they treated 49 cases, administering the serum to every plague patient admitted who was neither convalescent nor absolutely *in articulo mortis*. The case-mortality of the adjoining North Camp Hospital served as a control. In Bombay, also, they treated 28 cases in the Modi Khana Hospital, selecting every second patient admitted and using the intermediate cases as controls. Both at Bangalore and Bombay the advantages of serum treatment were only slight. The case-mortality showed a diminution of not more than 4 to 5 per cent. Life was not prolonged nor convalescence accelerated, nor was there any well-marked alleviation of symptoms.