

Summaries

FEREIRA V., H. "**Ceruloplasmin activity in schizophrenia**". Invest. Clín. N° 21: 7-12. 1967.

Ceruloplasmin activity in the serum of 27 schizophrenic patients, 13 men and 14 women, ages between 18 and 50 years, was determined. Normal values were found in 21 cases (77.7%), low in five and high in one. Houchin's method was used.

WENGER, F. "**Massive cerebral necrosis of fetuses caused by the Venezuelan equine encephalitis virus**". Invest. Clín. N° 21: 13-31. 1967.

Seven cases of severe cerebral lesions in fetuses and newborns, whose mothers had passed during pregnancy thru a severe epidemic of equine encephalitis by the Venezuelan type of virus, are described. The acute phase of encephalitis occurred between the third and eighth month of pregnancy. In the recent cases (8th month), there was an extensive necrosis

of the hemispheres with acute inflammation; in the older cases, reabsorption of the necrotic tissue was seen, and the oldest cases (4 to 5 months between disease and delivery), the necrotic tissue had disappeared, giving a picture similar to hydroanencephaly. Most of the infants were born alive and at term, living up to one week, with clinical signs of anoxia; one was born "decerebrated" and the oldest case was a still-born.

It is suggested that these lesions were produced thru transplacental transmission of the virus, which had increased its virulence during the numerous passages from host to host, in a short time, during the epidemic.

CASTEJON SANDOVAL, O. "**Ultrastructure of Neuron**". Invest. Clín. N° 21: 33-52. 1967.

The electron microscope can be used advantageously to analyze the intricate organiza-

tion of nervous system. A new discipline, the Molecular Neurology, open new and hopeful ways for a better comprehension of highest functions of human being: thinking, memory, learning, imagination and intelligence. In this paper, the submicroscopic features of cellular membranes and nuclear envelope, and the structural units of the neuron such as Nissl substance, mitochondria, Golgi complex, neurofilaments, and dense inclusion bodies are described. It is important to emphasize that the neuronal organelles do not differ significantly from those of other cells. What is specific for the nervous system is its organization, the way in which its cellular elements are interconnected and interact. The fine structure of the dendrites, the axon and the synaptic organization is also reviewed.

(Lecture given at the Symposium on Basic Aspects of Neurology. Facultad de Medicina. Universidad del Zulia. May 1967).

RANGEL A., R; GARCIA T., F.
"The 'D' syndrome (13-15 tri-

somy)". Invest. Clin. N° 21: 45-54. 1967.

Some comments on trisomy and 13-15 chromosome translocation are made regarding the observation of a died-born infant with multiple congenital malformations. The clinical description and the results of necropsy are presented. Chromosomic studies were not carried out, because the infant was macerated at born, but we conclude that the diagnosis of "D" syndrome is consistent with the clinical and autopsy findings.

GARCIA O., J. "Cerebellum." Invest. Clin. N° 21: 63-100. 1967.

The author actualizes the phylogenetic aspects of cerebellar structure for teaching aims. The paper is illustrated with macro and microphotographies as well as drawings of cerebellar preparations.

The cortical cerebellar localizations and projections open a complete new field to the scholars as well as the experimental study of the cerebellar lesions and its clinical relationships.