

**Söderbergh, Gotthard.** CONCERNING THE SYMPTOMATOLOGY OF THE 7TH AND 8TH MOTOR DORSAL ROOTS. [Neurol. Centralbl., 1919, Vol. 38, No. 5, p. 146.]

Two previous cases in which the abdominal syndrome was observed have already been published by the author. Recently he had opportunity to observe a tumor accompanied by abdominal symptoms and from these was able to diagnose the level of the tumor in the spinal column. The patient had observed spasms in the upper right section of the abdomen. In their mildest form there was a clonic twitching of the right rectus muscle above the navel. At times fascicular contractions in the course of the fibers of the upper part of the right obliquus externus made their appearance, and there was constantly a distortion of the navel upward and somewhat to the right. A diagnosis of an irritation of the right anterior seventh dorsal root was made. Later, at times, a more tonic condition of the abdominal muscles was observable. A "défense musculaire" included the right rectus muscle above the navel and the upper middle third of the right lateral abdominal musculature. The navel was permanently distorted more upwards than toward the right, and the median line, especially the supra umbilical, formed a certain convexity toward the right. The author therefore extended his diagnosis to include the eighth anterior root on the right. At the section a tumor the size of an almond was found behind the medulla on the right between the dural point of exit of the seventh and eighth dorsal roots, pressing closely against the seventh. The medulla itself, of which the 8th and 9th segments were to the greatest degree involved, was bent forward and to the left. The conclusion was drawn that a segmental innervation of the abdominal muscle actually exists and that it is dorsal 7 which principally innervates the homolateral rectus muscle above the navel and nearly the whole of the upper third of the lateral abdominal musculature; while it is dorsal 8 which principally supplies the middle third of the lateral abdominal wall down to a little below the horizontal navel line. He also calls attention to the fact that his experimental results in regard to the motor root functions may be of great practical use for the diagnosis of the level of tumors of the medulla oblongata.

**Bostroem, A.** ISOLATED INJURY OF THE RAMUS SUPERFICIALIS DUE TO WOUND OF THE NERVUS PLANTARIS LATERALIS. [Neurol. Centralbl., September 16, 1918, No. 18, Vol. 37.]

War experiences in regard to injuries of peripheral nerves have already demonstrated in the most unequivocal manner the importance of careful attention to the small muscles of the foot. It has been especially emphasized that, wherever there is difficulty in walking of any sort, electrical examination of the thenar and hypothenar musculature should not be neglected, even where the localization of the injury, the impairment of mobility and sensibility arouse no suspicion of a nerve injury. In the case described, after an accidental pistol shot through the left