



Pa. Hand

EAST AFR. PROT.  
42533

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1913  
12 hrs

Cerebro spinal meningitis

Sends memo by Dr. Ross on points raised by Dr. Haines. Includes schedule of cases reported at Native Civil Hospital bet 1906 & 1912.

Dr. Fiddler

H. S. R.

Mr. B. H. S.

10/21/13

It appears to me that in view of their previous experience that Drs Ross & Shivers were quite right in preferring the Swamin treatment. They also, or rather one of them had the wisdom (a courage) to put this belief to the test in his own case, & with most happy results.

H.S.R. 12/12/13.

See also memos in 60761 (Library) & on Ch Sec, not forwarding diff copy of mem to 60761. I presume that the other memos to 60761 are in front, both should go to Dr. Fiddler.

AF 15/11/13  
at ...  
H. S. R. 15/21/13

Copy to Dr. Ross - consider by ...

Dr. Fiddler

Next subsequent Paper.  
e a  
6194

Mr. Fiddian

Extract from minutes of board meeting of the  
T.M.C. Committee, 3 Feb 1914

Professor Simpson stated, in connection with  
the return of cases of cerebro-spinal meningitis in  
the T.M.C., that the outbreak had been very serious  
as far as the natives were concerned, particularly because  
it affected adults and interfered with the labor supply.  
Mr. Ross & Shearer had made very careful examinations  
and found a large percentage of the organisms in the  
blood. Flexner's serum had proved of very little use.

monthly action  
proposed for the

Mr. Br...  
Mr. ...

See also 6197

No action necessary (except

as outlined)

AF 20/2/14

at once  
to ...  
20/2/14

Cases circulated (R.T.M.C. etc) (with report) 26 Feb 1914

C 0223  
48533  
REC  
9 DEC 13

GOVERNMENT HOUSE,  
NAIROBI,  
BRITISH EAST AFRICA.

November 12th 1913.

EAST AFRICA PROTECTORATE



No. 394

81  
~~1111~~  
30877

Memorandum  
Schedule

Jan 20/16

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 800 of the 24th of September on the subject of the epidemic of Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis and to transmit herewith a copy of a memorandum by Dr. P. H. Ross, Bacteriologist, referring to the points raised by Dr. Flexner.

2. A full report on the matter by Dr. Ross and Dr. Shircore has already been forwarded to you in my despatch No. 835 of the 30th ultimo.

3. With reference to the concluding paragraph of Dr. Ross' Memorandum I enclose a schedule showing the number of cases of this disease as reported at the Native Civil Hospital since 1906.

4. I am still not in possession of Professor Simpson's views on the matter.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your humble, obedient servant,

In the absence of the  
GOVERNOR.

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

LEWIS P.C., M.P.,

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR THE COLONIES,

In Despatch No 89468 X2 // 10/10

The Laboratory

Nairobi,

October 29th, 1913.

Mems.

X X X X X X X X

(2) As regards the antinephritic serum I would submit the following remarks.

(3) On the outbreak of the disease here Mr. Haran, Acting F.M.O., wired for a certain number of doses of Flexner and Jobling's serum.

(4) There was naturally a long delay before the serum arrived. When it did arrive these were the sources:

(a) Lister Institute and (b) Squibb and Wallecome's.

(5) The arrival of this serum had been looked forward to with the greatest impatience by Dr. Shirooze and myself and immediately on its arrival it was in use by Dr. Shirooze.

(6) During the period of waiting for the arrival of this serum Dr. Shirooze had tried intramuscular injections of Beamin.

(7) The details of the results of treatment with serum and with Beamin are given in the ~~same~~ paper by Dr. Shirooze and myself of which a copy has already been sent to you. Here it will be perhaps sufficient to say that our high hopes of the serum were entirely dashed to such an extent that when Dr. Shirooze contracted the disease it did not enter his head before he became unconscious or the heads of any of us who were attending him after he lost consciousness to use the serum, but he was given doses of Beamin.

(8) Since Dr. Shiroore's illness a paper by Bessedra has appeared and it now seems that we might have got better results by giving a preliminary subcutaneous injection of the serum. I would point out that I have never before this very recent publication seen any reference either in English or Continental literature to this method of treatment and the fact remains that the use of the serum in the manner described by the instructions accompanying the tubes and in all the available literature gave such deplorable results that we did not feel justified in continuing its use.

(9) A further point in connection with treatment is that in a series of 40 cases we found that we got a percentage of septicaemic cases very much higher than previously described in the literature. It seems reasonable to expect that serum injected into the cerebral spinal canal would have a minimum amount of influence on a septicaemic case of the disease.

(10) I note that there is no conflict between Prof. Flaxner's remarks on the method of spread of the disease and the contents of the leaflet which under your instructions I wrote for publication.

(11) As regards research on the subject of the spread of the disease all that we had time to do in that direction has been included in the paper by Dr. Shiroore and myself referred to above. There was material to occupy all the time of one man but what we could do had to take its chance with the routine work of the Laboratory.

(12) As regards para. 2 of Mr. Lambert's letter I would point out that Dr. Shiroore found mention by Dr. Haran of cases at the Civil Hospital in 1906. I was absent at the time on leave so know nothing personally of these cases.

I have etc.

sd/ Philip H. Ross.

Bacteriologist.

894. 12 11 13

Number of cases of meningitis from 1906-12  
admitted to Civil Hospital, Nairobi.

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<u>Year</u>	<u>Cases</u>	<u>Deaths.</u>
1906	3	3
1907	10	10
1908	15	14
1909	3	3
1910	2	2
1911	2	2
1912	1	1
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	58.	54.
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