DIABETES MELLITUS

With Emphasis on Children and Young Adults

t. S. Danowski, M.O.

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Preface

It was my original thought to entitle this monograph "Diabetes Mellitus in Children". It soon became obvious that this entity could not be treated without presentation of the fundamental alterations in intermediary metabolism as they are now viewed nor without drawing comparisons and contrasts between the clinical manifestations and characteristics of diabetes in children and in adults. Then too, it is amply established that survival of the juvenile diabetic is only part of the goal and that many of the problems which lie beyond the childhood and adolescence of the diabetic are common to all diabetics. For these reasons it seemed far more descriptive to use the title "Diabetes Mellitus, with Emphasis on Children and Young Adults".

T. S. D.

Acknowledgments

In 1947 the Renziehausen Foundation, the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh, and the University of Pittsburgh united in expanding the program of care of diabetic children, originally made possible by the generosity of Emelie Renziehausen, to include a research and service laboratory, a 17bed hospital ward, outpatient clinics, and a professional staff. Miss Renziehausen then set up Trust III which broadened the activities of this clinical and laboratory unit to permit studies in diabetes and in metabolic diseases in children and in adults. This volume and the patient care, teaching, and research activities which made it possible are the direct products of the generosity of Miss Renziehausen. To provide as broad an approach to the problem of diabetes as possible the physicians in the Renziehausen Program also assumed clinical responsibilities in the field of diabetes and metabolic diseases at the Presbyterian-Woman's, the Elizabeth Steel Magee and the Veterans Administration Hospitals as well as at the Falk Clinic which functions as the outpatient arm of the University of Pittsburgh Health Center. At any one time these arrangements provide access to more than 1,000 patients with diabetes under the direct care of the Renziehausen unit and a large background of endocrine and metabolic problems in the Health Center and the affiliated institutions.

It is obvious that an operation of this magnitude requires nurses, laboratory assistants, dietitians as well as social service, administrative, and auxiliary personnel too numerous to mention individually. This is also true of the 46 physicians who in the course of nine years spent six months to two years as residents or Renziehausen Fellows providing the day-to-day care of the patients and participating in the program of clinical investigation and student instruction. Were it not for their work this volume would be totally lacking in substance. I must however name those who as colleagues, past and present, have contributed so greatly to this program: the late Lawrence Greenman, M.D., F. M. Mateer, M.D., F. A. Weigand, M.D., J. H. Peters, M.D. and R. Tarail, M.D.

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T. S. D.

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