Pract. oto-rhino-laryng. 1963;25:122

Some Problems about the Allergological Examination

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Two different problems are discussed: the problem of the hyper- and hyposensitivity of the skin and the problem of group reactions.

1. Hyper- as well as hyposensitivity of the skin can interfere with the allergological examination, because of the possibility of specific positive and specific negative skin reactions. A number of characteristics are mentioned of the hyper- and the hyposensitivity of the skin. Sometimes a combination is seen of specific hypersensitivity of the skin, not allergic urticaria and rhinitis vasomotoria non allergica.

2. If the skin reactions are certainly specific and caused by reagins (antibodies), one has still the problem of group reactions, which means here the appearance of positive reactions on a large group of related allergens.

In some cases only one allergen out of the whole group can be made responsible for the complaints of the patient. A good anamnesis in such cases is indispensable for the detection of the allergen which causes the clinical symptoms.

The latter problem is illustrated by the example of pollen allergy.

T. The problem of the relation of the inhalant allergens is discussed on the basis of recent investigations on this subject at the Department of Dermatology of the State University in Utrecht.