

Carcinoma has been a complication in one patient with megacolon in this series, but this evidence is too meager to implicate megacolon as a precancerous condition.

### Summary

In a series of 17 adult patients with megacolon, six seemed to have Hirschsprung's disease. All were said to have had the disease in childhood and all had normal rectums, but biopsies were done in only two cases. One of the patients was treated conservatively, but he died of pneumonia two years later, and collapse of the lungs secondary to the distention of the colon appeared to be an important factor.

Three patients had excellent results after sigmoidal colectomy. Pull-through excision (one case) may have been unnecessarily radical.

Patients with idiopathic or acquired Hirschsprung's disease have had less satis-

factory results after surgery, and after sigmoidal colectomy in particular. If intensive medical treatment fails, total colectomy and ileorectal anastomosis may be the best procedure.

### References

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### Memoirs

QUINN, WILLIAM HENRY, JR., Worcester, Massachusetts; born April 6, 1906, Cambridge, Massachusetts; Hahnemann Medical College 1933; internship Hahnemann Hospital, Philadelphia.

Dr. Quinn was elected an Affiliate Member of the American Proctologic Society in 1955. He was a member of the American Medical Association, Massachusetts State Medical Society, and Worcester County Medical Society; on the staff at Worcester City, Fairlawn, and Grafton Hospitals. He died September 7, 1968.

SMITH, CLARENCE DANIEL, Jenkintown, Pennsylvania; born February 18, 1883, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania; Jefferson Medical College 1907; internship Jefferson Hospital, Philadelphia; served with U. S. Navy in World War I.

Dr. Smith was elected to membership in the American Proctologic Society in 1944 and became an Associate Fellow in 1947. He was a member of the American Medical Association, Pennsylvania Medical Society and Philadelphia County Medical Society. Prior to his retirement, Dr. Smith taught at Jefferson Medical College and was on the staff of Community, Women's and Doctor's Hospitals. He died December 7, 1968.