

## BLOOD PRESSURE IN MAN.

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(Abstract.)

The paper consists of a tabulation of the readings of blood pressure in 220 men with age, day and hour of day, mental condition, and the condition of arteries, heart and kidneys; with conclusions as to what factors influence and are influenced by the blood pressure in man.

As the subjects were unfamiliar with the procedure it itself increased the blood pressure in most cases so that the readings are high for them. The highest, taking the systolic as most reliable, was 270 in an old man with beady arteries; the lowest, 88; thirteen were above 200; six were below 100; the averages for the series was 134 mmg Hg by the Rivi-Rocci mercurial sphygmomanometer, Stanton's form.

Age, by the changes in the blood vessels, is the most constant factor in change of blood pressure, which increases with age; the condition of the arteries is a determining factor; the more rigid their walls the higher the blood pressure; all with high pressure have rigid arteries; coincidentally, casts and albumen occurred in the urine, indicative of lesion in the kidneys. Valvular lesion of the heart lessening its efficiency raises the systolic pressure.

In stupor invariably the blood pressure was low, as in the cases of catalepsy, which gave the low records; likewise in dementia the blood pressure is relatively low; also in maniacal conditions it is decreased, approaching its normal with recovery; and contrawise the blood pressure is raised in melancholia and in states marked with delusions of persecution; in general paresis it varies according to the mental condition. This correspondence of mental condition to blood pressure is tolerably uniform.