MUCOCOELE OF MALE URETHRA*

BY

J. OLIVER DOYLE

St. Luke's Clinic, Manchester, and The Manchester Royal Infirmary

Mucocoele or mucoid cyst may occur in any part of the urethra and is usually asymptomatic. McCrea (1940), quoting Ottow, explains the origin of these cysts on the assumption that the lips of the primitive urethral opening have failed to unite in their entirety. If this failure is confined to the urethral epithelium, a mucoid cyst or mucocoele results. A case is presented below in which the situation of the mucocoele is rather unusual.

Case Report

A single man aged 38 years attended St. Luke's Clinic, Manchester, on February 9, 1959, suffering from acute gonorrhoea. The blood Wassermann reaction and Kahn test were negative. A swelling at the tip of the urethra had been present from birth and was asymptomatic. It was 1" × 1" in area, non-tender, and translucent, and arose from the anterior wall of the urethra, about $\frac{1}{8}$ " from the external urinary meatus. The patient was not concerned about the swelling as he did not realize it was unusual. When he returned to the clinic on June 15, 1959, to complete his surveillance for the gonococcal infection, the swelling was unchanged.

I am indebted to Dr. R. G. W. Ollerenshaw, Director, Department of Medical Illustration, Manchester Royal Infirmary, for the photograph.

FIGURE.—Appearance of swelling.

REFERENCE

McCrea, E. D. (1940). "Diseases of the Urethra and Penis", p. 37. Wright, Bristol.

Received for publication June 30, 1959