

30th. May 1949.

Dear Laurence,

I have perused your 93 gastric ulcers to the best of my ability. I imagine there is no particular point in the observation that the inactive show a higher proportion who have abandoned a regular medication as compared with those whose ulcers are still active. That seems to be more or less common sense on the part of the patient. I do not think it can also be used as evidence of ineffectiveness of medical treatment.

One point that may be worth discussing is given by the fourfold table

Duration	Active	Inactive	Total
1 year or less	14	20	34
More than 1 year	39	20	59
	53	40	93

This shows a significantly higher proportion active on follow up among those with more than one year's history before initial treatment in hospital. I presume the reason must be that many cases do not appear in your enquiry because they cleared up rapidly and were never taken to hospital. These you only catch,

in fact, if they appear in hospital quite early in the course of the disease.

Anyway, for this table χ^2 , with Yates' correction, is practically 4.5 and definitely significant.

Sincerely yours,