

was not related to age. The expected male predominance was found in both study groups.

The duration of illness prior to admission was similar in both groups. In Table II the patients in each group are recorded by severity of illness on admission. There was no difference between the two groups.

The duration of fever after therapy was instituted as indicated in Table III. No significant difference is apparent between the two groups. Sixty-four per cent of the chloramphenicol treated patients were afebrile by the fifth hospital day, while 72% of the ampicillin group were in this category.

The C.S.F. was re-examined within one or two days following admission in 24 ampicillin and 38 control patients. Cultures of these follow-up C.S.F. samples were positive in three of 31 specimens from the ampicillin patients and three of 46 samples from controls. These six positive specimens were all obtained less than 18 hours after the start of therapy; no positive C.S.F. cultures were obtained from either treatment group later than 18 hours after admission. The similarity of response in the two treatment groups is further emphasized in Figs. 1 and 2, in which changes in C.S.F. cell count and glucose are shown during the period of therapy. In addition to the data shown, the rate of decline in percentage of polymorphonuclear cells in the C.S.F. during the period of treatment was similar in the two groups.

TABLE I.—H. INFLUENZA MENINGITIS, AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION OF PATIENTS BY THERAPY GROUP

Therapy group and sex	Less than 1 year	1 year	2 to 4 years	5 to 29 years	Total
Control:					
Male.....	10	7	3	3	23
Female.....	9	5	5	2	21
Total.....	19	12	8	5	44
Ampicillin:					
Male.....	7	3	6	0	16
Female.....	2	0	6	2	10
Total.....	9	3	12	2	26

TABLE II.—H. INFLUENZA MENINGITIS, CLINICAL STATUS ON HOSPITAL ADMISSION ACCORDING TO TREATMENT GROUP

Severity group	Findings	Control		Ampicillin	
		Number	Percent	Number	Percent
4+	Coma, shock, semicoma, hypotension ¹	8	18	3	12
3+	Convulsions without coma or shock.....	10	23	7	27
2+	Temperature of 105° R. or more, symptoms 5 days or more, complicating disease, marked lethargy ¹	15	34	9	34
1+	None of above.....	11	25	7	27
	Total patients.....	44	100	26	100

¹ 1 or more of the findings listed.

TABLE III.—H. INFLUENZAE MENINGITIS, DURATION OF FEVER IN HOSPITAL BY TREATMENT GROUP

[Number (percent distribution) of patients with maximum temperature > 100° F.]

Therapy group	Days in hospital						Total
	0-1	2-3	4-5	6-7	8-9	10+	
Control.....	3 (8)	11 (28)	11 (28)	8 (21)	2 (5)	4 (10)	¹ 39 (100)
Ampicillin.....	6 (24)	3 (12)	9 (36)	1 (4)	2 (8)	4 (16)	² 25 (100)
Total.....	9	14	20	9	4	8	64

¹ 4 fatalities and 1 case with incomplete temperature record excluded.

² 1 fatal case excluded.