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Endocrinology

NON-ENDOCRINE CUSHING'S SYNDROME Typical cases of Cushing's syndrome have been reported without the finding of endocrine tumors. These patients, however, have other types of tumors. The condition is now called the "ectopic ACTH syndrome." The lesions most often associated with this syndrome are: oat-cell carcinoma of the lung, benign bronchial adenoma, islet-cell carcinoma of the pancreas, and thymoma. Less often it is associated with carcinomas of the liver, prostate, ovary, breast, parotid, and esophagus, as well as with pheochromocytomas, gangliomas, and paragangliomas. Recently several cases with carcinoid tumors were reported. This article describes the syndrome in a young woman and its cure by removal of a benign appendiceal carcinoid. It points out also that the tumors of the various organs mentioned have histologic resemblances to carcinoid, and the puzzling fact that blood levels of ACTH are normal. (Miller, T., Bernstein, J., and Van Heerle, A.: *Cushing's Syndrome Cured by Resection of Appendiceal Carcinoid*, *Arch. Surg.* 103: 770-773, 1971.)