

Diseases From Smoking.

A writer in The British Medical Journal, after referring to the disagreement among surgeons as to whether **smoking** may be the immediate **cause** of **cancer**, remarks that there is a condition of the tongue which, in many cases, is the precursor of epithelioma, namely, "leucoplakia," and this disease is more generally considered to be caused by **smoking**. The fact is pointed out that, among seventy-five recorded cases, all but four were smokers. One authority has shown that leucoplakia may be the starting point of epithelioma, and, out of the above mentioned number of cases, forty-four developed epithelioma, and in one only was there a family history of **cancer**. Another authority states that out of fifty-five cases of **cancer** of the tongue, about one-fourth had been the seat of leucoplakia.