

Effects of salts of nicotinic acid on serum cholesterol.

Rudolf Altschul and associate

It seems established that nicotinic acid in high doses decreases serum cholesterol in healthy and sick human beings. The toxic effects resulting in gastrointestinal upsets are due to high acidity rather than to a specific action.

Tests on 12 healthy adults showed that a buffered solution of nicotinic acid is as efficacious in decreasing serum cholesterol as is the pure nicotinic acid.

In cases of poor tolerance of nicotinic acid a solution of nicotinic acid buffered with NaHCO_3 deserves to be tried.

B.M.J. September 20, 1957.

Buttock Injection Perilous in Newborn

American Federation for Clinical Research, Southern Section:

Intramuscular injections of therapeutic agents in newborns should be made into the midanterior thigh. Twelve cases of injury to the sciatic nerve in infants have been recorded following injection into the buttock. The lower limb deformities originally had been attributed to polio-myelitis or congenital clubfoot. All the children had received antibiotics. In most instances, recovery was poor. The neuropathy was produced in newborn rats. The syndrome apparently is initiated by chemical irritation and not by needle trauma.

Dr. Mollie, Combes, University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, Dallas.

Do You Know.

That the abuse of antibiotics by over-enthusiastic patients makes even more imperative the remark addressed by Sir William Osler to the medical profession half a century ago: "One of the first duties of the physician is to educate the masses not to take medicine."

More Research Fellowships Available

The undermentioned "Research Fellowships" of Rs. 250/- p.m. for 6/12 months, are effective from April 1961. Applications are invited from the Medical Colleges and Research Institutions all over India.

1. "DEY'S FELLOWSHIP" *Subject:* Serum Cholesterol in relation to the intake of saturated fatty acids and the effect of Alistrol (Unsaturated fatty acid compound) in Hypercholesterolaemia.
2. "ALBERT DAVID FELLOWSHIP" *Subject:* Response to Ferrous Chelate in Iron deficiency anaemia with controls (by assessment of haemoglobin, R.B.C. count, reticulocyte count and serum iron).
3. "FRANCO-INDIAN FELLOWSHIP" *Subject:* Comparison of an anti-diabetic drug (2-Thymyl-Oxymethyl-glyoxalidine hydrochloride), with Tolbutamide. (For six months only).

Application form and rules may be obtained from "The Secretary, *The Bombay Hospital Journal Research Pool*", 19 Marine Lines, Bombay 1.

Applications should reach by March 30, 1961.

Notice of Film Release

INCINERATION (FG-353). Available: Purchase — United World Films, Incorporated, 1445 Park Avenue, New York 29, New York.

List Price \$85.58.

MANAGEMENT OF THE LEPROSY PATIENT (M-392).

MP — 16mm, color, sound, 698 feet, 19 minutes — 1960. Cleared for television.

Audience: Non-professional, suitable for citizen groups and the general public.

Summary: This film shows the procedures of the Public Health Service hospital at Carville, Louisiana, in treating and rehabilitating the 260 patients under its care. The sulfone drugs, discovered at this hospital in 1940's, are the principal agents of treatment today. Few outward signs of leprosy show, but on discharge, patients still face non-acceptance by society, due to old superstitions and erroneous beliefs that leprosy is highly contagious. The film shows that only public education will overcome this archaic attitude.

(Physicians are referred to the motion picture M-374, "Recognition of Leprosy" which deals with diagnosis.)

Available: Purchase — United World Films, Incorporated, 1445 Park Avenue, New York 29, New York. List Price \$125.48.

Short-term loan — (United States only). Communicable Disease Center, Atlanta 22, Georgia. Attn: Audiovisual.

BIOLOGY AND CONTROL OF THE COCKROACH (FG-426)

Available: Purchase — United World Films, Incorporated, 1445 Park Avenue, New York 29, New York. List Price \$90.14.

13th Annual Convention — International Academy of Proctology

Plan now to attend the Thirteenth Annual Convention of the International Academy of Proctology at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, April 8, thru 13, 1961. The International, National, and Local Program Committees are planning on unusual seminar on practical techniques for office and hospital. There will be special emphasis on anal and rectal panel presentations, and on newer treatment methods, as requested by those who attended the Miami Beach Meeting in 1960.