Call for Papers

In response to the suggestion of some of Professor T. O. Soine's former students and friends, as well as on the advice of the Editor of J. Pharm. Sci. concerning the publication of a group of papers in one issue in memory of Dr. Soine of Minnesota, we would like to set up the following guidelines:

1. All manuscripts submitted for this purpose should be addressed to:

Dr. Mary H. Ferguson, Editor Journal of Pharmaceutical Sciences 2215 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037

- 2. All papers should be indicated as "Dedicated to the memory of the late Professor Soine." This dedication should appear in the first footnote of the paper and be attached to the paper on a separate
 - 3. The deadline for receipt of these papers is May 1, 1979.

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Nondisintegration of a Capsule's Contents

A recent article in this Journal¹ forceably called my attention, again, to the fact that our pharmaceutical industry scientists have not yet developed a good capsule disintegrant. Or, if they have, it is a wellguarded secret, known only to a select few. In view of the public posture espoused by Eli Lilly and Co. in regard to the innate quality of all products from the top manufacturers, it is difficult for this writer to conceive that they would produce a capsule product (in this case, aspirin) that was an intentionally "slowed" or "timed" release product without claiming that they did so deliberately.

The reader is referred to Figs. 2-5 in the above-cited article. By four different methods, aspirin dissolved more slowly at a stirring rate of 75 rpm from the capsule formulation than from two readily available tablet formulations. It is clear that the authors were studying dissolution rate methodologies and not dosage forms per se. Their results, however, agree quite well in magnitude and direction with much earlier work2 whose intention was to compare dissolution rate availability of tablets and capsules as dosage forms. Apparently, no one has paid much attention to Paikoff and Drumm³ either since they reported that the contents of a capsule remained in a holder like a 'sausage" after the gelatin shell was gone.

Once again, the challenge is expressed: capsule formulators need a good disintegrant, one as good as compressed starch in a tablet. The experimentor who develops one good enough (and cheap enough) will have created a "new" dosage form from a very old dosage form and should probably make a bundle.

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Received November 20, 1978

¹T. E. Needham, K. Shah, J. Kotzan, and H. Zia, J. Pharm. Sci., 67, 1070 (1978).

² P. T. Shah and W. E. Moore, *ibid.*, **59**, 1034 (1970).

³ M. Paikoff and G. Drumm, *ibid.*, **54**, 1693 (1965).

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