

## NEW REMEDIES

*The asterisk (\*) after the name of an article indicates that the information given is derived from the makers' publications. Further information regarding these articles may be obtained by application to the Editor.*

**Alepsal\*** is a combination of phenobarbitone, caffeine and belladonna for use in the treatment of epilepsy. It is claimed that the drugs exert a synergistic effect and that this prolongs the action, enables the use of a smaller dosage of barbiturate, and permits of continuous treatment without risk of toxic reactions or depression of the mental and physical condition of the patient. Alepsal tablets are issued in three strengths: Normal, containing phenobarbitone 1.54 g., belladonna 0.31 g., and caffeine 0.38 g.; Medium, half these dosages; Weak, phenobarbitone 0.23 g., belladonna 0.046 g., and caffeine 0.057 g. The dosage for adults is 2 tablets of Normal strength twice daily, or 1 or 2 tablets of Medium strength for mild cases, with smaller doses of Weak strength for children. The tablets are issued in tubes of 20 (Normal), 30 (Medium) and 80 (Weak).

S. L. W.

**Avloprocil\*** is a proprietary brand of procaine-penicillin oily injection, containing 300,000 units of penicillin and 120 mg. of procaine base in each ml. It is claimed that following a single intramuscular injection of 1 ml. effective blood levels can be demonstrated for 18 to 24 hours. The indications are the same as for penicillin oil-and-beeswax preparations, and it is thus of value in all infective conditions where maintained levels of penicillin in the blood are required, and where frequent injections are undesirable or inconvenient. It is of particular value in the out-patient treatment of gonorrhoea by single injection. A single intramuscular injection of 1 ml. (300,000 units) is given every 24 hours, but for severe infections 2 ml. may be necessary. In the treatment of syphilis a course of 1 or 2 ml. daily for 7 or 8 days is given either alone or in conjunction with arsenic or bismuth or both. Under normal storage conditions it retains its potency for at least 12 months. It is issued in single vials containing 10 ml., or in boxes of 5 vials containing 10 ml.

S. L. W.

**Cresatin\*** is the acetic ester of metacresol, and has antiseptic, fungicidal and analgesic properties. Its low volatility and oily character cause it to adhere to tissue surfaces, thus providing prolonged action. It is used in infections of the nose, throat and ear, and has been found of value in the treatment of ringworm of the feet; it may also be used in dental practice in the treatment of infected root canals and sockets. In most conditions it may be used undiluted, except when applied in the form of a saturated absorbent cotton packing to the auditory canal when it should be diluted with 3 or 4 parts of warm olive oil. It is supplied in 1-oz. bottles.

S. L. W.

**Crystodigin\*** is a brand of crystalline digitoxin, 1 mg. producing the same effect by mouth as 1 g. of digitalis. The indications are the same as those for digitalis, its greatest value being exhibited in congestive heart failure, auricular fibrillation, and auricular flutter. Rapid digitalisation may be produced by a single dose of 1.2 mg., the effect being established within 6 hours or less. The maintenance dose is 0.2 mg. daily, though individual adjustment of this dose may be necessary, and may vary from 0.1 to 0.3 mg. daily. For slower digitalisation, daily doses of 0.2 to 0.6 mg. for several days are administered. For patients who have recently received digitalis

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