

Letter

Electrode Material in Iontophoresis

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I would like to comment on the recent letter by Linblad and Ekenvall (1) about further studying the anode material in an iontophoretic device. The studies on iontophoresis reported in the literature to date focus on the final impression or result rather than trying to understand the mechanism of iontophoretic action (2).

The studies we conducted with the motion control device PM 700 uses an electrode system (EL 501) in which the drug solution is in contact with the stainless-steel electrode (3). We did not observe any physical changes in the skin after the experiments. Stainless-steel plates are known to be the best (2,3), and there is no literature report as yet of any

viable changes in the skin structure or blister formation. Other electrodes like platinum, on which Linblad and Ekenvall have reported (1), can be used; however, they are rather expensive. In this context, platinum is widely used as the electrode material in conventional electrophoresis.

REFERENCES

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3. P. Tyle and B. Kari. In P. Tyle (ed.), *Drug Delivery Devices: Fundamentals and Applications*, Marcel Dekker, New York, 1988, pp. 421-454.

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