

## THE DANGER OF ANTIBIOTICS

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From time to time we read of the wonderful effects of antibiotics, sulpha drugs such as "M. & B." But that is only one side of the story.

It is a sad mistake that these new drugs should be written up in such a manner that the public are led to believe that they are "cure-alls". There is a certain amount of danger connected with their use.

Two years ago or so a woman came to me with her body and extremities covered with an eczematous rash. Fourteen days before that she had been bitten by a dog and was taken to a local hospital where the wound was treated with penicillin, hence the rash which appeared a week later.

The hospital was said to have admitted that the trouble was due to an overdose of penicillin. It took me six months to get the woman right again. Now with homœopathic treatment, CALENDULA lotion externally and LEDUM given internally, the wound would have healed without the added discomfort of a rash. Penicillin is not without its drawbacks, and this is borne out by the following quotations from a lecture given by a skin specialist at one of the London hospitals: "Dermatitis due to penicillin following the external application of it in the treatment of skin disease is becoming increasingly common".

The lecturer then pointed out that the medical profession does not realise that penicillin is a powerful skin sensitising agent and this condition may prevent the subsequent use of the drug as a life saving measure in a serious systematic infection. What could happen in such an instance would be a sudden flare up of a previous skin condition caused by penicillin.

### Cures by Homœopathy

Probably you have come across friends who say: "Isn't your doctor giving you penicillin and so on?" When next you meet such acquaintances you can point out to them that apart from the

dangers of the unrestricted use of the new tools, homœopathy has no need to use them.

Take for example, impetigo, that unpleasant mess of yellowish scabs often seen on the faces of children and occasionally in adults. Homœopathy can and does clear up such cases with *ANTIMONIUM TART. or ANTIM, CRUD*, or other indicated remedies without leaving any serious result.

Compare homœopathic treatment with an account given by that same lecturer of what could happen in a case of impetigo treated with penicillin. Here is what he describes as a typical case of penicillin dermatitis.

"The patient is usually a man and he may have sustained a trivial cut whilst shaving. The small wound has become infected, and with subsequent shaving, we will assume there has been some spread of this infection. After a day or two he reports to his doctor with a fairly typical impetigo.

"His doctor prescribes penicillin cream, which our hypothetical patient dutifully applies twice daily and at first the rash begins to clear. However, after the fifth day or so, his face begins to itch and he notices that the rash has extended a little.

"Next day the irritation is more intense and there has been further spread of the rash. He deals with it by applying the penicillin more and more often and more of it. Why not? Isn't it the magic drug that he has read and heard so much about, and is it not quite harmless?

"Vesicles now make their appearance and some bullae are to be seen. His eyelids have now become swollen, and he re-visits his doctor.

"His doctor misinterprets what he sees and gives him an intramuscular injection of several hundred thousand units of penicillin, which is followed soon after by an 'explosive' eruption involving the face, hands, feet and perhaps the groins . . . He is then sent to hospital where he may stay for weeks or months."

#### **Streptomycin Danger**

Which treatment would you prefer, the known safe homœopathic or the unknown and dangerous one? Remember it is not only penicillin, for streptomycin can cause more skin trouble than

either penicillin or the sulphonamides. Some cases have been known to take months to recover and deaths have been recorded.

Do not be led away by wonderful tales. Your doctor who has, or should have, enough knowledge of homœopathy to cure his patients can do so without recourse to these new drugs.

All remedies in the homœopathic pharmacopœia have been proved, that is, we have a record of all the symptoms arising from the provings and in any case of illness where the symptoms match those of the provings of any particular remedy we have a certain cure. The orthodox school knows nothing of such method of proving their remedies and therefore, have no definite rule or Law to guide them in their use of the new drugs.

Dr. Blackie remarked some years ago that a well-known ophthalmic surgeon stated that "most of the eye cases he was seeing today were suffering from penicillin. Styes and mild conjunctivitis, were all being given penicillin applications, often with resulting eczemas."

Dr. McAusland commented in a lecture on varicose ulceration: "I would warn you against the wicked harm of applying penicillin cream or even penicillin indiscriminately to ulcers—I have seen many resulting cases of raging dermatitis."

#### Fears Confirmed

The above note was written in 1951. More recent writers confirm the fears and warnings it expresses, for instance Sir Heneage Ogilvie, in 'No Miracles Among Friends' has this to say about antibiotics: "By eliminating the sensitive organisms they are gradually populating the world with a new race of bacteria, as virulent as those they have replaced, but infinitely more dangerous, because until some new antibiotic appears they are safe from attack. In one large hospital 70 per cent of the staff are now carriers of penicillin-resistant staphylococci.

"By eliminating the sensitive organisms in the symbiotic colony that inhabits every epithelial surface of the body they leave the field open to the insensitive (resistant) ones, which have hitherto been kept down by their more powerful neighbours. As pneumococcal pneumonia disappears virus pneumonia takes its place.

*(Continued on page 91)*

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

SIR,

Here is a curious fact that "a piece of silver turns black in the mouth of a cancer patient within a few minutes and leaves a garlic taste". So says Dr. B. R. Chugha in connection with the signs of mouth-cancer, in his "CANCER AND ITS CURE".

Again, a clergyman having received a dose of Sulphur MM (1,000,000th potency) from Dr. Skinner, on clear symptoms of Sulphur, wrote: "Since I left your house I have noticed that all the silver coins of my pockets, my silver pencil-case, and my silver hunting watch, are all PERFECTLY BLACK."

Is there any connection between CANCER and SULPHUR that both turn silver black?

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*(Continued from page 69)*

"The streptococcal sore throat is often converted by penicillin lozenges into a sorer throat, attacked by strange organisms hitherto latent. In the intestine sterilized by streptomycin and sulphaphthalidine the monilia (fungus) is apt to become a pest.

"In attacking the bacteria many of them (the antibiotics) may knock out the cellular resistance of the host—suddenly, without warning, and often irreparably. Their most harmful action is that they absolve the body from the need to bring its immune mechanism that has been acquired and perfected through millions of years and that seldom fails."

—*Homœopathy, July '60*

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