Gut March 1977

AN IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM MAY&BAKER:

A MAJOR, **NEW INDICATION** FOR 'FLAGYL'

the treatment and prevention of anaerobic infections

Modern methods reveal the size of the problem

Sophisticated laboratory techniques now show the true incidence of anaerobic infections. Increasingly, these organisms are isolated from clinical specimens,1 and are implicated in a wide variety of infections.1-3

'FLAGYL' is the dependable answer

Free from the problems associated with other agents in this field (eg chloramphenicol) and, unlike penicillin, active against both sporing and non-sporing forms – 'Flagyl' is bactericidal to most of the clinically important, obligatory anaerobes.1 'Flagyl' has been used successfully in the following conditions: pelvic, 4 intra-abdominal 5 and postoperative 4 infections, brain abscess 6 septic thrombophlebitis 7 and necrotizing pneumonia.8

Positive benefits to the hospital unit

'. . . it may be concluded that the prophylactic use of metronidazole ('Flagyl') in the test group resulted in a saving to the N.H.S. of almost £2,000 . . prevention of anaerobic infection enabled the gynaecological ward to handle an additional 26 major surgical cases each year." 4

Backed by an unrivalled reputation

'Flagyl' has an outstanding record of efficacy and safety in over 15 years of clinical experience. It is now firmly established in the treatment of urogenital trichomoniasis, amoebiasis, giardiasis and acute ulcerative gingivitis.

References

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'Flagy!'* is supplied as tablets of 200 mg and tablets of 400 mg. Full prescribing information on request *brade mark of May & Baker Ltd Dagenham Essex RM10 7XS for its preparations of metronidazole.





The discovery that will revolutionise the treatment of peptic ulcers and reflux oesophagitis



A real breakthrough

Due to its dramatic reduction of gastric acid secretion 'Tagamet' has achieved quite remarkable results in peptic ulcers and reflux oesophagitis.

Complete healing of duodenal and gastric ulcers 1,2,3,4 (proven endoscopically) is seen in most patients after 4 weeks' treatment.

Complete healing or marked improvement of reflux oesophagitis has frequently been obtained

Early symptomatic relief is normally achieved in patients receiving "Tagamet' treatment.
Furthermore, "Tagamet' is well tolerated with minimal side effects which, together with its convenient dosage, means 'Tagamet' is well suited to everyday treatment.

"Tagamet'-for patients with suspected or confirmed benign gastric or duodenal ulcer or reflux oesophagitis, and for patients in whom the reduction of acid secretion is likely to be beneficial.

The discovery

Until recently, one aspect of gastric physiology remained paradoxical-histamine was known to be a potent stimulant of gastric acid, yet conventional antihistamines were totally inactive in this area. Confronted by this apparent anomaly investigators began to suspect that there might in fact be two types of receptor site for histamine - one mainly for allergic reactions (H₁) and the second for gastric acid secretion (H₂).

In 1964, the SK&F research team set out to find a new class of therapeutic agent by chemical modification of the histamine molecule. They were seeking an agent capable of blocking the action of histamine at the H₂ receptor site, just as conventional antihistamines do at the \vec{H}_l site. After 12 years of extensive research, this search has resulted in the development of "Tagamet", the H₂ receptor antagonist, with the fundamental property of controlling gastric acid secretion 6.7

- . Cimetidine in the treatment of active duodenal and prepyloric ulcers, (1975), Lancet, ii, 161.
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'Tagamet' (cimetidine) is available as 200 mg filmcoated tablets, 200 mg/5 ml syrup and 200 mg/2 ml parenteral.

SK&F

Full prescribing information is available from Smith Kline & French Laboratories Limited Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 IEY 'Tagamet' is a trade mark





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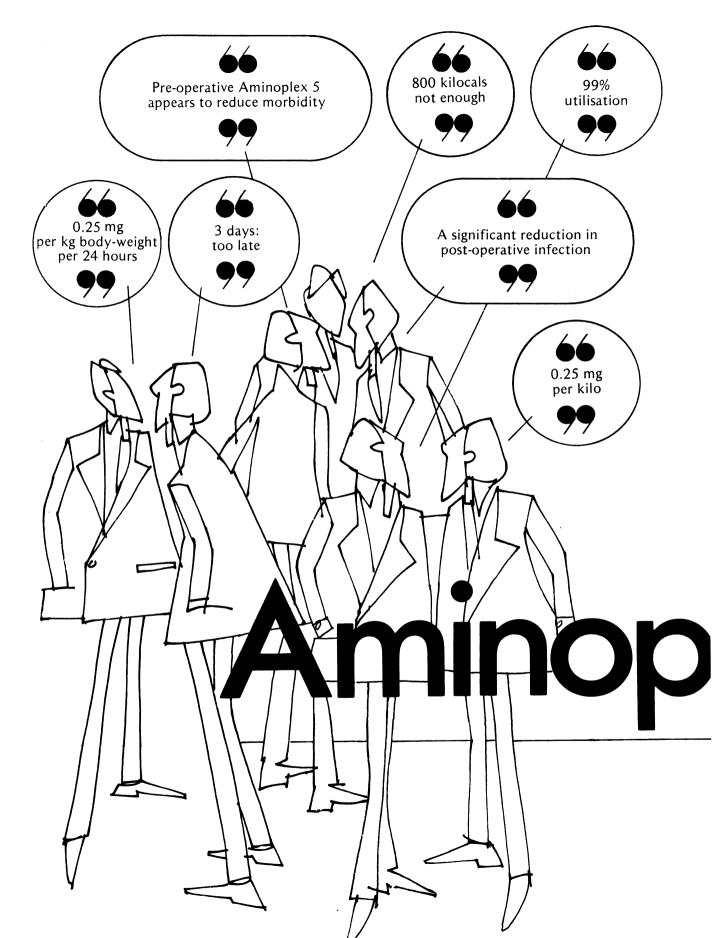
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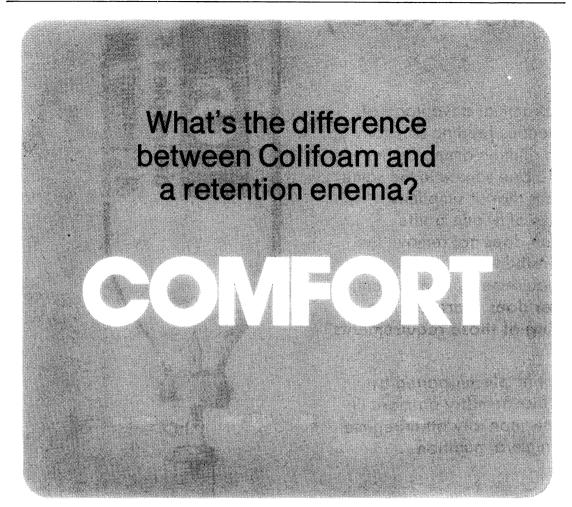
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1. Practitioner, Accepted for publication 2. Rosser, R.G. Treatment of Proctosigmoiditis Scientific Exhibit presented at 121st Annual Convention of the American Medical Association, June 1972 3. Kratzer, G.L. (1970) *Amer.J.clin.Res.* 1, 111 4. Scherl, N.D. and Scherl, B.A. (1973) *Dis.colon.Rectum.* Mar/Apr.

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"It is concluded that maintenance treatment of ulcerative colitis with sulphasalazine (salazopyrin) should be continued indefinitely unless contraindicated by side effects." I

The results of the above controlled trial carried out at the Nuffield Department of Clinical Medicine, Radcliffe Infirmary, Oxford are all the more welcome as earlier trials of cortisone² and prednisone3 at standard dosages have shown them to be ineffective in reducing the number of recurrences of ulcerative colitis.

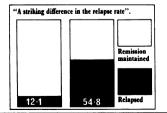
'Fortunately, Sulphasalazine tablets, 0.5 grams 4 times a day will prevent relapses in the majority of patients with colitis, and only a few patients cannot tolerate this relatively small dose, which can be continued indefinitely since we do not know when, if ever, it can be safely stopped".4

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"The patients who received dummy tablets had more than four times the relapse rate of those receiving sulphasalazine".1 (Salazopyrin).

Salazopyrin is a registered trade mark.



Both groups of patients had been satisfactorily maintained for 1-5 years on Salazopyrin prior to the study, in which they took Salazopyrin or placebo for 6 months.

- 1. Gut (1973) 14 923 926 2. Brit. med. J. (1959) 1 387 394 3. Lancet (1965) 1 188 189
- 4. General Practitioner (1972) April 7 pl 1

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