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    - Ensures dosage uniformity
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    - High local tissue levels and low plasma levels': reduced risk of steroid related side effects

#### PREDFOAM Instructions to patient

#### PREDFOAN

#### PREDNISOLONE METASULPHOBENZOATE

#### Prescribing Information

Presentation: A white mucoadherent aerosol foam containing prednisolone metasulphobenzoate sodium equivalent to 20mg prednisolone per metered

Uses: Treatment of proctitis and picerative colitis

Dosage and Administration: One metered dose inserted rectally once or twice daily for two weeks, extending treatment for a further two weeks when a good response is obtained.

Contra-indications, warnings, etc.

Contra-indications: Local conditions where infection might be masked or healing impaired e.g. peritonitis, fistulae, intestinal obstruction, perforation of

Side effects. The consequences of systemic absorption should be considered with extensive use over prolonged periods. As with all rectal corticosteroids, prolonged continuous use is undesirable.

There is inadequate evidence of safety in human pregnancy Topical administration of corticosteroids to pregnant animals can cause abnormalities of foetal development including cleft palate and intra-uterine growth retardation. There may therefore be a very small risk of such effects in the human foetus. Overdosage by this route is unlikely

Legal Category : POM

PL 0108/0101

Pack and basic NHS price. Box containing 1 fourteen dose canister. 14 disposable nozzles and 14 plastic bags £7.00

\* Registered Trade Mark

References: (1) Data on file (Pharmax)

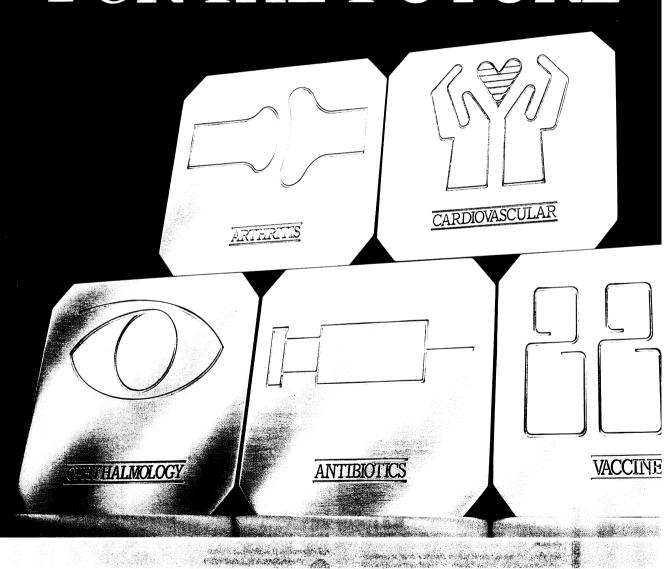
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Reckitt & Colman would like to offer our best wishes and congratulations to the British Society of Gastroenterology upon the celebration of its Golden Jubilee.

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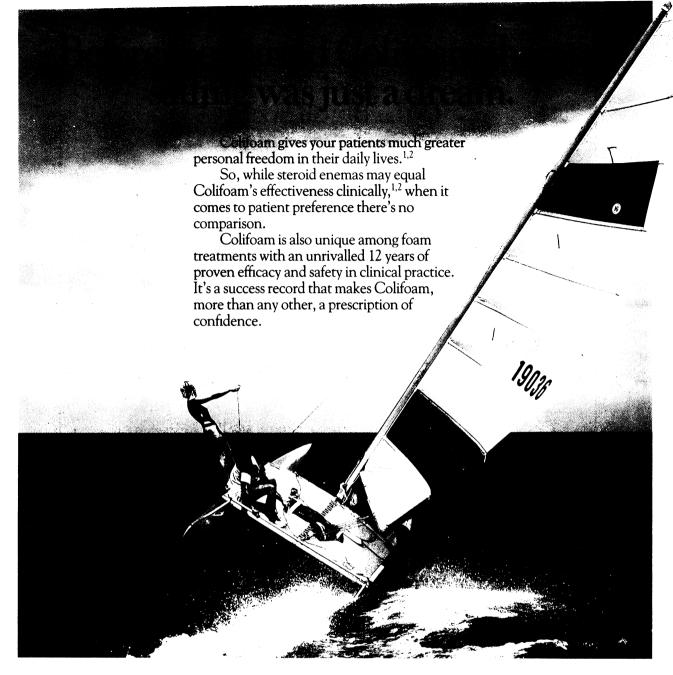
in gastroenterological research, clinical studies and advanced investigative and surgical techniques, the Society has made a

memorable contribution to this important area of medicine.

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## The proven choice in distal inflammatory bowel disease

1. Ruddell WSJ et al. Gut 1980; 21: 885-889 2. Somerville KW et al. British Medical Journal 1985; 291: 866

PRESCRIBING INFORMATION: Presentation: White odourless acrosol containing hydrocortisone acerate PhEur 10%. Uses: Ulcerative colitis, proctosigmoiditis and granular protettis. <u>Dosage and administration:</u> One applicatorful inserted into the rectum once or twice daily for two or three weeks and every second day thereafter. Shake can vigorously before use (illustrated instructions are enclosed with pack). <u>Contra-indications, warnings etc.</u>: Local contra-indications to the use of intrarectal steroids include obstruction, abscess, perforation, peritoritis, fresh intestinal anastomoses and extensive fistulae. General precautions common to all corticosteroid therapy should be observed during treatment with Colifoam. Treatment should be administered with caution in patients with severe ulcerative disease because of their predisposition to perforation of the bowel wall. Safety during pregnancy has not been fully established. <u>Pharmaceutical precautions</u>: Pressurized container. Protect from sunlight add not expose to temperatures above 50°C. Do not pierce or burn even after use. Do not refrigerate. Keep out of reach of children. For external use only. <u>Legal category</u>: <u>POM. Package Quantity & Basic NHS cost</u>: <u>25s</u> canister plus applicators. £7.25. <u>Further Information</u>: One applicatorful of Colifoam provides a dose of approximately 125mg of hydrocortisone acerate, similar to that used in a retention enema, for the treatment of ulcerative colitis, sigmoiditis and proctitis. <u>Stafford-Miller Ltd.</u>, Professional Relations Division, Harfield, Herts. AL 10 eNZ.

## <u>patients</u> erate ASA C ASACOC ASACOL ASACOL ASACOL ASACOL ASACOL

#### ABBREVIATED PRESCRIBING INFORMATION PRESENTATION

Red tablets containing 400 mg of mesalazine (5-aminosalicylic acid) coated for release in the terminal ileum and colon.

For the maintenance of remission of ulcerative colitis in patients who cannot tolerate sulphasalazine.

#### DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION

Adults: 3 to 6 tablets daily in divided doses. There is no dose recommendation for children.

#### CONTRA-INDICATIONS, WARNINGS, ETC.

Contra-indications
Contra-indications: a history of sensitivity to salicylates. Children under 2 years of age.

Precautions
Renal disorder. Mesalazine is excreted rapidly by the serial disorder. Mesalazine is excreted rapidly by the kidney mainly as its metabolite. N-acetyl 5-aminosalicylic acid. In rats large doses of mesalazine injected intravenously produce tubular and glomerular toxicity. Although no renal toxicity has been reported in patients taking 'Asacol', it is not recommended in patients with renal impairment and caution should be exercised in patients with a raised blood use or proteinuria.

blood urea or proteinuria.

Asacol should not be given with lactulose or similar preparations which lower stool pH and may prevent release of mesalazine.

Use during pregnancy
Use of 'Asacol' during pregnancy should be with
caution, and only if, in the opinion of the physician,
the potential benefits of treatment are generally
greater than the possible hazards.

Adverse Reactions
Adverse reactions occur in a small proportion of patients who previously could not tolerate sulphasalazine. The side-effects are predominantly gastrointestinal (nausea, diarrhoea and abdominal pain) and headache. 'Asacol' may be associated with the exacerbation of the symptoms of colitis in those patients who have previously had such problems with sulphasalazine.

Other side effects observed with sulphasalazine

Other side effects observed with sulphasalazine Other side effects observed with sulphasalazine such as depression of bone marrow and of sperm count and function, have not been reported with 'Asacol'.

#### LEGAL CATEGORY: POM. PL: 0424/0032.

Daily treatment cost: 66p-£1.31

**Licence Holder:**Tillotts Laboratories, Henlow Trading Estate, Henlow, Bedfordshire SG16 6DS.

Supplier: Smith Kline & French Laboratories Limited Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 1EY

U.K. Patent No. 8322387

7.4.87

ASACOL delivers 5-aminosalicylic acid directly to the colon without sulphapyridine (the agent in sulphasalazine that can cause distressing side effects).2

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ASACOL

A patented acrylic coating on ASACOL makes it site selective. ASACOL remains intact until it reaches the terminal ileum or colon, where pH rises above 7 and dissolves the coating,

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Each **ASACOL** tablet provides twice as much 5-ASA (400 mg) as each tablet of sulphasalazine (200 mg), which allows patients to take fewer tablets daily.

Clinical studies have shown that ASACOL offers efficacy comparable to that of sulphasalazine in maintaining the remission of ulcerative colitis.4

#### **Direct Delivery to the Colon**

#### REFERENCES:

- Dew M.J. Harries A.D. Evans B.K. et al. Treatment of ulcerative colitis with oral 5-aminosalicylic acid in patients unable to take sulphasalazine. *Lancet*, 1983; ii:801.
- 2. Dew M.J. Hughes P.J. Lee M.G. et al. An oral preparation to release drugs in the human colon. *Br. J. Clin. Pharmacol.*, 1982; 14:405-408.
- 3. Dew M.J. Ryder R.E.J. Evans N. et al. Colonic release of 5-aminosalicylic acid from an oral preparation in active ulcerative colitis. *Br. J. Clin. Pharmacol.*, 1983; 16:185-187.
- 4. Dew M.J. Hughes P.J. Harries A.D. et al. Maintenance of remission in ulcerative colitis with oral preparation of 5-aminosalicylic acid. *Br. Med. J.*, 1982; 285:1012.
- 5. Dew M.J. Harries A.D. Evans N. et al. Maintenance of remission in ulcerative colitis with 5-aminosalicylic acid in high doses by mouth. *Br. Med. J.*, 1983; <u>287</u> 23-24.

\*Mesalazine is the British Approved name for 5-aminosalicylic acid.

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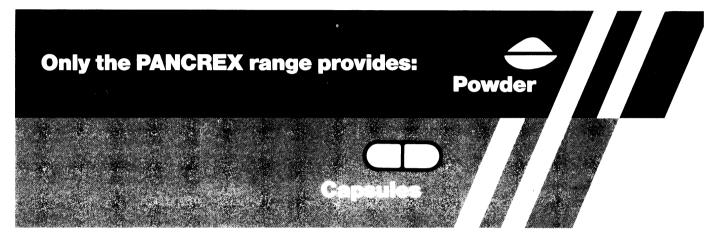
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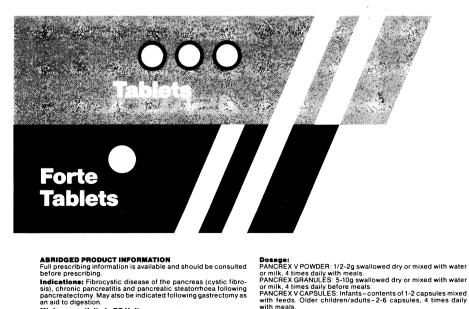
of pancreatic enzyme therapy with the five flexible forms of

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- More dosing options for more types and ages of patient
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**ABRIDGED PRODUCT INFORMATION**Full prescribing information is available and should be consulted before prescribing.

Indications: Fibrocystic disease of the pancreas (cystic fibrosis), chronic pancreatitis and pancreatic steatorrhoea following pancreatectomy. May also be indicated following gastrectomy as an aid to digestion.

Minimum activity in BP Units:

PREPARATION	PROTEASE	LIPASE	AMYLASE
PANCREX V POWDER	1400/g	25,000/g	30,000/g
PANCREX GRANULES	300/g	5,000/g	4,000/g
PANCREX V CAPSULES	430	8,000	9,000
PANCREX V CAPSULES '125		2,950	3,300
PANCREX V TABLETS	110	1,900	1,700
PANCREX V FORTE TABLETS	330	5,600	5,000

with meals.

PANCREX V CAPSULES '125': Neonates 1-2 capsules with feeds
PANCREX V TABLETS: 5-15 tablets, 4 times daily before meals
PANCREX V FORTE TABLETS: 6-10 tablets, 4 times daily before

Main Contra-indications/Warnings:
If Pancrex V is mixed with feeds or liquids, the mixture should be consumed within one hour.
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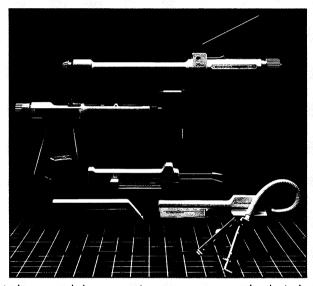
Product Licence Numbers: Pancrex V Powder 0051/5004, Pancrex V Capsules 0051/5043, Pancrex V Capsules 125' 0051/504, Pancrex V Tablets 0051/5002, Pancrex V Forte Tablets 0051/5002, Pancrex V Forte Tablets 0051/5002.

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(pancreatin)

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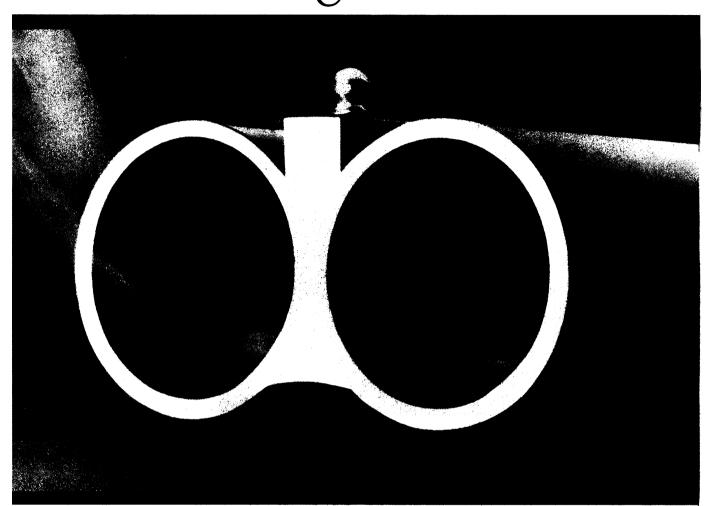
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# De-Nol gives ulcer



# So they tend not t

REFERENCES: 1. Ward, M. et al, Digestion, 1986; 34: 173-177. 2. Bianchi Porro et al, Scand. J. Gastro. 1984, 19: 905-908. 3. Lee, F. et al, Lancet (1): 1299-1302 (1985). 4. Cipollini, F. et al, Brit. J. Clin. Pract. Vol 41: 4 (1987). 5. Martin, D. et al, Lancet (1): 7-10 (1981). 6. Hamilton, I. et al, Gut 27: 106-110 (1986). 7. Bianchi Porro et al, Gut 25: 201-205 (1987). 9. Marshall, B. et al, Lancet (1) 1984: 1311-1314. 10. Rathbone, B.J. et al, Gut 27: 635-641 (1986). PRESENTATION: Each tablet or 5 ml dose contains 120 mg tri-potassium di-citrato bismuthate (calculated as Bi<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>). USES: Ulcer healing agent. For the treatment of gastric and duodenal ulcers. DOSAGE AND ADMINISTRATION: By oral administration. Adults: The more convenient dosage is two tablets or two 5 ml spoonsful twice daily (halfan hour before breakfast and half an hour before the evening meal) for 28 days. If necessary a further month's treatment may be given. Maintenance therapy with De-Nol is not indicated, but treatment may be repeated after an interval of one month. The tablets are to be taken with a draught of water and each 10 ml dose of the liquid diluted with 15 ml of water. Children: Not recommended.

#### Gist-brocades

## s both barrels.

NEW FORMULATION



o come back.

De-Nol has a clinical benefit which goes beyond merely healing ulcers as effectively as the  $\rm H_2$  antagonists.  $^{1,2,3,4}$ 

Quite simply, an ulcer healed with De-Nol is less likely to come back than one healed with an  $\rm H_2$  antagonist. This remarkable observation was first made in a trial published in the Lancet in  $1981^5$  and has subsequently been confirmed by further clinical trials.  $^{3,6,7}$ 

The reasons for this benefit appear to be twofold. Firstly, De-Nol is a <u>cytoprotective</u>, enhancing mucosal defence through the stimulation of mucosal prostaglandins. Secondly, De-Nol is antibacterial to <u>Campylobacter pyloridis</u>, a bacterium recently shown to be a potential aggressive factor in the development of gastritis and ulcer disease. 10

Treatment is simple now with the new formulation. As simple as swallowing two tablets, morning and evening.





tri-potassium di-citrato bismuthate

REBALANCES THE ULCER EQUATION

CONTRA-INDICATIONS, WARNINGS: De-Nol/De-Noltab should not be administered to patients with renal disorders and, on theoretical grounds, is contra-indicated in pregnancy. Special precautions: De-Nol/De-Noltab may inhibit the efficacy of orally administered tetracyclines. Side effects: Blackening of the stool usually occurs; nausea and vomiting have been reported. Darkening of the tongue may occur with De-Nol liquid only. Overdosage: No reports of overdosage have been received; gastric lavage and, if necessary, supportive therapy would be indicated. LEGAL CATEGORY: P. PACKAGE QUANTITIES: De-Noltab: Treatment pack of 112 tablets. De-Nol: Treatment pack of 560 ml. BASIC N.H.S. PRICE: De-Noltab: £18.90. De-Nol: £12.74. PRODUCT LICENCE NUMBERS: De-Noltab: 0166/0124. De-Nol: 0166/0124.

Brocades/Great Britain/Limited, West Byfleet, Surrey.

## INFLAMMATORY BOWEL DISEASE TREATMENT

# AD INFINITUM NOT

# Salazopyrin EN-tabs enteric coated sulphasalazine

**S**alazopyrin EN-tabs 'ad infinitum' may mean therapy for life, but it may also mean a 4-fold reduction in relapse rate.'

Success depends on continued compliance, - compliance on tolerability. That is why Salazopyrin EN-tabs are enteric-coated to reduce local gastric effects, like dyspepsia and nausea.

To encourage your patients to continue therapy even when they are in remission, prescribe Salazopyrin EN-tabs.

It's therapy 'ad infinitum' rather than 'ad nauseam'.

References 1. Dissanayake AS, Truelove SC, Gut, 1973;14:923-96 · 2. Van Hees PAM, J.Clin.Gastroenterol, 1982;4:333-36 · 3. Nielsen OH, Scand J.Gastroenterol, 1982;17:389-93.

#### PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Presentation Orange elliptical convex film-coated tablets containing 0.5g sulphasalazine (USP) with Pharmacia logo on one side. Uses: 1 induction and maintenance of remission of Ulcerative Collists. 2 The treatment of active Croin's disease. Dosage and Administration: Salazopyrin EN-tabs should not be broken or crushed. A ULCERATIVE COLITIS Adults Severe: 2-4 tablets four times a day given in conjunction with steroids as part of an intensive management regime. The night-time intensible between doses should not exceed eight hours. In severe disease rapid passage of the tablets may reduce the effect of the drug. Mid-moderate: 2-4 tablets four times a day given in conjunction with steroids. Maintenance: With induction of remission reduce the dose gradually to four tablets per day in divided doses. This dosage should be continued indefinitely, since discontinuance even several years after an acute attack has been shown to be associated in a four fold increase in the risk of relapse. Children: The dose is reduced in proportion body weight. Severe: 40.60mg/lg per day. Mild-Moderate: 40.60mg/lg per day. Maintenance: 20.30mg/lg per day. B CROHN'S DISEASE in active Crohn's disease. Salazopyrin EN tabs should be administered as for severe ulcerative colitis. Contra-indications Sensitivity to sulphonamides and salicylates. Infants under 2 years of age. Precautions Blood checks and EFIs should be carried out monthly for 3 months. Care in reall or hepatic disease in glucose-6-phosphate deficiency and porphyria. Adverse Effects The most commonly encountered reactions are nause, headache; rash, loss of appetite and raised temperature. The following adverse reactions have been reported. Haematological: Henz body anaemia, methaemoglobulinaemia, hypoprothrombinaemia, haemolytic anaemia, leucopenia, agranulocytosis, aplastic anaemia, hrombocytopenia. Hypersenstivity reactions: Generalised skin eruptions. Sevens-Johnson syndrome, exfoliative dermatitis, epidermal necrolysis, pruntus, urticaria, photosensitiation, anaphylaxis, seru



## How to stop your ulcer therapy going up in smoke

Numerous reports have linked cigarette smoking and peptic ulcer disease. Cigarette smoking has an adverse effect on healing rates of duodenal ulcer in patients treated with antacid, cimetidine or ranitidine! It is best for your patient to try to stop smoking but success is not guaranteed.

However recent trials<sup>2,3</sup> have shown that duodenal ulcer healing rates with Antepsin are unaffected by smoking.

A comparative study showed that healing rates in smokers treated with Antepsin (81.6%) were significantly (p<0.05) better than in smokers treated with cimetidine  $(62.5\%)^2$ ?

So if your ulcer patient can't or won't give up smoking remember...



#### **Abbreviated Prescribing Information**

Refer to data sheet for full prescribing information. Presentation: Antepsin tablets contain 1 gram sucralfate, PL0607/0045, PA149/4/2, pack size 100 tablets, £12.50. Uses: duodenal ulcer, gastric ulcer and chronic gastritis. Dosage and Administration: Adults, orally 1 gram 4 times a day to be taken one hour before meals and at bedtime. For ease of administration Antepsin tablets may be dispersed in 10-15ml of water. Precautions: renal dysfunction, pregnancy. nursing women (see data sheet). **Drug Interactions:** Antepsin may reduce the binavailability of certain drugs: tetracycline, phenytoin, cimetidine and digoxin. Administration of Antepsin with any of these drugs should be separated by two hours. Warfarin (see data sheet). **Side effects:** constipation. **Legal Category:** POM.

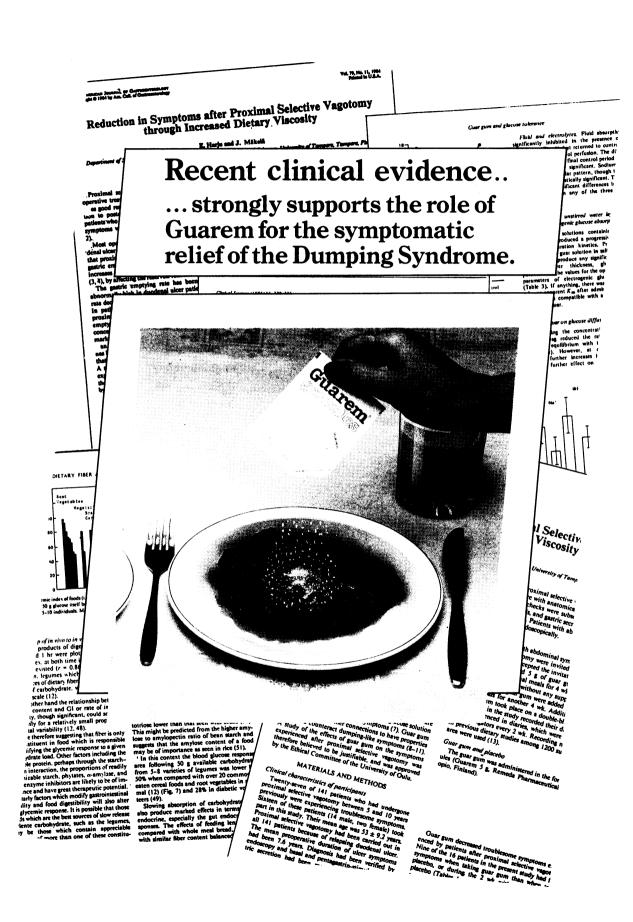
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- Date of preparation: December 1985. Antepsin is a registered trade mark.

533:12-86



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For the relief of symptoms of

"The favourable effect of the addition of guar gum to the meals of patients suffering from the dumping syndrome is based on the normalization (i.e. slowing down) of the passage of food from the stomach to the duodenum and jejenum, and hence the slowing down of the absorption of nutrients, especially monosaccharides, and the prevention of a rapid postprandial increase in intraluminal osmolarity in the duodenum".6

- ★ slows gastric emptying<sup>1-3</sup>
- ★ reduces hyperglycaemia and hyperinsulinaemia<sup>4-5</sup>
- **★** helps improve patient comfort, food tolerance and nutritional status<sup>6-7</sup>



References: 1. Jenkins et al Br. Med. J. 1978, 1, 1392. 2. Blackburn et al Clin. Sc. 1984, 66, 329. 3. Leeds et al Lancet 1981, 1, 1075. 4. Jenkins Proc. Soc. Exp. Blot. 1985, 180, 422 5 Fuessi et al Pract. Diab. 1986, 3, 258 6 Harju & Larmi J. Parent. Ent. Nutr. 1983, 7, 470 7 Harju & Makela Amer. J. Gastroent. 1984, 79, 861

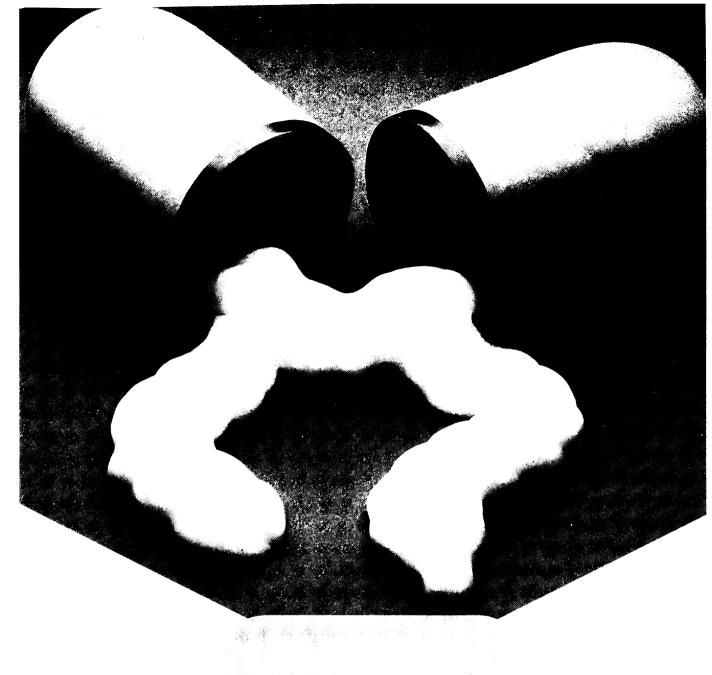
#### Clinical Information

Clinical Information
Action. Guar gum which is derived from natural sources is a high molecular weight polysaccharide, galactomannan. In solution if (i) increases gastric transit time and (ii) slows the rate of absorption of other carbohydrales leading to a reduction in post-grandial hypertylceams and insulin sections of other carbohydrales leading to a reduction in post-grandial hypertylceams and insulin sections of our wind the sum of the dumping syndrome Dosage & Administration. Adults One 59, scale to be laken with each main meal. The contents of a sachet are preferably sprinked eventy over a meal on the plate or stirred into suitable foods (eg. tomato juice, voghrurt, muesi, etc.) in which case the flood should be accompanied by a drink of 150ml (% tumbler) Contra-Indications, Warnings, etc. To avoid any risk of oesophageal obstruction or rupture, this

product should not be given to patients with a history of oesophageal disease or difficulty in swallowing. While Guarem may be expected to reduce malabscription, usual monitoring of nutritional status should be continued. Guarem should not be ingested as dry granules. **Side-Effects.** Gastro-intestinal symptoms (flatulence, diarrhoea) are quite common at the commencement of treatment. These can be Presentation. Sachets, earnough are quies common at un commencement of treatment. In reduced or avoided by initiating retainent gradually in accordance with advice on the pack.

Presentation. Sachets, each containing guar gum granules 5 grams. The fine pale cream granules are taseless and readily water miscrible. Cartons of 100 sachets.

Product Licence Numbers. PL0237/023 & 0202. PA 361. Further Rybar ion available from Rybar Laboratories Ltd., Amersham, Bucks, UK.



#### For the treatment of irritable bowel syndrome

yr gengalik in

THIXOTROPIC PASTE FORMULATION FOR SUSTAINED RELIEF

#### First Line Therapy. **Naturally**

#### PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

PRESCRIBING INFORMATION
Presentation: Enteric-coated hard gelatin capsule. Each contains 0.2ml standardised peppermint oil B.P., Ph. Eur. Uses: For the treatment of symptoms of discomfort and of abdominal colic and distension experienced by patients with irritable bowel syndrome. Dosage and Administration: One capsule three times a day, preferably before meals and taken with a small quantity of water. The capsules should not be taken immediately after food. food. The dose may be increased to two capsules, three times a day when discomfort is more severe. The capsules should be taken until symptoms resolve, usually within one or two weeks. At times when symptoms are more persistent, the capsules can be continued for longer periods of between 2 to 3 months. There is no experience in the use of these capsules in children under the age of 15 years.

Contra-indications, Precautions, Warnings, etc.: The capsule should not be broken or chewed. Patients who already suffer from heartburn, sometimes experience an exacerbation of these symptoms when taking the capsule. Treatment should be discontinued in these patients. Adverse effects: Hearthum, sensitivity reactions to menthol which are rare, and include erythematous skin rash, headache, bradycardia, muscle tremor and ataxia.

Product Licence PL 0424/0009. Basic NHS Cost: £10.58 per 100. UK and Foreign Patents pending. Colpermin is a trade mark of Tillotts Laboratories. Further information is available from Tillotts Laboratories. Henlow Trading Estate, Henlow, Beds European Patent No. 0015334

UK Patent No. 2006011

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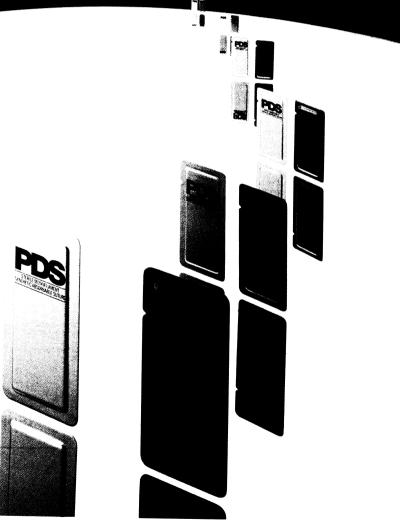
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They have greater initial strength and give stronger, niore predictable wound support than catgut, with less tissue reaction. A soft, easily knotted suture. Coated VICRYTHPolyglactin 910 sets the standard for braided synthetic absorbables. A revolutionary monofilament material PDS (Polydioxanone) provides unique wound support retaining its breaking strength longer than any other synthetic absorbable suture. PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures handle easily pass smoothly through tissue and knot well. sutures handle easily, pass smoothly through tissue and knot well

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Technical Data Overleaf

SYNTHETIC ABSORBABLES FROM ETHICON The future of surgical sutures



#### **TECHNICAL DATA**

#### **DATA SHEET**

#### PDS\* (Polydioxanone) Sterilised Monofilament Synthetic Absorbable Suture

#### Presentation

Presentation
PDS (Polydioxanone) Monofilament Synthetic Absorbable Suture is prepared from the polyester poly (p-dioxanone). The empirical molecular formula of the polymer is (C,H<sub>0</sub>O<sub>3</sub>)n. PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures are coloured by adding either D & C blue No 6 (gauges metric 0.2 and 0.3. 10/0 and 9/0) or D & C violet No 2 (gauges metric 0.4 to 5.0, 8/0 to 2) during polymerisation. These sutures may also be manufactured undyed

PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures are relatively inert, non-antigenic non-pyrogenic and elicit only a mild tissue reaction during absorption

Two important characteristics describe the in vivo behaviour of absorbable sutures. The first of these is tensile strength retention and the second. absorption rate or loss of mass.

Data obtained from implantation studies in rats show that, at two weeks post implantation, approximately 70% of the suture strength is retained whilst at four weeks the strength retention is approximately 50%. At eight weeks approximately 14% of the original strength remains. This indicates a significantly longer period of wound support than previously available with an absorbable suture.

The absorption or loss of mass is minimal until about the 90th post implantation day and is essentially complete within six months.

PDS (Polydioxanone) monofilament sutures are intended for use where an absorbable suture or ligature is indicated. They may have particular application where longer wound support is required. See strength retention data above

#### Dosage and Administration

By implantation.

Contra-indications, Warnings, etc.
These sutures, being absorbable, should not be used where extended approximation of tissues under stress is required.

As with all monofilament synthetic sutures, care should be taken to ensure

Conjunctival, cuticular and vaginal epithelium sutures could cause localised irritation if left in place for longer than 10 days. Superficial placement of subcuticular sutures may also be associated with erythema and reaction during the course of absorption.

The safety and effectiveness of PDS (Polydioxanone) sutures in neural and cardiac tissue have not been established.

#### **Pharmaceutical Precautions**

Do not re-sterilise

Pharmacy medicine sold to surgeons and hospitals through surgical

#### **Package Quantities**

The gauge range initially available will be 0.2 metric (10/0) to 5 metric (2). Various lengths of material attached to non traumatic stainless steel needles are packaged in sealed aluminium foil sachets. This primary pack is contained in a peel-apart secondary pack. The unit of sale is 12 or 24 packs contained in a film wrapped drawer style carton.

#### Further Information

No suture related adverse reactions were reported during clinical trials, although a number of minor reactions were classified as being of unknown

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Date of preparation of Data Sheet—September 1982. Revised 8/1986.

#### DATA SHEET

#### Coated VICRYL\* (Polyglactin 910) Sterilised Braided Synthetic Absorbable Suture

Presentation
The basic VICRYL (Polyglactin 910) Suture is prepared from a copolymer of glycolide and lactide. The substances are derived respectively from glycolic and lactic acids. The empirical formula of the copolymer is (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)m(C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>O<sub>2</sub>)n.

Coated VICRYL (Polyglactin 910) Sutures are obtained by coating the braided suture material with a mixture composed of a copolymer glycolide and lactide and an equal amount of calcium stearate. This coating does not affect the biological properties of the suture.

Coated VICRYL (Polyglactin 910) Sutures are coloured by adding D & C Violet No 2 during polymerisation of the lactide and glycolide. Sutures may also be manufactured in the undyed form.

These sutures are relatively inert, nonantigenic, nonpyrogenic and elicit only a mild tissue reaction during absorption

#### Action

Two important characteristics describe the in vivo behaviour of absorbable sutures. The first of these is tensile strength retention and the second, absorption rate or loss of mass.

Subcutaneous tissue implantation studies of Coated VICRYL Suture in rats show at two weeks post-implantation approximately 55% of its original tensile strength remains, while at three weeks approximately 20% of its original strength is retained.

Intramuscular implantation studies in rats show that the absorption of these sutures is minimal until about the 40th post-implantation day Absorption is essentially complete between the 60th and 90th days

Coated VICRYL synthetic absorbable sutures are intended for use where an absorbable suture or ligature is indicated

#### **Dosage and Administration**

Contra-indications, Warnings, etc.
These sutures, being absorbable, should not be used where extended approximation of tissues under stress is required.

Sutures placed in skin and conjunctiva may cause localised irritation if left in place for longer than 7 days and should be removed as indicated.

At the discretion of the surgeon, appropriate non-absorbable sutures may be used to provide additional wound support when coated VICRYL sutures are used in ophthalmic procedures.

The safety and effectiveness of Coated VICRYL (polyglactin 910) Sutures in neural tissue and in cardiovascular tissue have not been established

#### Pharmaceutical Precautions

**Legal Category**Pharmacy medicine sold to surgeons and hospitals through surgical

#### Package Quantities

Various lengths of material packaged in sealed aluminium foil sachets. This primary pack is contained in a peel-apart secondary pack. The unit of sales is 12 packs contained in a film wrapped drawer style carton.

#### Further Information

No suture related adverse reactions were reported during clinical trials, although a number of minor reactions were classified as being of unknown

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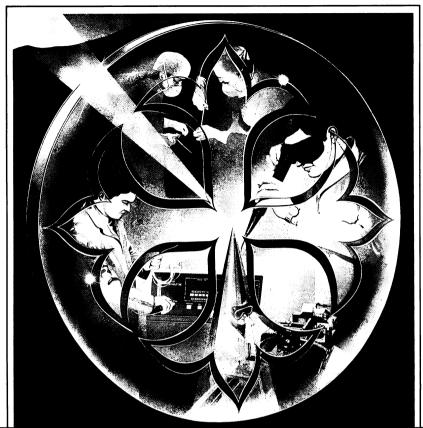
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(1) Trotman, I.F. Presented at the XII International Congress of Gastroenterology, Lichon 1984

(2) Tudor, G.J., Br J Clin Pract 1986; 40: 276-278. Spasmonal is a British Product.

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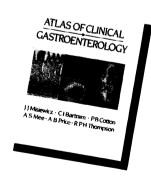
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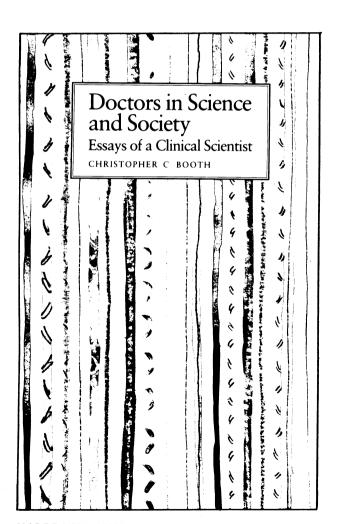
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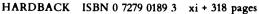
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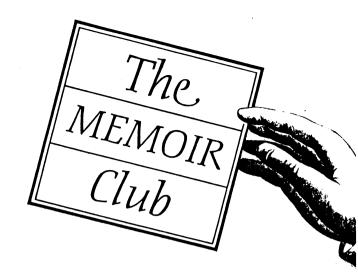
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