

Imodium

TRADE MARK

loperamide hydrochloride

made to
measure
treatment for
acute and
chronic
diarrhoea

*The tailored dosage means that
patients only take Imodium when
they need it with no interruption to normal routine.
Imodium is easy to take and convenient to carry.*

*Designed for the specific control of
diarrhoea, Imodium relieves pain and
abdominal cramps rapidly and effectively.*



Janssen Pharmaceutica
2340 Beerse, Belgium

Further information is available from :

Imodium
simply
stops diarrhoea fast.

or from :

Janssen Pharmaceutical Limited,
Janssen House, Marlow, Bucks.

PL 0242/0028 PL 0242/0040

WHY NOT SUBSCRIBE TO THE SPECIALIST JOURNALS PUBLISHED BY THE BMA:—A SELECTION INCLUDES

Archives of Disease in Childhood, British Heart Journal, British Journal of Ophthalmology, Gut, Journal of Clinical Pathology & Journal of Neurology, Neurosurgery & Psychiatry.

FULL DETAILS OF SUBSCRIPTION RATES FROM BMA SPECIALIST PUBLICATIONS: BMA HOUSE, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, LONDON WC1H 9JR
TELEPHONE 01-387 4499 EXT. 309.

The combination of
simple language and straightforward
line drawings has made the

ABC OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

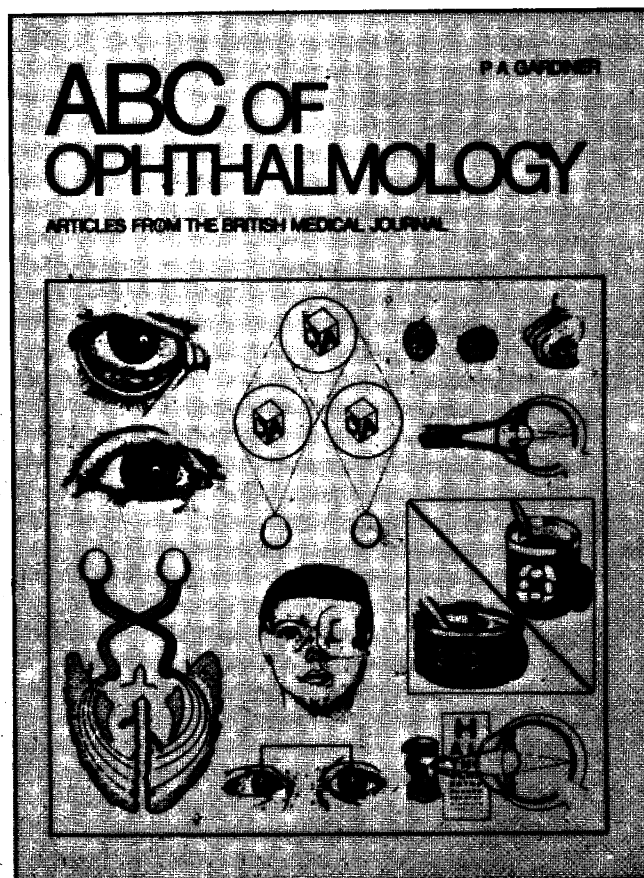
one of the most popular series
of articles in the Medical Practice section
of the British Medical Journal.

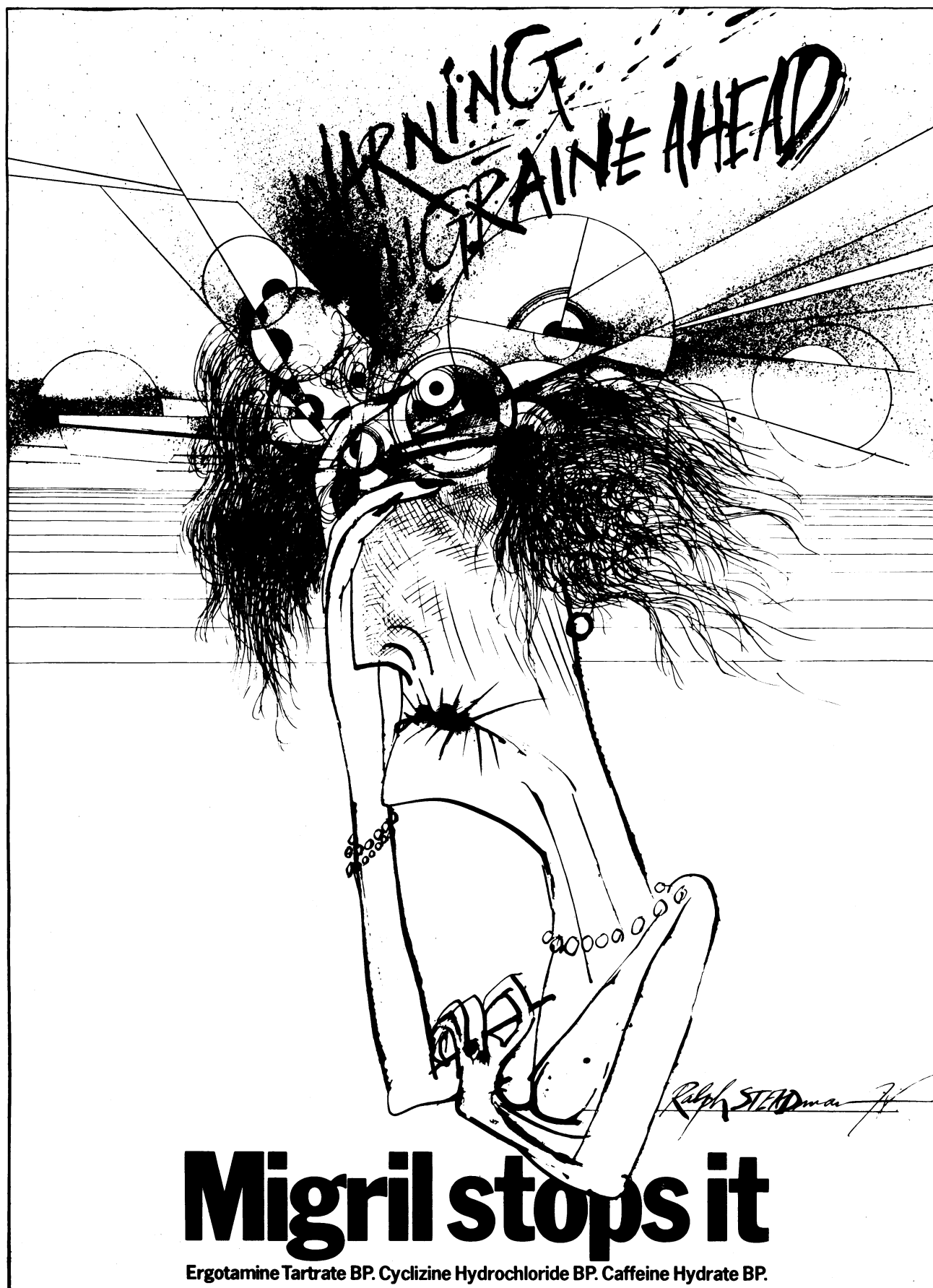
All the common problems are covered -
visual defects, squints, glaucoma and
cataracts - together with detailed
instruction on examination, diagnosis
and management.

The articles
have now been
collected into book
form - in exactly
the same format
as they appeared in
the BMJ -
price: Inland £2.50;
Overseas US\$6.25
(Inland £2.00;
Overseas US\$5.00
for BMA members).

AVAILABLE NOW

Order your copy now
From: The Publisher,
British Medical Journal,
BMA House,
Tavistock Square,
London WC1H 9JR
or any leading bookseller





Migril stops it

Ergotamine Tartrate BP. Cyclizine Hydrochloride BP. Caffeine Hydrate BP.

Indication: For relief of the acute migraine attack. **Dosage:** Adults: Initial dose is 1 or 2 tablets swallowed at the first warning of an attack, followed by half or 1 tablet at half-hourly intervals if necessary, but not more than 4 tablets per attack. Not more than 6 tablets in any one week. Children: N/A. **Contra-indications:** As for ergotamine. Migril should not be used for prophylaxis. **Precautions:** Hypersensitivity rare. Coldness in extremities signifies drug should be withdrawn. Prolonged abuse may lead to chronic

ergotism. Cyclizine may cause drowsiness and patients should be cautioned accordingly. Alcohol should not be taken with Migril. **Presentation:** Each Migril[®] tablet contains ergotamine tartrate BP 2 mg, cyclizine hydrochloride BP 50 mg, caffeine hydrate BP 100 mg. Coloured white, scored, coded Wellcome A4A. Basic NHS cost: £1.08 for 10 tablets. PL 3/5114. Additional information is available on request.

© Trade Mark

Wellcome Medical Division
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.
Crewe, Cheshire



Wellcome

RESEARCH IS OUR ONLY SHAREHOLDER



successful scriptwriting

SEPTRIN* – for success 9 times out of 10.

Worldwide clinical studies, involving over 7800 patients with acute and chronic lower respiratory infections, have shown that 91% were successfully treated with SEPTRIN.¹

SEPTRIN is effective against all the major pathogens, including *H. influenzae* and *Strep. pneumoniae*.

¹Data on file.

PRESCRIBING INFORMATION

Indications Bacterial infections of the lower respiratory, urinary and genital tracts, sinusitis, otitis media skin infections, septicaemia, typhoid and paratyphoid fevers, and other infections caused by sensitive organisms. **Dosage** *Septtrin Forte Tablets*. Adults and children over 12 years: 1 twice daily. Maximum dosage for particularly severe infections: 1½ forte tablets twice daily. In acute infections *Septtrin* should be given for a minimum of 5 days. **Adverse Reactions** Occasionally, nausea, vomiting, glossitis and skin rashes may occur with normal doses and very rarely, haematological reactions. **Precautions** In cases of renal impairment a reduced dosage is indicated and an adequate urinary output should be maintained. Regular blood counts are necessary whenever long-term therapy is used. Caution is advised in patients with folate deficiency. Care should be taken when giving *Septtrin* to patients receiving oral anticoagulants of the coumarin group pyrimethamine or sulphonylureas. **Contra-indications** *Septtrin* is contra-indicated in patients with marked liver parenchymal damage, blood dyscrasias or severe renal insufficiency. *Septtrin* should not be given to patients hypersensitive to sulphonamides; should not be given during pregnancy or to neonates. **Presentation** *Septtrin Forte Tablets* each contain 160 mg Trimethoprim BP and 800 mg Sulphamethoxazole BP. Basic NHS cost: £1.34 for 10. PL 3/0121.

RESEARCH IS OUR ONLY SHAREHOLDER



Wellcome

Additional information is available on request.

Wellcome Medical Division
The Wellcome Foundation Ltd.
Crewe, Cheshire

SEPTRIN A FIRST CHOICE IN CHEST INFECTIONS

Co-trimoxazole BP Wellcome

*Trade Mark

ST. ANDREW'S HOSPITAL NORTHAMPTON

PRIVATE TREATMENT OF ALCOHOLISM

Our well-established alcoholism treatment unit offers intensive resident therapy in pleasant surroundings, first-class accommodation, a friendly, relaxed atmosphere and at a reasonable cost.

The programme includes group therapy, social skills training, educational films, videos and discussions, together with a comprehensive range of recreational facilities catering for men and women of all ages.

Staffed by a Consultant Psychiatrist, Psychologist, and specially trained Nursing Staff, the unit is readily accessible from all parts of England and Wales. Regular follow-up groups take place in London and the Midlands.

GROUP PSYCHOTHERAPY UNIT

The Group Psychotherapy Unit is amongst an increasing range of specialised facilities offered by St. Andrew's Hospital. It is run by two Consultant Psychiatrists, assisted by a Nurse Therapist and an Occupational Therapist, and has now been open for a year.

We have found that with an intensive approach of daily interpretative groups, social skills training and art and drama therapy, encouraging results can be obtained in ten to twelve weeks' in-patient or out-patient treatment. This is helped by the friendly, non-institutionalised atmosphere of the hospital.

Further details may be obtained from the

Medical Director · St. Andrew's Hospital · Northampton NN1 5DG
Telephone Northampton (0604) 21311

NUTREGEN WHEAT STARCH

RHM Foods Limited announce that with effect from 31 August 1979, Nutregen Wheat Starch, at present available in 2 kg retail packs and 25 kg bags for bakery use, will no longer be available as its manufacture is being discontinued at the Ashford factory.

For over a quarter of a century Nutregen Wheat Starch has been manufactured to the highest analytical standards, and used successfully in the diet of those suffering from the coeliac condition, and is widely accepted for that purpose by clinicians and dietitians.

However, the international standards now being proposed for 'gluten-free' foods, and which are likely to be adopted, lay down analytical requirements for wheat starch which are excessively stringent and bear no relation to the clinical situation.

To conform with these new standards would involve considerable investigation, in collaboration with the manufacturers of Nutregen Wheat Starch, together with other work to ensure that any new product could be used successfully in bakery applications.

After carefully considering all these matters RHM Foods Limited has no intention of proceeding to comply with the proposed standards, and has, therefore, decided to discontinue manufacture of Nutregen Wheat Starch.

We regret this decision and any temporary inconvenience it may cause to coeliac patients, but we are aware that nowadays there is a wide range of proprietary products available also suitable for consumption in a gluten-free diet.

This is in marked contrast to the situation several decades ago when our wheat starch was the sole product, and began its career assisting in early research into coeliac disease. It has continued from that time up to the present decision, as a service and a small but appreciated part of the Energen Foods business.

Caved-S[®]

Deglycyrrhizinated Liquorice, Bism.Subnit.
Alum.Hydrox.,Mag.Carb.,Sod.Bic.,Frangula.

heals peptic ulcers

EFFECTIVELY

AND

ECONOMICALLY

Full prescribing information on request from
TILLOTTS LABORATORIES, Henlow Trading Estate, Henlow, Beds.

79004



When the right treatment means Private Nursing . . .

Medox can help you. Our service is fast, efficient and caring. We are on call 24 hours a day. Our nurses work in patients' homes, or in clinics, here or overseas. They will undertake the complete care of a household if required.

Having selected the nurse you require, we will continue to supervise the patient's care, in conjunction with you. Medox is dedicated to the highest standards of individual service — to patients and to their doctors.

Please ring 01-437 1675 at any time.
Chesham House, 136 Regent Street,
London W1.

MEDOX
Specialists in Private Health Care

Bennet/ PATIENTS AND THEIR DOCTORS

About the experiences of sick people, this new book is designed to make doctors and Medical Students more aware of what they are doing in day-to-day work and how their various interventions are perceived by their patients.

July 1979 £3.75

Geary/ APLASTIC ANAEMIA

Written by a team of experimental and clinical haematologists, this is a comprehensive account of the natural history and treatment of the syndrome of disorders at present collectively called 'Aplastic Anaemia'.

April 1979 £12.50

Merskey/ THE ANALYSIS OF HYSTERIA

This is an extensive survey of hysteria, its place in present day psychiatry and in medicine in general. It is well written, sensible and an eminently useful guide to the management of psychologically disturbed patients.

April 1979 £9.50

Ruben/ SOFT CONTACT LENSES:

Clinical and Applied Technology.

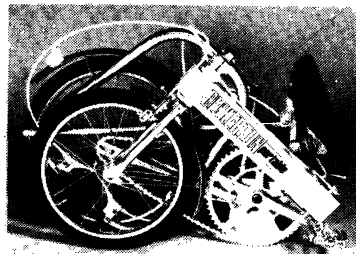
Leading authorities from the USA, Europe and Japan discuss the clinical use, safety, chemistry, physics and manufacture of soft contact lenses. Bringing together their diverse backgrounds, experience and expertise, this volume provides a balanced appraisal of the key clinical and scientific issues in the use and manufacture of contact lenses today.

November 1978 £21.00

*All prices and details are subject to
change without notice.*

BAILLIÈRE TINDALL
35 Red Lion Square,
London WC1R 4SG.

unfold



Take your bike with you wherever you go.

The unique Bickerton portable.

It folds smaller and is lighter than any other folding bicycle.

Drop it into your car boot, or store it in a cupboard.

BICKERTON portable

And, when you need it for a quick journey through congested traffic, or a fun ride in the country, you can unfold it in a moment.

It adjusts simply and easily to suit all ages.

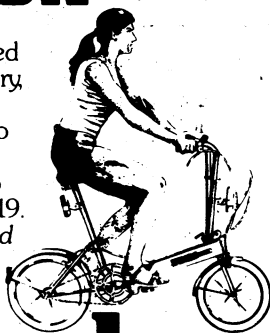
Single speed, 3 speed and 5 speed models available from £119.

Write or ring for a fully illustrated brochure and the name of your nearest Bickerton Dealer.

Vulcan Lighting & Leisure Ltd.,

Moorsom Street,
Birmingham B6 4NX.

Tel: 021-359 2583.



and go



ACNE?

prescribe patient confidence

"Acne is an almost universal complaint in adolescence." *

"Many patients when they seek the help of their doctor are depressed, discouraged and disillusioned. Their own efforts at treatment have failed, or the first prescription was not the cure they anticipated. In the management of acne the patient must appreciate that he or she may have to persevere with treatment throughout their teens, and it should be emphasised that in this way one hopes to limit as far as possible the severity of the lesions and prevent severe or permanent scarring." *

When patients like these ask for your help remember that clinical reports show that acne responds to Quinoderm.

Available as Quinoderm
with **Hydrocortisone Cream 30G.** for initial treatment.
Quinoderm Cream 25G. for subsequent treatment.

* Practitioner, 1970, 204, 639

Quinoderm Hydrocortisone 30G.
Benzoyl Peroxide 10.0%
Potassium Hydroxyquinoline Sulphate 0.5%
Hydrocortisone 1%
in an astringent cream base

Quinoderm Cream 25G
Benzoyl Peroxide 10.0%
Potassium Hydroxyquinoline Sulphate 0.5%
in an astringent cream base

Quinoderm

Full prescribing information on request; Quinoderm Ltd. Manchester Road, Oldham OL8 4BR.

Diseases of the Ear

A Textbook of Otology

Fourth Edition

Stuart R. Mawson and Harold Ludman

This revised and updated edition contains many additional drawings, photographs and radiographs as well as a new form of bibliography.

Reviews of earlier editions:

'... It is a modern work in every sense, describing all the important facets of otology in a brisk and lucid style. ... The book is methodical, and skilfully combines material assembled for teaching with an up-to-date account of the orthodox practice of otology.'—*Lancet*.

'... Rarely however does the opportunity occur to read a volume so bereft of fault that one can only admire the wisdom and farsightedness of the publishers in capturing so able an author ... a textbook which is by far the most advanced and valuable anywhere today.'—*British Journal of Hospital Medicine*.

606 pages 293 line and half-tone illustrations
Boards £28.50 Publication July 19



Edward Arnold

41 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3DQ.

WHERE YOU WANT IT. WHEN YOU WANT IT. AND AT THE RIGHT PRICE.

Large discounts on bulk purchases of generics, fluids, disposables and proprietary medicines anywhere in the UK or Abroad.

Contact: **Richard George**

PAX MEDICA EXPORT LTD.

(Recognized Government Suppliers), 73 Baker St, London, W1R 3LJ.

Tel: 01-486 8551

Telex: 269675G



PAX MEDICA EXPORT LTD

PROBLEMS OF CHILDHOOD

From the British Medical Journal

While in paediatrics the spotlight has, perhaps, swung recently on to behavioural and psychological aspects of child development, much of the clinician's time is still spent with acute and chronic physical disorders. Both these aspects of medical problems in childhood were reviewed in a series of *BMJ* articles published early in 1976, and these have now been collected together after further revision by their authors. We hope the collection will prove useful to doctors at all stages of their careers: for children occupy a great deal of the time of every general practitioner, and confidence in their care demands both experience and knowledge.

Demy Octavo

Paperback

149 pages

ISBN 0 7279 0019 6

Price: Inland £2.50; Abroad US \$6.25, including postage

Payment must be enclosed with order or a surcharge of 30p will be made for rendering invoices and statements

Order your copy now from

The Publisher, BRITISH MEDICAL JOURNAL, BMA House,
Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR
or through any leading bookseller

ASPECTS OF SEXUAL MEDICINE

From the British Medical Journal

Freer discussion of sexual matters on television and in the popular press has led to many more patients approaching their doctors for advice on sexual problems. The articles collected together in this book give practical advice on common problems such as impotence and on the help and guidance that may be given to handicapped patients and others with special difficulties. Few doctors received adequate instruction on sexual medicine at their medical schools: *Aspects of Sexual Medicine* brings them up to date.

Demy Octavo

Paperback
ISBN 0 7279 0009 9

84 pages

Price: Inland £2.00; Overseas US \$5.00, including postage

Payment must be enclosed with order or a surcharge of 30p will be made for rendering invoices and statements

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW

From: The Publisher, British Medical Journal, BMA House,
Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR

or through any leading bookseller

DISCOUNT HOUSES

UP TO 45% DISCOUNT
OFF NEW SEWING & KNITTING MACHINES

SEWCRAFT SEWING MACHINES

We guarantee our prices are lowest in St. Britain.
We accept Cash, Cheque, Barclaycard, Access Card.
WE STOCK ALL TOP MAKES.
* Part Exchange welcome * Full After-Sales Service
* Makers' Usual Guarantees * Full Demonstration Facilities * Immediate Free Delivery.

Mail order throughout British Isles. Send for our colour catalogue now to Dept BMJ at our Thames St. branch or phone for Discount quote to 01-748 0808, 01-748 5511, 01-549 3801 or 01-548 5454.

HAMMERSMITH: 150-150a Kings St., London, W.6.
Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm
Half day Thurs

KINGSTON: 34 Thames St., Kingston-on-Thames, Surrey.
Mon-Sat 9am-5.30pm

G.F. FELL, 342 Coldharbour Lane, SW9, Tel: 01-733 4576. Export prices: Tropicalised fridge/freezer 12cu.ft. £163. Export colour T.V. 18 inch £260. Claudia 3 brush floor polisher £45.00. Rice cooker £19.95. Automatic washing machine £97. 167

AZAT
OFFER BEST BARGAINS FOR
Tropicalised goods, domestic electrical appliances, Radios, T.V.'s for export and Home Sales. Write, visit or telephone to: AZAT (London) Limited, 61 Charlotte St., London W1A 4DN. P.O. Box 4DN.
Telephone: 01 580 4632 (4 lines)
Telex 22833 AZAT G 167

UP TO 33 1/3% DISCOUNT ON CARPETS AND TILES

● All leading makes ● No imperfect goods ● Ring or write for immediate quotation ● Free delivery anywhere in UK ● Fitting service in many areas

CORDOVA CARPETS LTD.
37 CROSSGREEN
FORMBY, Nr LIVERPOOL
Tel Formby 74839 and 71165 (167)

G.E.C. TROPICALISED GOODS. Air Conditioners, Refrigerators, Freezers, Television, Video, Cookers, Washing Machines, Voltage Stabilisers, Generators. Export price list from Mayfair Refrigeration Ltd, P.O. Box 2LB, 523 Oxford Street, London W1A 2LB. Tel: 01-629 1745/4560. Telex 262284.

25%-50% DISCOUNT
PLUS FREE DELIVERY IN UK.

NO EXTRAS!

Bigger Choice - Bigger Savings
25% - 50% Discount
on Branded Furniture Beds, Bedding, Carpets Curtains and Fabrics

- * Free delivery right to your door. All areas of UK mainland/I.O.W.
- * Postal/Telephone orders welcomed.
- * Personal service before and after sale.
- * Low interest credit facilities on discounted prices.
- * All items covered by manufacturers' guarantee.

Write, call or telephone today for free estimates and quotations
Over 30 years of service

SAVE with Bains of Ilford
133 Ilford Lane, Ilford, Essex. Tel: 01-553 1011/4

FURNITURE CARPETS

15%-33 1/2% DISCOUNT

- All leading brands
- Carpet fitting available
- Delivery throughout UK



Hours: Mon. to Fri. 9.00 - 5.30
Sat. 9.00 - 5.00 (London only)
BRANCHES CLOSE SATURDAYS at 12.30 pm

Orders by post or phone accepted or write for introductory brochure to Dept. BMJ

Dodson Bull Choose with confidence
Established 1961 Assets exceed £600,000

Barbican Furnishing Centre (Opposite Barbican Underground Stn)
100 Aldersgate Street, London EC2Y 6AE Telephone 01 628 7020

ABERDEEN: 11 Exchange St., AB1 2NH Tel: 54055/6
BIRMINGHAM: 164 Edmund St., B3 2HB Tel: 021 236 5862
BOURNEMOUTH: 268 Old Christchurch Rd., BH1 1PH, Tel: 21248
BRIGHTON: 2-5 North Road, BN1 1YA Tel: 606402
BRISTOL: 2-3 Royal London Hse., Queen Charlotte St., BS1 4EX, Tel: 28857
EXETER: 157 Fore St., EX4 3AT, Tel: 32019
FALMOUTH: 35 Killigrew St., TR11 3PW, Tel: 313555
GLASGOW: 166 Howard St., G1 4HA, Tel: 041-221 3278
IPSWICH: 116-118 St. Helens St., IP4 2LE, Tel: Ipswich 210268/9
LEEDS: 12 Great George St., LS1 3DW, Tel: 41451
MANCHESTER: 55-61 Lever St., M1 1DE, Tel: 061 236 3687 8-9
NEWCASTLE-upon-TYNE: 90-92 Pilgrim St., NE1 6SG, Tel: 20321/21428
WESTCLIFF-on-SEA: 495 London Rd., SS0 9LG, Tel: Southend 46569 (167)

NOTICE TO ADVERTISERS

Display Advertisements

Applications for advertisement space and for rates should be addressed to the Advertisement Manager, *British Medical Journal*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. 01-387 4499. Telegrams: Aitiology, London WC1. Telex 265929.

Classified Advertisements

Please write advertisements and name and address clearly in BLOCK CAPITALS and send to the Classified Advertisement Manager, *British Medical Journal*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR. For immediate insertion please enclose cheque in payment and state whether member or non-member. Classified rates for Doctors' advertisements are as follows:

MEMBER'S RATE: Minimum charge of £2.00 for eighteen words, additional words at the rate of 50p for each six or less. Name and address count word for word. A Box Number counts as three words, and an additional charge of 50p is made for sorting and forwarding Box Number replies.

NON-MEMBERS' RATE: Minimum charge £3.75 for eighteen words, additional words at the rate of £1.25 for each six or less. Name and address count word for word. A Box Number counts as three words, and an additional charge of 50p is made for sorting and forwarding Box Number replies.

APPOINTMENTS; EDUCATIONAL; NOTICES and HOMES: Minimum charge £3.20 for four lines and 80p for each additional line. Box Number address counts as one line, and 50p to be added for postage of replies.

GENERAL AND COMMERCIAL (TRADE): Personal; Accommodation; Consulting Rooms; Houses and Property; Travel; Hotels; Nursing; Medical and Secretarial Agencies; Commercial. Minimum charge £4.10 for 18 words including name and address and telephone number. Each additional six words or less £1.35. Box Number's count as three words. Advertisers using a Box Number should add 50p for postage of replies.

Semi-Display Advertisements

SEMI-DISPLAY ADVERTISEMENTS: £6.25 per single column cm and pro rata. Full page £625. Half page £315.

Mechanical Data: Classified: col. length 25.7 cm., single col. width 4.4 cm., double col. width 9.3 cm., 3 col. width 14.2 cm., full page width 19.1 cm. Minimum depth of semi-display advertisements is three single column centimetres. Complete artwork required for s.c. semi-displayed advertisements. Printed offset litho.

All classified advertisements, subject to approval, will appear in the forthcoming issue provided they reach this office not later than 10a.m. on the Friday of the week preceding date of issue. Semi-display advertisements must reach this office by 10a.m. on the Tuesday of the week preceding date of issue.

Cancellation and corrections of advertisements must be received before 12 noon on the Friday of the week preceding date of issue (issues affected by public holidays excepted).

It is requested that when stamped addressed envelopes are enclosed in response to advertisements advertisers will ensure that a reply is sent.

Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of advertisements appearing in the Journal. No recommendation is implied by acceptance, and the Editor of the *British Medical Journal* reserves the right to refuse, discontinue or interrupt the insertion of any advertisement.

NOTICE TO READERS

REPLIES TO BOX NUMBERS. The names and addresses of advertisers under box numbers are held by us in strict confidence and cannot be disclosed. Each Box Number should be addressed separately. Two or more replies can be enclosed in one envelope. The replies will be forwarded to the advertisers in plain envelopes.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS

United Kingdom and Irish Republic Edition. The annual subscription rates for members of the medical profession who are not members of the B.M.A. are £50.00. Subscriptions can be ordered direct from the Subscription Manager, *British Medical Journal*, B.M.A. House, Tavistock Square, London WC1H 9JR, or through any leading subscription agent or bookseller.

Overseas Edition (not containing classified advertisements). The rate for non-members is US\$56.00 or the equivalent in local currencies, direct from the Subscription Manager. Orders can also be placed through any leading subscription agent or bookseller. Readers in the U.S.A. can send their subscription order with or without payment to: *British Medical Journal*, 1172 Commonwealth Avenue, Boston, Mass. 02134.

Single Copies of issues published in the current year cost £1.10 in the United Kingdom and Irish Republic and US\$2.64 overseas. Back number prices on application to the Subscription Manager.

anti-depressant anti-anxiety anti-phobic/anti-obsessional **Clomipramine**

ANAFRANIL[®]



Since depression is frequently associated with anxiety and irrational fear Anafranil provides comprehensive therapeutic cover for the depressed patient in general practice

Indications

Phobic and obsessional disorders. Endogenous depression including manic depressive, periodic and involutional depression. Reactive depression. Neurotic depression.

Dosage

Depression: 10mg, 25mg and 50mg capsules, syrup 25mg/5ml. The dose should be gradually built up to 30–50mg Anafranil daily for the average depressed patient in general practice. In more severely depressed patients the dose may be increased to 75mg daily or even higher if necessary. Anafranil may be given, traditionally, in divided doses throughout the day or it may be administered as a single dose at bed-time. In the latter case the dose should be built up gradually to ensure maximum tolerability. It is advisable in the elderly to initiate treatment with low dosage schedules, and since Anafranil has a known hypotensive effect, care should be taken in treating patients with cardiovascular instability, and

tolerance should be carefully established.

Phobic and obsessional disorders: The dosage of Anafranil is generally higher than that used in depression. It is recommended that the dose be built up to 100–150mg Anafranil daily, according to the severity of the condition. This should be attained gradually over a period of 2 weeks, starting with 1 x 25mg Anafranil daily. In sensitive and elderly patients a starting dose of 1 x 20mg Anafranil daily is recommended. After the relief of symptoms has been attained, maintenance therapy will be required. This will be determined individually but may need to be prolonged. Discontinuation of therapy should be achieved by a gradual reduction in dose.

Side-effects

The most common side-effects are dry mouth, sweating, difficulty with accommodation, constipation, disturbance of micturition and tachycardia. Tremor and ataxia,

hypotension (particularly orthostatic hypotension with associated vertigo) have also been noted. Other effects which have occasionally occurred during Anafranil therapy are disturbances of appetite, abdominal pain and nausea.

Anxiety, agitation, fatigue, drowsiness, confusion, insomnia and headache have rarely been reported. Epileptiform convulsions have been experienced in a small number of patients. Symptomless hypothermia may occur and allergic skin reactions, although extremely rare, have been encountered. Interference with sexual function, particularly ejaculation, may be encountered.

Contraindications and precautions

Anafranil is contraindicated in conjunction with or within 14 days of treatment with monoamine oxidase inhibitors, in patients with existing liver damage, in patients with cardiac or circulatory failure or recent myocardial infarction

and should be used with caution in patients with known ischaemic heart disease. Caution is necessary in conditions where an atropine-like drug is contraindicated e.g. glaucoma and retention of urine. Since convulsions have been reported in patients taking Anafranil, great caution should be exercised in treating epileptic patients. Patients with a known suicidal intent should, if possible, be treated in hospital. Otherwise they should be placed under the care of a responsible person who should also take charge of the keeping and administration of drugs. Care should be taken in administering Anafranil to patients already receiving treatment with debrisoquine, bethanidine, guanethidine, and methyl dopa since the anti-hypertensive effect of these agents may be antagonised. The administration of Anafranil during the first trimester of pregnancy, as with all other drugs, is advised only if there are compelling reasons. Anafranil

given concurrently with noradrenaline or adrenaline may potentiate the cardiovascular effect of these substances.

Availability

Anafranil, (clomipramine)

hydrochloride is available as:
Capsules 10mg 0001/0037
Capsules 25mg 0001/5000
Capsules 50mg 0001/0068
Syrup 25mg/5ml 0001/5001

Product cost

30mg daily (ex 500 x 10mg pack) 9p

75 mg daily (ex 500 x 25mg pack) 17.7p

Anafranil should only be supplied on a prescription. Full prescribing information is available.

Geigy Pharmaceuticals
Macclesfield, Cheshire SK10 2LY