

a troublesome problem
in modern gynaecology

Candida vaginitis during menstruation

menstruation creates favourable conditions
for *Candida albicans*

The modern approach:

TRADEMARK
Nizoral

ketoconazole

**just 2 oral tablets daily
with a meal
for 5 days.**

Prescribing information

Presentation: white, flat, half scored uncoated tablets marked "Janssen" on one side and K200 on the reverse. Each tablet contains 200 mg ketoconazole.

Uses: Nizoral is an orally active antimycotic for the treatment in adults of vaginal candidosis, superficial and systemic mycoses including dermatophytes and yeast infections of the skin, hair and nails, yeast infections of the mouth and G.I.-tract.

Also maintenance treatment of systemic mycoses and chronic mucocutaneous candidosis and prophylaxis in "at risk" patients. In children: systemic mycoses and severe local infections where previous topical treatment has failed.

Side-effects, precautions, contra-indications:

contra-indicated in pregnancy. For maximal absorption Nizoral should be taken with meals. The use of agents which reduce gastric acidity (anti-cholinergic drugs, antacids, H₂-blockers) should be avoided and, if indicated, such drugs should be taken not less than two hours after Nizoral. Nausea, skin rash, headache and pruritus may occasionally be observed. Alterations in liver function tests have occurred in patients on ketoconazole, these changes may be transient. Cases of hepatitis have been reported with an incidence of about 1 per 10,000 patients. Some of these may represent an idiosyncratic adverse reaction to the drug. This should be borne in mind in patients on long-term therapy. If a patient develops jaundice or any symptoms suggestive of hepatitis, treatment with ketoconazole should be stopped. Mild asymptomatic increases of liver enzyme levels, on the other hand, do not necessitate discontinuation of the treatment. Ketoconazole, when given together with cyclosporin A results in increased blood levels of cyclosporin A. It is important that blood levels of cyclosporin A are monitored if the two drugs are given concomitantly. Ketoconazole 200 mg once daily produces a transient decrease in plasma levels of testosterone. During long term therapy at this dose, testosterone levels are usually not significantly different from controls. In rare instances, gynaecomastia has been reported.



THE FIRST YEAR OF LIFE

Second edition

H B VALMAN

Bernard Valman's articles on the first year of life, first published in the *BMJ* in 1979 and then reproduced as a book, have proved invaluable to many doctors and others concerned in the care of children. The second edition of *The First Year of Life* includes numerous small changes to bring the book up to date and incorporates a much fuller section on whooping cough. The section on contraindications to immunisation has also been revised to take account of the latest guidance.

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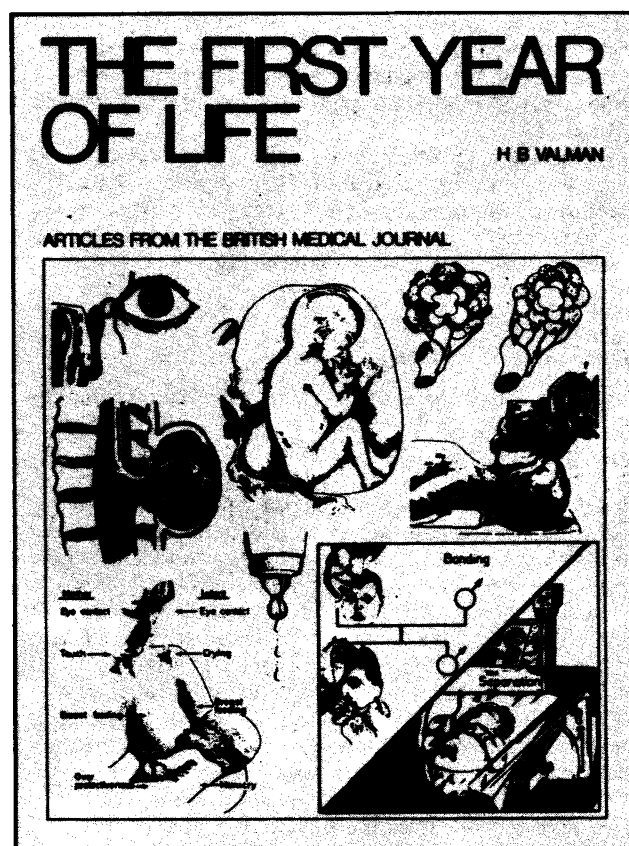
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Tea and sympathy?



Diarrhoea is often a self-limiting affair.
But by the time patients consult their doctor, they have tried
the usual home remedies and want more than tea and sympathy...

Then it's time for a firm approach
with an antidiarrhoeal of universal repute.

All over the world doctors know:

WHEN IT COMES
TO DIARRHOEA
NOTHING WORKS
LIKE **Imodium** TRADEMARK

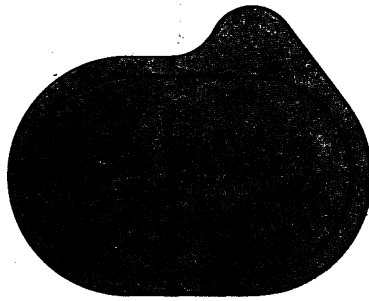
2 caps stat.
1 after each loose stool

 **JANSSEN**
PHARMACEUTICA

the drug discovery company

composition: 2 mg loperamide hydrochloride (R 18 553) per capsule and per ml of drops; 0.2 mg loperamide hydrochloride (R 18 553) per ml of oral solution. **properties:** Pharmacological studies have shown Imodium to be a highly potent, long-acting and specific antidiarrhoeal. Imodium inhibits propulsive intestinal peristalsis by its direct peripheral effect on the gastro-intestinal wall. In animal studies central nervous system effects were only observed at doses far above the recommended therapeutic doses for man. However, the naloxone pupil test, which indicates opiate-like effects, was negative in patients treated with a single high dose or after more than two years of therapeutic use of Imodium. Imodium is easily absorbed from the gut, but it is almost completely metabolized in the liver where it is conjugated and excreted via the bile. Imodium is mainly eliminated via the faeces. Plasma and urinary levels are very low when the liver function is normal. From clinical studies it is evident that Imodium may be used effectively and safely for the treatment of acute and chronic diarrhoea. **indications:** Imodium is indicated for the symptomatic control of acute and chronic diarrhoea. In patients with an ileostomy it can be used to reduce the number and volume of stools and to harden their consistency. **contra-indications:** Imodium must not be used, 1. when inhibition of peristalsis is to be avoided, 2. when the hepatic function, necessary for the drug's metabolism, is defective, which might result in a relative overdose (e.g. in case of severe hepatic disturbances). For the same reason, and as a precaution, it is advised not to administer Imodium to infants (under 12 months). **side-effects:** If one excludes the above-mentioned contra-indications, no side-effects have been observed, apart from a few cases of dry mouth. This is true even after prolonged administration. **measures to be taken in case of overdose:** In case of overdose, the following side-effects may be observed: constipation and neurological symptoms (myosis, muscular hypertonia, somnolence and bradypnoea). If intoxication is suspected Naloxone can be given as an antidote. Since the duration of action of Imodium is longer than that of Naloxone, the patient should be placed under constant observation for at least 48 hours in order to detect a possible depression of the central nervous system. **dosage:** Adults and children over 5 years of age: acute diarrhoea: the initial dose is 2 capsules for adults and 1 capsule for children, followed by 1 capsule after any subsequent loose stool; chronic diarrhoea: the initial dose is 2 capsules daily for adults and 1 capsule daily for children; this initial dose will be adjusted until 1-2 solid stools a day are obtained, which is usually achieved with a maintenance dose of 1-5 capsules daily. The maximum dose for acute and chronic diarrhoea is 8 capsules daily. Children 1 to 5 years of age: 1 drop per kg bodyweight, 2 or 3 times daily, 1 measuring cap of oral solution (= 5 ml) per 10 kg body weight, 2 or 3 times daily. As soon as normal stools are obtained the dose must be gradually reduced; if constipation occurs the treatment should be stopped. **how supplied:** 6 and 60 capsules each containing 2 mg loperamide hydrochloride; dropper bottle containing 10 ml at 2 mg loperamide hydrochloride per ml, 30 and 100 ml oral solution containing 0.2 mg loperamide hydrochloride per ml. **warning:** Should be kept out of children's reach.

With long-acting nitrates, non-compliance can be a pain in the chest



For out-patients. **Transiderm-Nitro** glyceryl trinitrate the only one a day long-acting nitrate

Presentation

Transiderm-Nitro 5 and 10 are transdermal drug delivery systems, comprising respectively 10cm² and 20cm² self-adhesive, pink-coloured patches, containing a drug reservoir of glyceryl trinitrate.

Indication

Prophylactic treatment of attacks of angina pectoris.

Dosage

One Transiderm-Nitro 5 patch is to be applied every 24 hours. If a higher dose is required, a Transiderm-Nitro 10 patch may be substituted. If acute attacks of

angina pectoris occur, rapidly acting nitrate preparations may be required.

Side-effects

Headache, usually transient; reflex tachycardia. Postural hypotension, nausea and dizziness occur rarely. A local mild itching or burning sensation may occasionally occur.

Precautions

Pregnancy and lactation; recent myocardial infarction, heart failure. Withdraw gradually. The system should be removed before cardioversion or DC defibrillation is attempted.

Contra-indications

Hypersensitivity to nitrates, severe hypotension, marked anaemia, increased intraocular or intracranial pressure.

Packs

Boxes of 30 patches. Transiderm-Nitro 5 (PL0001/0094) basic NHS price 64.4p per day; Transiderm-Nitro 10 (PL0001/0095) basic NHS price 70.9p per day. * denotes registered trademark.

Full prescribing information is available on request from Geigy Pharmaceuticals, Horsham, West Sussex.

Average absorption rates from Transiderm-Nitro 5 and 10: 5mg/24 hours, 10mg/24 hours.