

a troublesome problem
in modern gynaecology

"Pill"-vaginitis


oral contraceptives create the ideal environment
for *Candida albicans* to develop

The modern approach:

Nizoral^{TRADEMARK}

ketoconazole

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



...scored unco... Each tablet contains 200 mg ketoconazole. Nizoral is a broad-spectrum antifungal agent effective against a wide range of fungi, including *Candida albicans*. It is used for the treatment of systemic mycoses including dermatomycoses, candidiasis, cryptococcosis, histoplasmosis, and coccidioidomycosis. It is also effective against *Trichophyton* and *Microsporum* species. Nizoral is indicated for the treatment of systemic mycoses and chronic mucocutaneous candidosis and pityriasis 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 different from controls. In rare instances, gynaecomastia has been reported.

**JANSSEN
PHARMACEUTICA**
B-2340 Beerse, Belgium

ALCOHOL PROBLEMS

In recent years alcohol problems have increased dramatically and the thinking on them has undergone a revolution. Alcohol Problems brings together two series of articles published in the *BMJ*—the ABC of Alcohol, with its emphasis on straightforward advice for the clinician, and Alcohol and Alcoholism, Dr Richard Smith's more discursive survey of current thinking and controversies. Together they cover both the clinical aspects of managing alcohol problems and the social and political factors that surround them.

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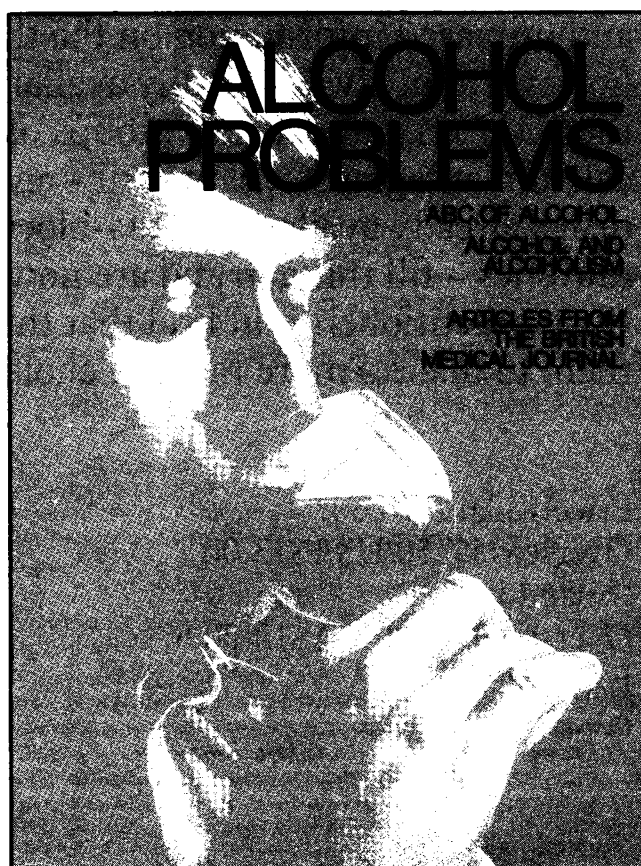
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"... a good account of the right kinds of observations to make in order to detect people with alcohol problems..."

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Update 1983; 26: 301

NEW DRUGS

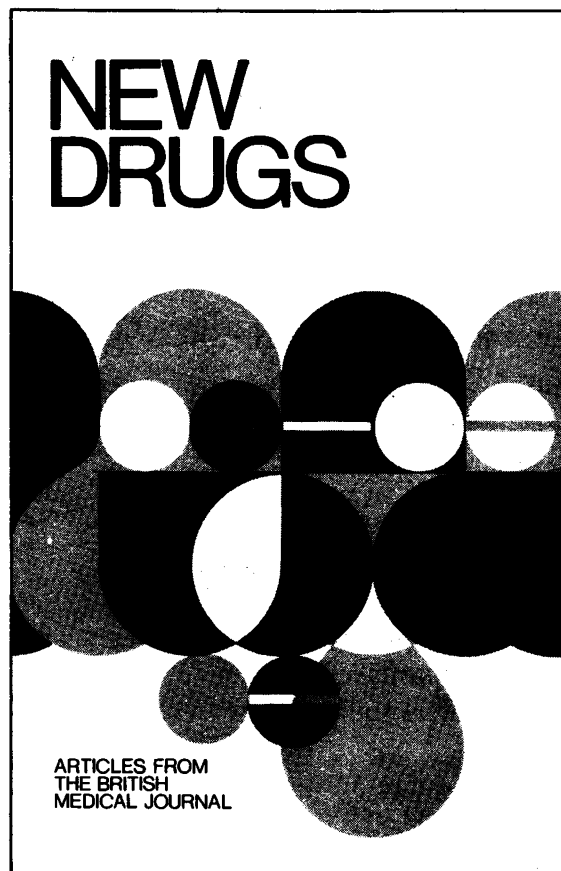
In the past few years the number of important new drugs and our understanding of pharmacology have continued to increase. Reliable and unbiased information on the therapeutic use of these agents is, however, not always readily available. Articles recently published in the *BMJ* on entirely new groups of drugs – H₂ receptor antagonists, calcium antagonists, captopril – and on new members of groups of drugs already available – beta-blockers, tranquillisers, hypnotics, diuretics – fill this gap and are now collected together in book form. Busy practitioners will find that this comprehensive review allows them to make a more rational choice of treatment.

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WHEN IT COMES
TO DIARRHOEA
NOTHING WORKS

LIKE **Imodium** TRADEMARK

loperamide

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Oral rehydration and the case for Imodium

In acute diarrhoea it is often essential to treat dehydration by administering fluids intravenously or by mouth. Oral rehydration therapy will significantly improve the rate of absorption, but it can hardly reduce excessive secretion of fluids and electrolytes.

Imodium has been shown to reduce the excessive secretion into the intestinal lumen. In fact, Imodium can enhance the restoring effect of rehydration fluids and expedite the patient's recovery.

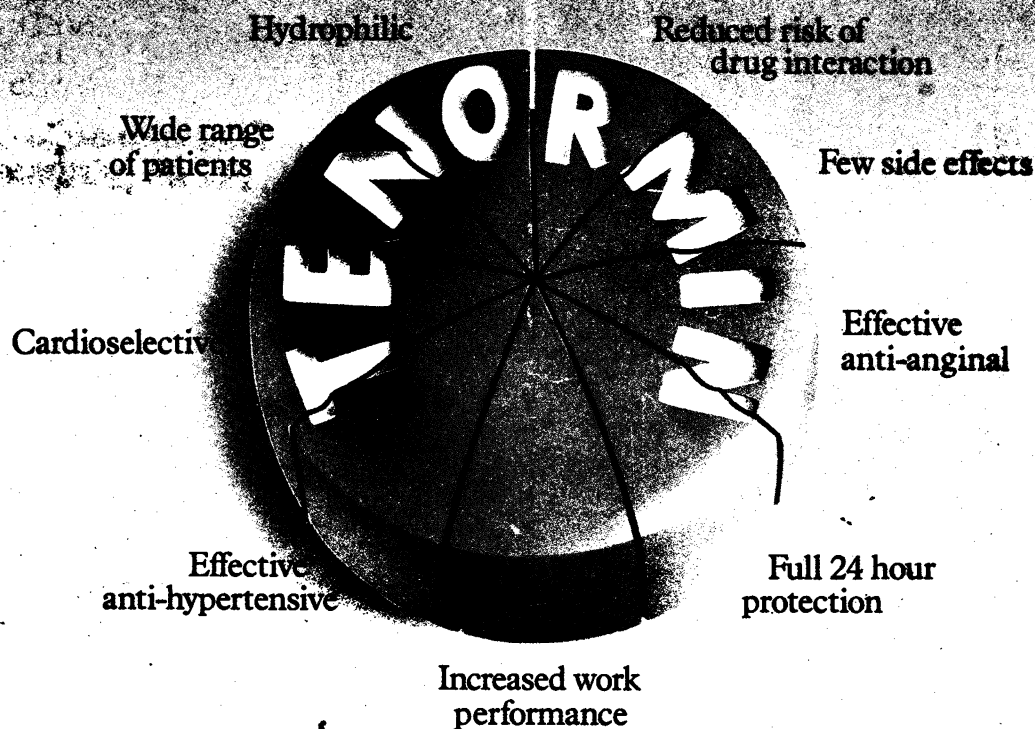


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References: Hughes, S., Higgs, N.B., Turnberg, L.A.: Loperamide has anti-secretory activity in the human jejunum *in vivo*. In press.
Sandhu, B.K., Tripp, J.H., Milla, P.J., Harries, J.T.: Loperamide in severe protracted diarrhoea. Arch. Dis. Child. 58, 39 (1983)

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