

# Sporanox<sup>®</sup>

ITRACONAZOLE

## THE VERSATILE ORAL ANTIFUNGAL

Sporanox is highly active against virtually all dermatophytes and yeasts, and against notoriously virulent pathogenic fungi, such as *Aspergillus* spp., some *Fusarium* spp. and *Sporothrix schenckii*.

That's why, in dermatology, gynaecology and internal medicine alike, Sporanox is rapidly becoming the oral treatment of choice for troublesome fungal infections.

### Simplicity itself:

- in tinea infections of the skin:  
1 capsule daily for precisely 15 days\*
- in vaginal candidosis:  
2 capsules b.i.d. for only 1 day

\* Involvement of highly keratinized skin such as hand palms and foot soles requires an additional 15-day treatment.

**Note:** Sporanox (itraconazole) is not yet available in all countries.

**Administration:** It is essential that Sporanox be taken immediately after a full meal for maximal absorption. **Contra-indications:** Sporanox is contra-indicated during pregnancy. Adequate contraceptive precautions should be taken by women of childbearing potential during the menstrual cycle of Sporanox therapy. **Warnings and precautions:** Sporanox is predominantly metabolized in the liver. Although clinically Sporanox has not been associated with hepatic dysfunction, it is advisable not to give this drug to patients with a known history of liver disease or to patients who have experienced liver toxicity with other drugs. Nursing mothers: it is recommended not to breast feed whilst taking Sporanox. Paediatric use: Sporanox has not been systematically studied in children; it should, therefore, not be used in paediatric patients unless the potential benefit outweighs the potential risks. **Drug interactions:** Sporanox should not be given concomitantly with rifampicin. **Adverse reactions:** Side-effects during Sporanox therapy occurred in 7.1% of the patients. The most frequently reported side-effects were nausea (1.3%), abdominal pain (1.2%), headache (1%) and dyspepsia (0.7%). **Supplied:** Blister packs of 4, 6, or 15 capsules. Each capsule contains 100 mg of itraconazole.

Full prescribing information is available on request.

*Trichophyton rubrum*

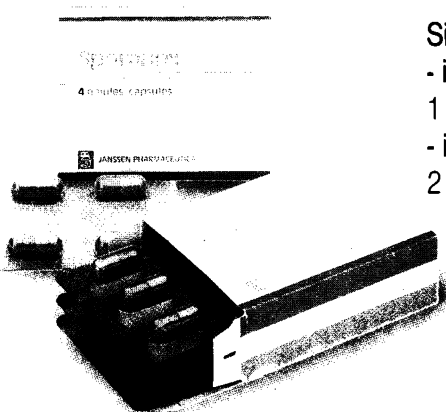
*Candida albicans*  
Sabouraud agar

*Aspergillus fumigatus*

*Fusarium solani*

*Sporothrix schenckii*

*Cryptococcus neoformans*



SPECIAL BMA MEMBERS EDITION

# MIRROR OF MEDICINE

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P. W. J. BARTRIP



# 150 YEARS

The *BMJ*'s 150 year history has taken it from small beginnings in Worcester as the *Provincial Medical and Surgical Journal* to its current position as a major international medical journal. On the way there have been rows, editors' dismissals, and battles with the BMA and royal colleges as well as growing success and authority. In *Mirror of Medicine* the historian P W J Bartrip provides a shrewd and perceptive commentary on the *BMJ*'s progress, placing its history in the context of contemporary events and examining its treatment of many key themes in medical science and society, including public health, military medicine, quackery, sex, and the birth of the NHS. He also provides pen portraits of some of its most outstanding editors, among them the charismatic Ernest Hart, his successor Dawson Williams, and the distinguished Hugh Clegg. The *BMJ*'s present editor, Stephen Lock, provides a postscript on the state of the *BMJ* today.

352 pp., illus. Clarendon Press/BMJ, September 1990

Price to BMA members only: UK £29; Abroad £33. Prices include packing and postage, by air speeded despatch abroad (air mail rates on application).

For orders: British Medical Journal, PO Box 295, London WC1H 9TE. (Also available in the BMJ/BMA bookshop in BMA House.)

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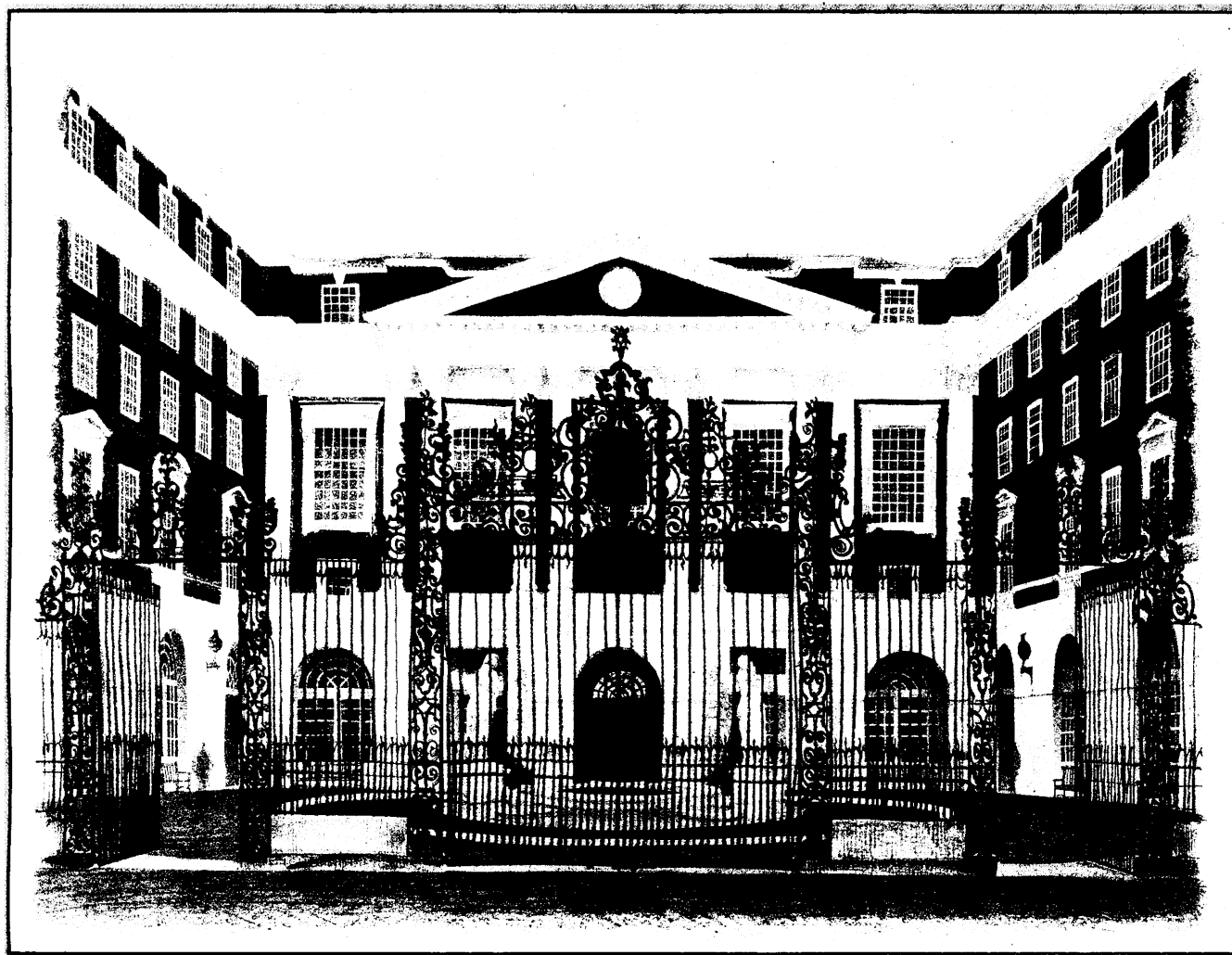
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Why not treat yourself to a memento of the *BMJ*'s 150th anniversary? Specially commissioned to mark the occasion, David Gentleman's beautifully detailed lithograph of BMA House, the journal's home since 1925, is obtainable at £155 a copy. Showing a view of the courtyard from the main gates—a familiar scene to BMA members and to countless visitors from around the world—the lithograph has been produced in a limited edition and only 125 copies are available for sale. Many readers will want to have this handsome reminder of a milestone in the *BMJ*'s history; to make sure of yours, simply fill in the form below.

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# ART AND SCIENCE

Poetry and medicine are not as far apart as you might think: the Greeks attributed both to one god, Apollo.

Many doctors have followed in Apollo's footsteps by combining the art of poetry with the practice of medicine, while others have abandoned medicine to make poetry their profession.

In *Apollo* poems by medical writers from classical times to the twentieth century have been chosen and edited with an introduction by Edward Lowbury, himself a distinguished doctor poet.

Including works by Rabelais, Sir Thomas Browne, Goldsmith, Keats, Schiller, Ronald Ross, William Carlos Williams, and Dannie Abse, this beautifully produced limited edition is published by the Keynes Press to mark the 150th anniversary of the *BMJ*.

Published 19 September 1990

Designed by Sebastian Carter; demy octavo; set in Erhardt and printed on Supreme Cream Bookwove paper; 138 pages

Limited edition of 1 000 copies

UK £20.00; Abroad £23.00; USA \$43.00 including postage, by air abroad



## DID ED, *BMJ*, MURDER HIS WIFE?

Supposedly based on rumoured events in the life of Ernest Hart, a great but undervalued editor of the *BMJ*, Frank Danby's novel *Dr Phillips: a Maida Vale Idyll* was first published in 1887. Unlike many popular Victorian novels it is concisely plotted; the characters are sympathetic and believable; and the author's presentation of Jewish life in the late nineteenth century is uncompromisingly honest.

But is the character of "Dr Phillips" a portrait of Hart? In his introduction to the Keynes Press edition Stephen Lock, present editor of the *BMJ*, places the novel in its literary and historical context and examines the character and achievements of Ernest Hart. Finely bound and printed, and with illustrations by Tabitha Salmon, this edition of *Dr Phillips: a Maida Vale Idyll* will fascinate those interested in literature, history, and the *BMJ*.

Published December 1989

Demy Octavo; set in Monophoto Modern and printed on Fineblade Cartridge paper; xii + 285 pages; colour frontispiece

Limited edition of 300 copies

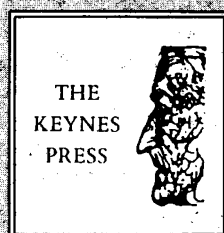
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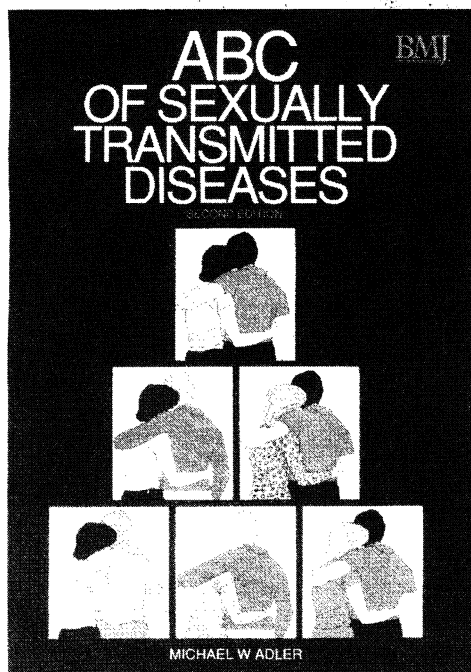
Tabitha Salmon's frontispiece from *Dr Phillips: a Maida Vale Idyll* by Frank Danby

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# Expert information on important problems



## Second edition

The number and range of sexually transmitted diseases have been increasing steadily in the past few years, and the second, revised edition of the *ABC of Sexually Transmitted Diseases* includes the most up to date figures as well as new chapters on AIDS and psychosexual problems. Doctors need to be aware that common clinical conditions such as rashes, vaginal discharge, and pelvic pain may have a sexual origin and in the new edition of this invaluable handbook Professor Michael Adler gives expert guidance on the diagnosis and management of these conditions.

### Reviews of the first edition

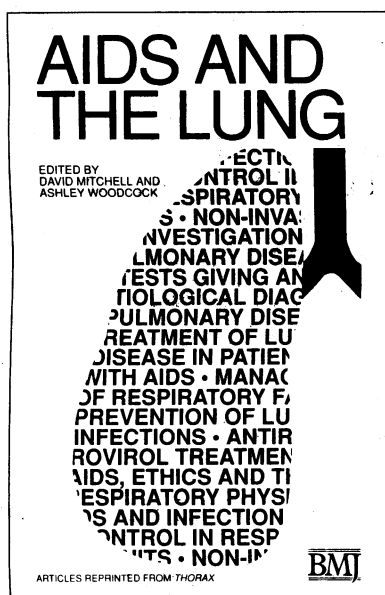
"It is an excellent basic book for the non-specialist, the medical student, and for nursing and paramedical staff associated with genitourinary medicine." *Genitourinary Medicine*

"This book is recommended for anyone wishing to bring himself up to date with an increasingly expanding speciality..."

*Journal of the Royal Naval Medical Service*

"Professor Adler has successfully provided a clear, concise and up to date textbook on sexually transmitted disease." *Scottish Medical Journal*

UK £10.95/Abroad £13.00 (BMA members: UK £9.95/Abroad £12.00)



## Just published

The lung is the organ most affected by the opportunistic infections that occur in patients with AIDS. Pneumocystis pneumonia occurs in up to four fifths of such patients in Europe and North America, while tuberculosis is a major factor in Africa. As the numbers of patients with AIDS increase, respiratory physicians throughout the world are more likely to be concerned in their management. In *AIDS and the lung* experts review the problems, emphasising practical points and providing up to date information on this rapidly changing subject. Edited by David Mitchell, consultant physician in respiratory medicine, St Mary's Hospital, London, and Ashley Woodcock, consultant chest physician, Wythenshawe Hospital, Manchester, *AIDS and the lung* is an indispensable handbook for respiratory physicians, especially those with limited experience of dealing with AIDS – and for everyone concerned with protective measures in bronchoscopy units and pulmonary function laboratories.

UK £8.95/Abroad £10.00 (BMA members: UK £8.45/Abroad £9.50)

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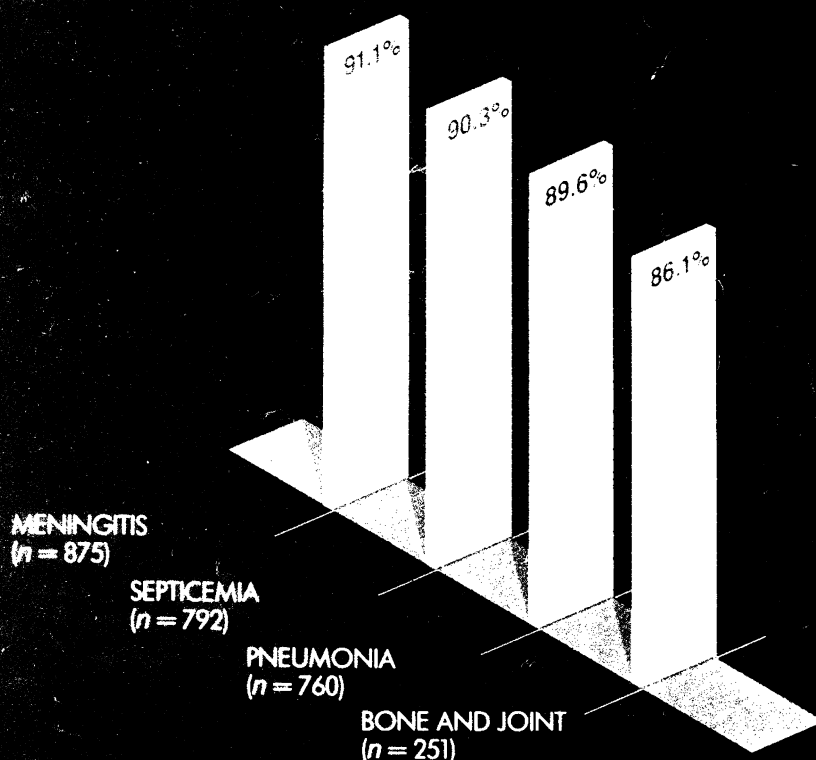
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**Components:** Ceftriaxone. **Indications:** Sepsis; meningitis; abdominal infections; infections of the bones, joints, soft tissue, skin and of wounds; infections in patients with impaired defence mechanisms; renal and urinary tract infections; respiratory tract infections, particularly pneumonia, and ear, nose and throat infections; genital infections, including gonorrhoea. Perioperative prophylaxis of infections. **Dosage:** Usual dosage for adults: 1-2 g once daily (every 24 hours). Further information on administration and special dosage

recommendations are available on request. **Contra-indications:** Known hypersensitivity to cephalosporins. **Precautions:** Pregnancy (particularly in the first trimester) unless absolutely necessary. Hypersensitivity to penicillin (possibility of allergic cross-reactions). Anaphylactic shock. **Side effects:** Gastrointestinal complaints. Hematological changes. Skin reactions. **Packs:** Packs for i.m. injection, 5's. Packs for i.v. injection, 5's. Packs for i.v. infusion, 5's. Full details are available on request.

Reference  
Data on file, F. Hoffmann-La Roche Ltd, Basel, Switzerland.

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# histamine

what histamine deserves

Histamine deserves the antihistamine that can really take it on. For right away the allergies that thrive on histamine will respond.

Typical examples are hay fever, perennial rhinitis, allergic conjunctivitis and different forms of urticaria.

Hismanal is unique by the strength of its histamine-antagonism.

Without any risk of sedation, its full antihistamine strength can be utilized.

And there is no weakening during the 24 hour dosing interval, so that the symptoms won't get a chance to cause untimely trouble.



# Hismanal<sup>TRADEMARK</sup>

(astemizole)

The antihistamine  
of exceptional strength.

Effective from  
the first  
to the last day  
of therapy.



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#### Prescribing Information

**Uses:** Hismanal is a potent and non-sedative antihistamine indicated for the treatment of seasonal and perennial allergic rhinitis, allergic conjunctivitis, chronic urticaria and other allergic conditions.

**Dosage and administration:** adults and children over 12 years: 10 mg daily. Children 6-12 years: 5 mg once daily. Children younger than 6 years: 2 mg per 10 kg daily. Hismanal should be taken on an empty stomach. **Precautions:** Hismanal should be used in pregnant women only when, in the judgement of the physician, the potential benefits outweigh the possible hazards.

**Adverse reactions:** weight gain may occur during prolonged treatment. **Overdose:** in case of overdose, gastric lavage should be followed by close observation and ECG monitoring as arrhythmias have occasionally occurred after intake of doses in excess of 200 mg.

Full prescribing information available on request.

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A DAY