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“PITUITRIN”

Landmarks in its History

1895 Oliver and Schäfer discover that extract of the pituitary gland increases blood pressure (*Journal of Physiology*, xviii, 277).

1898 Howell announces that the pressor principle can only be obtained from the posterior lobe of the gland (*Journal of Experimental Medicine*, iii, 245).

1905 Parke, Davis & Co. prepare posterior lobe extract, and issue same to co-workers in the Department of Experimental Medicine in U.S.A. and London.

1906 A London worker reports privately (April 3) “that the action of P. D. & Co.’s posterior lobe extract is similar to that of adrenalin, but more prolonged in effect,” this result being confirmed later by same worker (June 29). Parke, Davis & Co. issue laboratory data regarding posterior lobe extract, dealing with the toxicity, blanching experiments, effect on blood pressure, pulse, and flow of urine, illustrated with numerous kymographic tracings.

Dale discovers that contraction of uterus takes place when extract of dried ox-pituitary is given intravenously (*Journal of Physiology*, May 31).

1907 Aldrich, of Parke, Davis & Co.’s Research Laboratory, publishes process by which the solution of the posterior lobe principle (later known as “Pituitrin”) is obtained (*Journal American Physiological Society*, December).

1908 Houghton and Merrill report to the annual meeting of the American Medical Association (June); and Lockhart-Mummery and Symes to annual meeting of the British Medical Association (July) on the properties of “Pituitrin.”

Blair Bell describes action of infundibular extract on uterus (*Liverpool Medical and Chirurgical Journal*, July).

Professor Pal, Vienna, lectures on the effect of “Pituitrin” on arterial pressure (December); lecture reported with numerous tracings (*Wien. med. Woch.*, Jan. 16, 1909).

Blair Bell and Hick on Pituitary Extract (*B.M.J.*, Feb. 27).

Von Frankl-Hochwart and Froehlich report contraction of uterus by “Pituitrin” (*Wien. klin. Woch.*, July 8).

Blair Bell, on clinical application of pituitary extract in obstetrical cases (*B.M.J.*, November 13).

1908 to 1925 During these seventeen years some hundreds of clinical reports have been published on the use of “Pituitrin” in the numerous conditions in which it is indicated.

PARKE, DAVIS & COMPANY,



BEAK STREET, LONDON, W.1.