

Annals of the Rheumatic Diseases

A journal of clinical rheumatology and connective tissue research

This journal was founded by the Empire Rheumatism Council, now the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research in Great Britain and the Commonwealth, and is also supported by the British Society for Rheumatology

Advice to contributors

Communications This journal exists to publish work on all aspects of rheumatology and disorders of connective tissue. Laboratory as well as clinical studies are welcome. In addition brief communications, for example reports of single cases, will be printed if of exceptional interest.

Papers, which will be accepted on the understanding that they have not been and will not be published elsewhere and are subject to editorial revision, should be addressed to The Editor, Professor H. L. F. Currey, London Hospital Medical College, London E1 2AD. Each author must sign the covering letter as evidence of consent to publication.

Two copies should be supplied, one a typed top copy. Authors requiring acknowledgement of papers submitted should enclose a stamped addressed postcard or, if overseas, an international reply paid coupon.

Articles must be typewritten on one side of the paper only, in double spacing with ample margins. Only recognised abbreviations should be used.

Tables should be presented on separate sheets apart from the text.

SI units The units in which the work was done will appear first with the other units, i.e. SI or traditional units, appearing after in parentheses. With regard to tables and figures, a conversion factor should be given as a footnote.

References In accordance with the Vancouver agreement references, which must be typed double spaced, are cited by the numerical system.

A paper (or book) cited in the text is referred to there by a superscript number. In the list of references the papers (or books) appear in the numerical order in which they are first cited in the text, not in alphabetical order by authors' names. For convenience in preparing the typescript the reference number may be typed between parentheses on the line, not superscript. The titles of journals are abbreviated in accordance with the style of *Index Medicus*. In the typescript they should either be abbreviated in that style or given in full. Three examples follow:

- 1 Green A B, Brown C D, Grey E F. A new method of measuring the blood glucose. *Ann Rheum Dis* 1980; **64**: 27-9.
- 2 Green A B, Brown C D. *Textbook of medicine*. London: Silver Books, 1980.
- 3 Grey E F. Diseases of the pancreas. In: Green A B, Brown C D, eds. *Textbook of medicine*. London: Silver Books, 1980: 349-62.

References will not be checked in the editorial office. Responsibility for their accuracy and completeness lies with the author.

Illustrations These should be marked on the back with the author's name, numbered, and the top edge indicated. Separate illustrations should be separately numbered. Only illustrations appearing together in the same block

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Tables Each table should be on a separate sheet, have a heading, and contain no vertical rules.

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connective tissue research

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Table 1 *Effects of salicylate on in-vitro albumin binding of ibuprofen*

Salicylate concentration (mg l ⁻¹)	Ibuprofen concentration	
	Total (mg l ⁻¹)	fu (%)
0	2	1.25
100	2	1.54
200	2	2.33
0	50	1.64
100	50	2.11
200	50	3.28

fu = fraction of ibuprofen non-protein bound.

low-dose combinations of aspirin and ibuprofen and a weak additive effect only (probably infra-additive, i.e., less than the effect of equivalent dosages of either drug given alone) between high-dose combinations of the 2 drugs.² Plasma ibuprofen levels were approximately halved by concurrent salicylate therapy in both high- and low-dose combinations and probably contributed to the poor therapeutic performance of the drug combinations. The mechanism for this pharmacokinetic interaction has been studied subsequently, and the effects of salicylate on in-vitro albumin binding of ibuprofen are shown in Table 1. The results show a doubling of the unbound ibuprofen fraction by the higher concentrations of salicylate. Similar in-vitro results have been

obtained by others.³ It seems likely that displacement of ibuprofen from protein binding by salicylate contributes to the pharmacokinetic interaction between the 2 drugs in vivo. A similar mechanism may occur when salicylates are prescribed with other NSAIDs and is a factor to be remembered before prescribing such combinations in clinical practice.

References

- 1 Garrett R, Manthey B, Vernon-Roberts B, Brooks P M. Assessment of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug combinations by the polyurethane sponge implantation model in the rat. *Ann Rheum Dis* 1983; **42**: 439-42.
- 2 Grennan D M, Ferry D G, Ashworth M E, Kenny R E, MacKinnon M. The aspirin-ibuprofen interaction in rheumatoid arthritis. *Br J Clin Pharmacol* 1979; **8**: 497-503.
- 3 Vowles D E, Marchant B. Protein binding of ibuprofen and its relationship to drug interactions. *Br J Clin Pract* 1980; **6** (suppl): 13-9.

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Notes

Immunological concepts

A Symposium on Current Immunological Concepts in Rheumatology (immunopathology, genetics, and therapy) will be held on 26-28 September 1984 at the Semmelweis Medical School, Budapest, Hungary. Details from MOTESZ Congress Bureau, PO Box 32 Budapest, H-1361 Hungary.

Mediterranean congress

The 5th Giornate Mediterranee di Rheumatologia will be held in Naples on 14-15 June 1984. Further information from Professor Mario Giordano, Università di Napoli, 1 Facoltà di Medicina e Chirurgia, Istituto di Clinica Medica Generale e Terapia Medica, 80131 Napoli, Italy.

International course on spinal disorders

The diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation of common disorders, including trauma, of the whole spine, will be the principal themes of a course to be held in Gothenburg, Sweden, on 24-29 June 1984. Registration fee (due before 1 May) \$600. Further information from Spinal Disorders 1984, c/o Dr Alf L. Nachemson, Department of Orthopaedic Surgery I, Sahlgren Hospital, S-413 45 Gothenburg, Sweden.

Prague symposium

The Third Prague Symposium on Rheumatology, sponsored by the World Health Organisation under the auspices of EULAR, will be held on 27-30 June 1984. Details from Dr J. E. Purkyne, Czechoslovak Medical Society, III Prague Symposium on Rheumatology, Vitezneho unora 31, 120 26 Prague, Czechoslovakia.

Bone, joint, and connective tissue pathology meeting

Advance notice is given of a meeting to be held in the Medical School of the University of Manchester on 5-7 September 1984. The meeting is intended to provide those working for the final MRC Path., and consultants seeking a contemporary review of diagnostic techniques and problems, with a theoretical and practical review of the field of osteoarticular and connective tissue pathology. A maximum of 36 participants can be accepted. Registration fee £50. Accommodation, at additional charge, will be available in Ashburne Hall, a university hall of residence. The course is sponsored by the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council for Research, and approved by the Royal College of Pathologists and by the University of Manchester Department of Postgraduate Medical Studies. Details from Course Secretary, Department of Postgraduate Medical Studies, Gateway House, Piccadilly South, Manchester M60 7LP.

Carol-Nachman Award for Rheumatology—Wiesbaden

This prize will be awarded annually for outstanding research-work in the field of rheumatology. It is worth

DM 75,000

Submission of work may be made up until 31st December each year.

Further information is available from
The Chief Administrative Officer
Prof. Dr. Med, K Miehke
Rheumaklinik 1, Langgasse 38
D-6200 Wiesbaden
Germany.



Royal Postgraduate Medical School

(University of London)

ADVANCED RHEUMATOLOGY

30 May – 1 June 1984

This annual course in postgraduate rheumatology is aimed at consultants, senior registrars and others interested in advanced rheumatology.

The course will include lectures, seminars and clinical presentations. Direct practical experience with certain laboratory procedures will be arranged.

Topics include: SLE—immunology and genetics
RA—markers of disease modification
Seronegative arthritis and bowel associated antigens
Overlap syndromes and ENA
Arteritis—pathogenetic mechanisms
Crystals and inflammation
Malignancy and arthritis
Collagen and arthritis
Treatment: conventional and unconventional (Recent topics include plasma exchange, sex hormones, total body irradiation, pulse methylprednisolone, etc)

Course fee (inc. catering): £100

Course organiser: Dr G R V Hughes

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