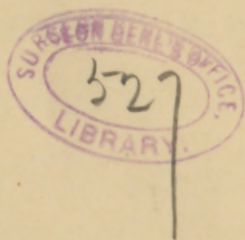


CATHELL (W^m T.)

Tranches



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TROCHES

BY

✓
WILLIAM T. CATHELL, M. D.

BALTIMORE.



Compliments of

J. F. HANCOCK,

Manufacturing Pharmacist,

BALTIMORE, MD.

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TROCHES.

BY WILLIAM T. CATHELL, M. D.

BALTIMORE.

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As a large number of patients suffering with throat affections have more or less pain and difficulty in swallowing, it is of considerable importance, in treating them, that a suitable method of administering the proper remedies to meet these, be at the command of the practitioner. Such a need is more or less filled by the various medicated troches that are made by manufacturing chemists, and it has been a matter of great surprise to me that their use is so limited among American physicians, while in Great Britain and on the Continent, they are largely prescribed, and with the most satisfactory results.

In laryngeal disease the efficacy of troches may be at times somewhat doubtful, still they have a long-standing reputation for usefulness in all voice affections, due probably, aside from their direct local action, to their exciting a reflex curative influence upon the larynx, through the path of the laryngeal plexus of nerves. Their usefulness has now been too thoroughly demonstrated to require any extended explanation as to their efficacy.

Their great advantage consists in our being able by their use to keep the selected drugs continuously in contact with the irritated and diseased mucous membranes of the fauces and throat, by which we obtain more prolonged topical action than would otherwise be possible with even a greater quantity of the drug.

In reliability troches are necessarily superior to gargles, which all fall short of what is required of them. Especially is this true when we have a lesion posterior to the faucial pillars, owing to the fact that the ingredients are gradually dissolved in the saliva, and thus brought in immediate and prolonged contact with the affected parts, whereas in a

gargle the drug is greatly diluted, and never reaches beyond the palato-pharyngeal fold. It can not therefore be otherwise than logical for us to conclude that better results will be obtained from slowly-dissolving troches than the non-permanent contact of gargles. Besides, gargling, to say the least, is disagreeable to a great many patients and to some, is wholly impossible.

Confectioner's troches do not answer our purpose, being uncertain in the dosage, and so easily breaking and chipping as to make them unreliable. Besides, they fall to pieces too quickly in the mouth; and are also affected too easily by the weather, and usually result in giving dissatisfaction to the patient, and injuring the prescriber's reputation.

I have found troches of service in various acute inflammatory diseases of the throat; and also in most chronic affections of that organ, combining absolute accuracy of dose, convenience in administration, speedy disintegration, and consequently rapid absorption, thereby obtaining the most effective results. And with me they have met the demands of a large class of out-door patients.

Of course a thousand and one combinations could be made, but as we must necessarily have stock troches at our command for prescription, in every-day cases, I have devised the following three varieties, and for memory's sake have given each the prefix "Muco," and find the three to admirably cover the ground in ordinary practice.

Muco-Stimulant { Apomorphinæ
Hydrochloras, gr. $\frac{1}{20}$
Ext. Eucalypti
Glob., gr. $\frac{1}{8}$

S. Use one every two or three hours.

Muco-Sedative { Ext. Pulsatillæ, gr. $\frac{1}{2}$
Ergotin, gr. $\frac{1}{8}$
Codeina, gr. $\frac{1}{4}$
Ext. Belladonnæ, gr. $\frac{1}{8}$

S. Use one every two or three hours.

Muco-Tonic { Kali Chloras, gr. j
Oleoresin. Cubebæ, } aa gr. $\frac{1}{8}$
Pulv. Ipecac.,
" Catechu,
" Capsici, gr. $\frac{1}{50}$
Balsam. Tolutan., gr. $\frac{3}{8}$

S. Use one every two or three hours.

The respective terminations of name serve to indicate their therapeutic uses, and save the necessity of memorizing endless varieties of formulæ and indications.

I may here remark, that the manufacturer has combined in each of these formulæ, an unobjectionable excipient selected for its elegance and palatability.

When either of them is used in the treatment of oral, faucial or pharyngeal affections, chiefly for its local effect; it not unfrequently plays an exceedingly useful role, either alone or as an adjuvant to other treatment.

Recognizing the usefulness of these combinations in daily practice, and the advisability of having them properly and pharmaceutically prepared, I gave the formulæ to Mr. John F. Hancock, a well-known manufacturing pharmacist of Baltimore, who has devoted many years of his professional attention to the manufacture of troches, knowing that, with his experience in this line and his facilities for their manufacture, they would be made as perfect as present art will allow. As made by him, they are especially adapted and intended for prescription use, being dispensed in tube vials of 36 troches each, in which form they are not only convenient for carrying in the pocket, but are also thor-

oughly protected from the influence of the atmosphere.

I would here add a brief word about the action of each of the three varieties mentioned :

Muco-Stimulant.—The action of these is astringent, stimulant and antiseptic, and very marked upon the mucous surface, preventing the formation of thick tenacious mucus. I have, moreover, found them of special advantage in obstinate coughs by promoting freer expectoration, and mollifying many bronchial and laryngeal troubles. Again, while they possess valuable stimulating properties, they are free from the extremely bitter taste that characterizes many of the other troches ; in this respect they contrast strongly with catechu, kino, etc., which greatly favors their administration to children and fastidious patients.

Muco-Sedative.—These troches sheathe the mucosa, lessen the tendency to cough, and produce a very soothing and calmative effect on throat soreness. I have found them of marked benefit where the throat and tonsils are acutely inflamed and much swollen. They

quickly mitigate irritation, liquefy tenacious mucus and lessen expectoration, and do not constipate. If a patient's cough is severe and irritating two or three may be allowed in rapid succession. They have also been used in the early stages of mercurial salivation with wonderful benefit.

Muco-Tonic.—In regard to this troche I can say, with emphasis, that I know of no other combination that has so many points of merit, and is so effective in its action.

I some time ago added to the original formula the small quantity of capsicum and find that the slight glow it produces increases their usefulness. And now after an extended use of this improved combination, I find their value both increased and confirmed. They are admirably adapted for allaying slight irritation of the throat and giving tone and flexibility to the vocal organs.

In many cases, and especially those of a more chronic character, the best effect can only be secured by their prolonged and systematic administration.

Probably the most frequent and troublesome form of throat affection

that is encountered by the general practitioner is that condition where the throat is a little weak, with insufficient tone of voice, caused oftentimes by over-exertion in speaking or singing, and confined mostly to those who depend largely for a livelihood upon the voice ; so that perfect resonance and timbre are all the more imperative ; and in such cases as these I can with confidence aver that this troche is perfect ; they are, in fact, one of its chief sources of reputation. Further : for dry cough, hacking throat with slight expectoration, or weak voice, they can be relied upon, and will be found of signal service.

By relieving many cases of fetid breath due to disordered secretions, they have also proved efficient correctives.

A troche should be dissolved upon the middle of the tongue, not too near the tip, so as to fully impregnate the saliva and bathe the membranes before being swallowed. A valuable property which the ideal troche possesses is the persistence with which it adheres to the mucous surface, and it is on this account that some varieties are more effectual locally than others.

Finally, if this little trio of troches answers in other hands as well as they have in mine therapeutically, and at the same time assist legitimate physicians in supplanting the various quack lozenges now so largely and indiscriminately used among the laity, my sole object will be fulfilled.



