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The Journal of the Royal College of Physicians of London

This Journal is concerned with the integration of scientific disciplines in the practice of medicine and, by providing a wide ranging commentary on the growing points of medicine, is an essential complement to the specialised journals.

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*Practitioner, 198, 80, 1967.

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Reference: The Practitioner (1968) 200: 833-835

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Basic NHS Cost: (2 q.i.d.) 29p a day. Availability: Containers of 56 tablets.

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For children of average weight and development:
- 1 month-1 year: 2.5 ml. (150 mg.) 2-4 times daily; 1-2 years: 5 ml. (300 mg.) 2-3 times daily
- 2-6 years: 5 ml. (300 mg.) 3-4 times daily; 6-14 years: 10 ml. (600 mg.) 2-4 times daily

Basic NHS Cost: (5 ml. t.i.d.) 9p, per day.

Availability: Bottles of 150 ml. and 500 ml.

**Side Effects:**

Gastro-intestinal or subjective visual disturbances may occur but are readily reversible on reduction or discontinuation of therapy.

**Precautions:**

Use with caution in patients with liver disease and raised intracranial pressure.

Patients should avoid excessive exposure to sunlight. Possible risks should be carefully weighed against benefits in the first trimester of pregnancy.

Not recommended for infants less than 1 month old.

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Each tablet contains 25 mg. pentazocine hydrochloride

Indications:

For all degrees of pain in acute and chronic conditions;

Adult Dosage:

The dosage should be tailored to the individual patient.

*Usual dose 2 tablets (50 mg.) every 4 hours after meals adjustable within the range of 1-4 tablets every 3-4 hours.

Pediatric Dosage:

1-6 years: The small dosage necessary is more conveniently given by injection.

6-12 years: 1 tablet (25 mg.) every 3-4 hours as necessary

Basic N.H.S. Cost: 100 tablets £1.60.

Presentation: Tablets of 25 mg. pentazocine in packs of 100 and 500.

**Side Effects:**

Dizziness, nausea and vomiting sometimes occur, but tend to decrease after a few doses. The concomitant administration of an anti-emetic is recommended in conditions where nausea and vomiting can occur.

**Precautions:**

Caution in severe renal, hepatic and respiratory impairment and in patients previously on large doses of narcotics. Ambulant patients should not drive nor operate machinery. Until further information is available Fortral should be given with caution in the first trimester of pregnancy.

**Contra-indications**

Established respiratory depression. Raised intracranial pressure.

Severe head injury or pathological brain conditions. Convulsive disorders. Patients receiving MAO inhibitors.

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NEW RATES FOR COLLEGE ACCOMMODATION

Owing to rises in costs and to decimalization, rates for College accommodation, including breakfast, will be charged as follows from 1 April 1971:

- Single room ....................................... £3 per night
- Double room ....................................... £5 per night
- Flatlet (Bed-sitting room for two, bathroom and dressing room) .................................. £7 per night, or £40 per week
- Self-contained flat (Double bedroom, sitting room, half kitchen and bathroom) ..................... £8 per night, or £45 per week

Members are reminded that children under the age of 12 years cannot be admitted, and dogs are not allowed.

Members and associates may, subject to approval, hire the reception rooms for meetings and social functions. The charges for these are:

- Long room (will seat 100) ...................... £30 for each occasion
- Damask room (will seat 50) .................... £20 for each occasion
- Common room and terrace ..................... £20 for each occasion
- Dining room and kitchen ...................... £10 for each occasion

A service charge of ten per cent is added to all accounts to cover gratuities to domestic staff.

For the convenience of members, four car-ports, outside 14 Princes Gate, have been rented by the College and may be hired at a cost of 10s 6d per 24 hours.

Enquiries should be addressed to The Royal College of General Practitioners 14 Princes Gate, London, S.W.7. (Tel. 01-584-6262). Whenever possible bookings should be made well in advance.
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References:
3. Ugeskrift for Laegs. (1968) 126: 204
5. Paper read to the British Dermatological Association Meeting, Aberdeen, July 1968.

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