

CANADA

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THE ACTION OF ANTIPYRIN.

Antipyrin, an alkaloid, which is made synthetically from the Chinolin series, has recently been tried in twenty-seven cases of febrile disorders by Guttman, of Berlin. In quantities of from one dram to one dram and a half, which are best given in two or three doses at intervals of an hour, antipyrin is a powerful and very certain antipyretic. The effects last usually five hours, and frequently much longer. The temperature slowly and gradually falls one hour after the administration of the first dose, and continues falling after the hourly doses. The fall from a dram and half, in three hourly doses, varies from $2\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}^{\circ}$ (Fah.) The duration of the fall varies from six to eighteen hours, that is before the temperature has reached the degree it had before the administration of the drug. The temperature only remains at its lowest point from one to two hours. The rest of the time is occupied in the gradual descent and subsequent ascent of the temperature. Simultaneous with the fall in the temperature, there is a decrease in the pulse rate, and generally profuse sweating. No untoward effects follow its administration with the exception that occasionally it does produce vomiting. It differs from Kairin in the following particulars :—

1. The fall of temperature is much slower from antipyrin.
2. The subsequent rise in the temperature is also slower, and on this account the ascent is never attended with rigors as it frequently is when Kairin has been given.

In many respects its anti-pyretic action more nearly resembles