

Carlsbad water or salts, or the phosphate benzoate or bicarbonate of soda may be given in liberal quantities of warm water. The stomachic tonics, taraxacum or hydrastis may be added, or quinine in the malarial form, colchicum in gouty subjects, and pot. iod. if of syphilitic origin. An emetic in the beginning will sometimes remove the inspissated obstructing plug of mucus. Other hepatic stimulants, such as ipecacuanha, nitro-muriatic acid, the acid pack, etc. Kroll's method of forcing the obstruction by giving large enemata of cold water, 60° to 70° F., once daily, one to four pints, retained as long as possible, is highly recommended by some; it stimulates the peristaltic action of the duct, increases the secretion of the bile, and improves the general condition of the patient; and in a few days the stools indicate that recovery has set in. Gerhardt advises compression of the gall bladder; cases are recorded where the obstruction was thus suddenly overcome. In long continued biliary stasis, Alivia states that the secretion of the biliary acids is greatly diminished, and also the gastric hydrochloric acid secretion, and there is little or no loss of carbonate of sodium, the reaction of the contents of the stomach being usually alkaline, as is also the urine, in which the chlorides are increased, urea is diminished, and the aromatic products increased; and the more marked these characteristics the graver the affection. Hence the use of alkalis for this state is deprecated, and the effects of an acid treatment said to be very satisfactory as regards the restoration of these faulty conditions.

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(The patient was discharged from the hospital on the 21st November, the duct became pervious two weeks after admission.)