

Szinnyei there was a distinct fall of systolic pressure in 13, a rise in 7. A fall of diastolic pressure was present in almost all cases; it usually appeared on the second day, and amounted to 5 to 80 millimeters. The pulse amplitude is usually increased, and this is the truest indicator for the action of the drug. The diuretic effect appeared on the second day in 11 cases, on the third day in 3 cases, and on the fourth day in 2 cases. In four instances the amount of urine voided on the first day exceeded the amount of water injected. Very rarely, the effect is delayed to the fifth to seventh day. The pulse is sometimes slowed before diuresis sets in, but as a rule both phenomena appear at the same time. In the former case there are usually more advanced changes in the myocardium. Disagreeable after-effects on the part of the stomach (anorexia, nausea and vomiting) were seen in four cases. The doses employed were usually 0.4 Gm. during the first two or three days, then 0.3, 0.2, 0.1 Gm., according to the reaction. It is important to use large doses at the beginning of the treatment, and then to gradually taper off. The smallest amount employed for a treatment was 0.9 Gm., the largest 3.2 Gm., the average 1.0 to 2 Gm.

The author concludes that digipuratum is an absolutely reliable drug, indicated in all cases of decompensation. It should be supplemented by an intravenous injection of a cardiac tonic where there is urgency.—*Therap. Monatshft.*, Aug. and Sept., 1910.

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Florence has recently devised and recommended a new reagent for testing for both bile and blood in urine. The solution keeps well, and is made up as follows: Pyridine, 50; alcohol, 50; chloroform, 50; and zinc acetate, 7.5 parts by weight.

When used, two or three cub. cm. of the urine and twice as much of the reagent are mixed up together in a test-tube. On standing the lower layer will be colorless in the absence of bile pigments or blood. If urobilin is present it will show a fine green fluorescence. If biliverdin is present it is green at first, and also slowly develops fluorescence. Blood pigment gives it a tint varying from pink to cherry red. The intensity of the color is, broadly speaking, quantitative. The solutions give very clear spectroscopic bands.—*The Hospital*.

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The seventh International Congress of Dermatology and Syphilography will be held at Rome from September 25 to 29, 1911, under the presidency of Professor T. de Amicis, of Naples.