

At first it appeared that no local irritant effect⁵ accompanied the subcutaneous administration of these preparations, but in about half of the experiments evidence of local irritant effects did appear, sometimes only as a slight indurated nodule appearing within a week or two after the injection, again as an infiltration involving a considerable area and appearing within two or three days. Undoubtedly these preparations⁶ are irritant locally.

These substances are of little or no value as subcutaneous purgatives and do not compare at all favorably with phenolphthalein itself or its tetrachlor derivative. Table II indicates the comparative values as purgatives of phenolphthalein, its tetrachlor derivative and di-sodium phenolphthalein, the data incorporated being obtained from the protocols of dogs, each of which under identical conditions received 0.2 gm. pro kilo of body weight of one or other of these substances.

TABLE I

DRUG AND DOSE	WEIGHT OF DOGS IN KG.	DATE	PURGATION	DRUG IN STOOL	DRUG IN URINE	REMARKS
1 gm. potassium phenolphthalate	5.8	11-28	-	-	+	Marked infiltration occurred necessitating several incisions two weeks later.
		11-29	-	-	+	
		11-30	+	+	+	
		12-1	-	+ trace	+	
		12-2	-	-	+	
1 gm. potassium phenolphthalate	7	11-28	-	-	-	
		11-29	+	-	-	
		11-30	+	+	+	
		12-1	+	-	+	
		12-2	+ very slight	-	+	
1 gm. potassium phenolphthalate	7	11-30	-	-	-	Slight infiltration occurred at point of injection—a small hard nodule.
		12-1	no feces	-	+	
		12-2	+	+	+	
		12-3	-	-	+ trace	
		12-4	-	-	+	

⁵ At this date our results appeared most favorable and we so wrote to Kober and Marshall who unfortunately incorporated this information in their publication.

⁶ The addition of acetic acid for purposes of neutralization results in a hypertonic solution of sodium acetate which in itself may be somewhat irritating. Five cc. solution of sodium acetate of equivalent strength however, was injected under the skin in three dogs, but neither inflammation nor sterile infiltration appeared in any instance.