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ANTIPYRINE IN WHOOPING-COUGH.

During the past few months a great deal has been written about the alleged efficacy of antipyrine in the treatment of whooping cough. From a careful perusal of a number of these articles, we think an unbiased observer must be led to the conclusion that this treatment is not only practically inoperative, but is attended by greater or less dangers.

In Monti's Klinik, in Vienna, twenty-eight cases were carefully treated with antipyrine, in doses ranging between five and thirty grains in the 24 hours, with an entirely negative result; the average duration of the twenty-eight cases being $50\frac{1}{2}$ days. Neither the intensity or the number of paroxysms were in any way influenced. Baginsky records a very similar experience. Tuzek treated his own child, a boy aged four, who was suffering from whooping cough, with 6 grains of antipyrine 3 times daily. Towards the end of the third week the little patient became soporose, had violent convulsive attacks resembling cortical epilepsy. The heart's action was weak and frequent. The pupils were dilated and the temperature subnormal. A maculous exanthem made its appearance. During the whole period of treatment the urine contained acetone. Tuzek attributes all the untoward symptoms to the antipyrine. The case certainly teaches the valuable lesson that antipyrine should always be given with caution, especially to children, when a continuous action is desired. From its direct influence on the albuminous constituents of the blood, its prolonged use is certainly attended with considerable danger.