

of epithelium: in such cases pure vaseline is used, when cicatrization quickly follows in most cases. The method, therefore, consists in destroying the lupoid tissues by pyrogallol, and then allowing the wound to heal under the action of pyrogallol.—*Merck's Annual Report*.

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### Urticaria.

Van Harlingen, in his new text-book, recommends the following for urticaria:

Ext. Belladonnæ.....grn. 1-60 - 1-30

Ergotini .....grn. i

Quininæ Hydrochloridi .....grn. i

Ft. pil. No. 1. Sig.: Two of these pills may be taken every two hours until there is relief or until physiologic symptoms are marked.—*Chicago Clinic*.

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### Indications of Lumbar Anesthesia.

Professor L. Rehn (*Mit. a. d. Grenzgeb. d. Med. u. Chir.*) advises restriction in the use of spinal analgesia, which should never be considered as the method of selection. In comparison with general anesthesia, it is more suitable for older persons and less for children and younger adults. The contraindications comprise purulent processes, arteriosclerosis, disturbances of the central nervous system, and perhaps also extensive tuberculosis. Introduction of the needle between the first and second lumbar vertebrae is to be avoided on account of the risk of injuring the cord.—*International Journal of Surgery*.

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### Veronal-Sodium as Hypnotic.

W. H. Becker believes veronal-sodium to be superior to veronal itself, in that it is readily soluble in water. It is therefore more easily absorbed, and can also be given per rectum where oral administration is not possible or is contraindicated. Becker has tried the salt on a large number of mental cases, and finds that it compares very favorably with the older hypnotics, even where there is a pronounced state of excitation. With an average dose, the drug failed in only 13 to 14 per cent., as compared with 27 to 28 per cent. in cases in which chloral, amylene hydrate, and paraldehyde were used. Even when given per