

SUMMARY

1. The most important factor in the removal of mucus is the mechanical action of the ciliated epithelium.
2. The chief value of expectorants is in thinning the mucus.
3. Ammonium chloride and sodium iodide by "salt action," antimony by its emetic effects, opium by its sedative effect on cough, and terpin hydrate by its action in checking excessive secretion are the most useful expectorants.
4. Opium should be used only when the cough cannot be controlled voluntarily. It should be given alone and not in a mixture with other expectorants.
5. Terpin hydrate may do harm if the bronchitis is associated with a nephritis.
6. Syrup of White Pine is among the "best sellers" and is a typical "shot-gun prescription."
7. It is essential for progress in therapeutics that one drug be given at a time, accurate observation made and careful records kept.

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