

The intimate association of iron with manganese throughout the whole of nature is no less demonstrated in the human body than in the vast mineral formations of the earth. They are found together in the blood, in the bile and in the hair. The proportion of manganese to iron in red blood corpuscles is one in twenty, and it appears to be a very important associate and aid to iron in the human economy.

We have described in the Pharmacopœia an almost endless number and yet the physician rarely employs more than two or three of these. The few that are of practical importance are often objectionable on account of their astringency and tendency to irritate the stomach, constipate the bowels, or injure the teeth.

It is generally conceded that both iron and manganese are absorbed as albuminates, and when they are carried through a process which prepares them for easy and ready absorption and assimilation, they are necessarily more effective, as the stomach is relieved of work which in many cases it is unable to accomplish.

Gude's Pepto-Mangan is an unusually happy combination of iron and manganese in such a way as to be easy of absorption and free from the objectionable effects of other preparations of iron. In its preparation a large amount of egg albumen is used to convert the iron and manganese into a form easy of absorption; there is also sufficient pepsin employed to make the preparation an aid to the digestion, whereas many of the other preparations interfere with this all-important function. The Tr. chloride of iron, which is the most generally used of all preparations in the Pharmacopœia, is very astringent: it can rarely be tolerated by a weak stomach; it discolors and injures the teeth, and always constipates the bowels.

Gude's Pepto-Mangan is free of all these objectionable features, and has the advantage of containing manganese in combination with the iron, which is decidedly synergistic to the action of the latter. This preparation is useful in all forms of anæmia and chlorosis, and is especially indicated in anæmic and chlorotic girls who suffer with dysmenorrhœa and amenorrhœa, and is the most useful of all preparations in cases where iron and manganese are indicated.

In nervous conditions associated with anæmia no preparation can be found of more service than this in combination with strychnia sulphate. It is given in dessert to tablespoonful doses, with or immediately after meals, and may be given in water, sweet milk, or preferably, in most cases, sherry wine. This preparation, as in case with all general tonics, should be given from four to six weeks before any marked improvement is expected.—*Editorial Alabama Medical and Surgical Age.*