

TREATMENT OF URTICARIA.—M. C. Berliner (*Rev. de Med. et de Chir.*). To quiet the troublesome itching resulting from the urticarial lesions, the author makes the following recommendation, which in his hands has proved the most successful: The weals are moistened with cold water and rubbed for ten or fifteen seconds with a few grains of kitchen salt, which adhere to the previously moistened pulp of the index finger. One feels at first a slight burning, followed promptly by an agreeable sensation of coolness, and a notable diminution or even cessation of the itching, after which the papules usually disappear rapidly. Upon the area thus treated, one may then apply a little oxide of zinc ointment or rice or almond powder. If the urticaria is

extensive, it is better, in order to avoid too much irritation of the skin, to apply the salt frictions to successive portions, and not over the whole surface at one time. It goes without saying that one should not neglect the necessary modifications of the diet, and if the urticaria be of toxic origin, a purgative should be prescribed, the best of which is calomel. Lukewarm baths may also prove useful.—*Am. Med.-Surg. Bulletin.*

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