

PARACHLOROPHENOL AS A DISINFECTANT IN TUBERCULOSIS.—Spengler (*Arch. des Sciences biologiques de l'Institut Imp. de Méd. expér. de St. Petersburg*, Tome IV., No. 1) has experimented with this drug, which was introduced into laryngological practice by Simonovsky in 1894. Its antiseptic powers have been proved by Karpow (*ibid.*, Tome II., No. 3) for anthrax, and it has been used as a local application in erysipelas, lupus, corneal ulcers, etc. (1) Experiments in Nencki's laboratory.—(a) Action on pure cultivations of tubercle bacilli on glycerine gelatine. A 1.98 per cent. watery solution of parachlorophenol renders pure cultivations of the bacilli sterile in five minutes; fifteen experiments were made to prove this. (b) Action on

phthisical sputum. The results of forty experiments showed that sputum was always disinfected by the 1.98 per cent. solution in two hours, and in one case in one hour. This longer and more variable time is explained by the difficulty with which antiseptics penetrate the mucous and albuminous substances, which are contained in sputum in various proportions. Unlike albuminates of mercury, those formed by parachlorophenol seem to keep their antiseptic power. (2) Clinical researches in Simonovsky's clinic.—(a) Method: Solutions were prepared by melting the drug in a water bath and mixing it with glycerine in various strengths, from 5 to 10 per cent. upwards. In some cases it was applied pure by melting it into a silver probe or absorbent

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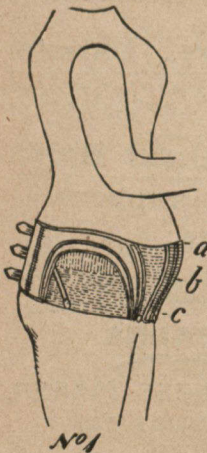
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