

Supplementary Drugs and Other Substances

This chapter includes some drugs not easily classified, herbal medicines, new drugs whose place in therapy is not yet clear, and drugs no longer used clinically but still of interest. There are also monographs on toxic substances, the effects of which may require drug therapy.

Abrus

Abrus Seed; Indian Liquorice; Jequirity Bean; Jumble Beads; Prayer Beads; Regaliz americano; Rosary Beans.

Profile

Abrus consists of the seeds of *Abrus precatorius* (Leguminosae), one of whose constituents is abrin. Abrin, which is closely related to ricin, is considered responsible for the toxic effects of the seeds. Children have died from eating one or more seeds. Toxicity may be less likely to occur if the seeds are swallowed whole, than if they are chewed, because of the hard seed coat. Toxic effects may occur within a few hours or may be delayed for several days after ingestion. Signs and symptoms of abrin poisoning are similar to those described for ricin, p.2379.

Abrus has been used as an oral contraceptive in herbal medicine.

Homeopathy. Abrus has been used in homeopathic medicines.

References.

1. Aslam M, Shaw JMH. Abrus in Asian medicine. *Pharm J* 1998; **261**: 822-4.
2. Fernando C. Poisoning due to Abrus precatorius (jequirity bean). *Anaesthesia* 2001; **56**: 1178-80.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: Indon.: Enkasari; Ika Sariawan.

Absinthium

Absinthe; Absinthii herba; Ajenjo; Assenzio; Fehér ürömfű; Karčičuj kječij žolč; Losna; Mali, Koiruoho; Malört; Pelin; Pelyňková nat'; Wermutkraut; Wormwood; Ziele piołunu.

CAS — 546-80-5 (*α*-thujone); 471-15-8 (*β*-thujone).

NOTE. The following terms have been used as 'street names' (see p.vi) or slang names for various forms of absinthium: Green Fairy; Green Goddess; La Fée Verte.

Pharmacopoeias. In *Eur.* (see p.vii).

Ph. Eur. 6.2 (Wormwood). The leaves or flowering tops, or a mixture of these dried, whole or cut organs of wormwood, *Artemisia absinthium*. It contains not less than 2 mL/kg of essential oil, calculated with reference to the dried drug. Protect from light.

Profile

Absinthium has been used as a bitter. It is also used in small quantities as a flavour in alcoholic beverages, although it is considered in some countries to be unsafe for use in foods, beverages, or drugs. Habitual use or large doses cause absinthism, which is characterised by restlessness, vomiting, vertigo, tremors, and convulsions. Thujone, related to camphor, is the major constituent of the essential oil derived from absinthium.

Homeopathy. Absinthium has been used in homeopathic medicines under the following names: Artemisia absinthium; Artemisia absinthium ex herba siccata; Absinth.

References.

1. Weisbord SD, et al. Poison on line—acute renal failure caused by oil of wormwood purchased through the Internet. *N Engl J Med* 1997; **337**: 825-7.
2. Skyles AJ, Sweet BV. Wormwood. *Am J Health-Syst Pharm* 2004; **61**: 239-42.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Cz.: Nat Pelyňku Praveho.

Multi-ingredient: Austria: Abdomilon N; Eryval; Magentee St Severin; Mariazeller; Sigman-Haustropfen; Virgilcard; **Braz.:** Camomila; **Cz.:** Abdomilon; Contraspán; Eugastrin; Original Schwedenbitter; Zaluđeci Cajova Smes; **Fr.:** Tisane Hepatique de Hoerd; **Ger.:** Abdomilon N; Amara-Pascoe; Amara-Tropfen; Anore X N; Aristochol N; Floradix Multipretten N; Gallémolan forte; Gallémolan G; Gallixer; Gastralon N; Gastritol; Gastrol S; Hepaticum novot; Leber-Galle-Tropfen 83; Lomatol; Majocarmín forte; Majocarmín mite; Marianon; Nervosana; Neurochol C; Paspocankreat; Presselin Blahungs K 4 N; Presselin Dyspeptikum; rohasal; Stomachyst N; Stovalid N; Stullmaton; Unex Amaram; ventri-loges N; **India:** Toniazof; **Ital.:** Assenzio (Specie Composta); Genziana (Specie Composta); **Pol.:** Artemisol; Krople Zoladkowe; **Rus.:** Maraslavin (Мараславин); Original Grosser Bittner Balsam (Оригинальный Большой Бальзам Биттнера); **S.Afr.:** Amara; **Switz.:** Baume; Kemosan Heidelberg-er Poudre; Phytomed Hepato; Pommade au Baume.

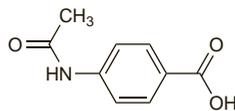
Acedoben (pINN)

Acedobén; Acédobène; Acedobenum. *p*-Acetamidobenzoic acid.

Аце́добе́н

C₉H₉NO₃ = 179.2.

CAS — 556-08-1.



Profile

Acedoben is a component of inosine pranobex (p.884), and has been given orally as the potassium salt in the treatment of skin disorders. Acedoben and its sodium salt have been applied topically.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: Spain: Amplidermis; Hongosan.

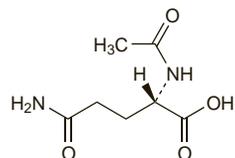
Aceglutamide (rINN)

Aceglutamida; Acéglutamide; Aceglutamidum. *N*²-Acetyl-L-glutamine; 2-Acetylamino-L-glutaramic acid.

Аце́глута́мид

C₇H₁₂N₂O₄ = 188.2.

CAS — 2490-97-3.



Profile

Aceglutamide has been given in an attempt to improve memory and concentration. Aceglutamide aluminium (p.1704) is used as an antacid.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Multi-ingredient: Ital.: Acutil Fosforo; Memovisus; Tonoplus.

Acemannan (USAN, rINN)

Acemanań; Acémannan; Acemannanum; Polymanoacetate.

Аце́маннан

CAS — 110042-95-0.

Profile

Acemannan is a highly acetylated, polydispersed, linear mannan obtained from the mucilage of *Aloe vera* (*A. barbadensis*). It has immunomodulating properties and is an ingredient of topical wound dressing products including those formulated for the oral mucosa.

Preparations

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

USA: Carrasy; DiaB Gel; Oral Wound Rinse; RadiaGel; SaltCept; Ultrax.

Acetic Acid

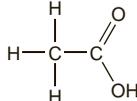
Acide acétique; Ácido acético; Ácido etanoico; Acidum aceticum; Acto rūgštis; Asetik Asit; Ättiksyra; E260; Ecetsav; Eisessig (glacial acetic acid); Essigsäure; Etanoico; Ethanoic Acid; Etikkahappo; Kwas octowy; Kyselina octová.

C₂H₄O₂ = 60.05.

CAS — 64-19-7.

ATC — G01AD02; S02AA10.

ATC Vet — QG01AD02; QS02AA10.



NOTE. The nomenclature of acetic acid often leads to confusion over whether concentrations are expressed as percentages of glacial acetic acid (C₂H₄O₂) or of a diluted form. In *Martindale*, the percentage figures given against acetic acid represent the amount of C₂H₄O₂.

Pharmacopoeias. Glacial acetic acid is included in *Chin.*, *Eur.* (see p.vii), *Int.*, *Jpn.*, and *US*.

Solutions containing about 30 to 37% are included in *Br.* (33%), *Chin.* (36 to 37%), *Int.*, *Jpn.* (30 to 32%), and *Swiss* (30%). Also in *USNF* (36 to 37%).

Dilute acetic acid (6%) is included in *Br.* and *Int.* Also in *USNF*. **Ph. Eur. 6.2** (Acetic Acid, Glacial; Acidum Aceticum Glaciale). A crystalline mass or a clear colourless volatile liquid. F.p. not lower than 14.8°. Miscible with water, with alcohol, and with dichloromethane. Store in airtight containers.

BP 2008 (Acetic Acid (33 per cent)). It contains 32.5 to 33.5% w/w of C₂H₄O₂. It is a clear colourless liquid with a pungent odour. Miscible with water, with alcohol, and with glycerol.

BP 2008 (Acetic Acid (6 per cent)). It contains 5.7 to 6.3% w/w of C₂H₄O₂. It is prepared by diluting Acetic Acid (33 per cent).

USP 31 (Glacial Acetic Acid). A clear colourless liquid with a pungent characteristic odour. B.p. about 118°. Miscible with water, with alcohol, and with glycerol. Store in airtight containers.

USNF 26 (Acetic Acid). It contains 36 to 37% w/w of C₂H₄O₂. It is a clear colourless liquid with a strong characteristic odour. Miscible with water, with alcohol, and with glycerol. Store in airtight containers.

USNF 26 (Diluted Acetic Acid). It contains 5.7 to 6.3% w/w of C₂H₄O₂. It is prepared by diluting Acetic Acid. Store in airtight containers.

Adverse Effects and Treatment

Local or topical application of acetic acid preparations may produce stinging or burning. Ingestion of glacial acetic acid can produce similar adverse effects to those of hydrochloric acid (p.2322), which may be treated similarly.

Uses and Administration

Glacial acetic acid has been used as an escharotic. Diluted forms have been used as an antibacterial (it is reported to be effective against *Haemophilus* and *Pseudomonas* spp.), antifungal, and antiprotozoal in vaginal gels and douches, irrigations, topical preparations for the skin and nails, and in ear drops. Diluted forms have also been used as an expectorant, an astringent lotion, and as treatments for warts (p.1584), callosities, and for certain jellyfish stings (see below). Solutions have also been used to soften ear wax (p.1725) and in the treatment of otitis externa (p.182). Visual inspection of the uterine cervix with acetic acid (VIA) is being investigated as a screening method for cervical cancer, particularly where facilities for cytological methods may be limited.

A solution containing 4% w/v C₂H₄O₂ is known as artificial vinegar or non-brewed condiment. Vinegar is a product of fermentation.

Jellyfish sting. Vinegar or acetic acid 3 to 10% is applied to box jellyfish stings to inactivate any fragments of adherent tentacle^{1,2} (see p.2220). Acetic acid solutions have been reported to be useful in stings by related species³ although they may produce further discharge of venom in some jellyfish.⁴

1. Hartwick RJ, et al. Dismantling the box jellyfish. *Med J Aust* 1980; **1**: 15-20.
2. Fenner PJ, Williamson JA. Worldwide deaths and severe envenomation from jellyfish stings. *Med J Aust* 1996; **165**: 658-61.
3. Fenner PJ, et al. "Morbakka", another cubomedusan. *Med J Aust* 1985; **143**: 550-5.
4. Fenner PJ, Fitzpatrick PF. Experiments with the nematocysts of *Cyanea capillata*. *Med J Aust* 1986; **145**: 174.

Wounds and burns. Infection of wounds (p.1585) and burns (p.1578) with *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* may delay healing. Acetic acid has been used, in concentrations of up to 5%, to eradicate these infections.¹

1. Milner SM. Acetic acid to treat *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* in superficial wounds and burns. *Lancet* 1992; **340**: 61.

Preparations

BP 2008: Strong Ammonium Acetate Solution;

USP 31: Acetic Acid Irrigation; Acetic Acid Otic Solution; Hydrocortisone and Acetic Acid Otic Solution.

Proprietary Preparations (details are given in Part 3)

Arg.: Ecoshampoo; Hexa-Defital Crema Enjuague; Otopen; Pelo Libre Protectora; Pil-G Uso; **Austral.:** Summers Eve Disposable; **Chile:** Soft Kilit; **Fr.:** Para Lentex; **Gr.:** Instare; **Ind.:** Aci-Jel; **UK:** Aci-Jel; EarCalm; Meltus Baby; **USA:** Feminique; Massengill Disposable; Summers Eve Disposable; **Venez.:** Duvagin; Fem Duca.

Multi-ingredient: Arg.: Aglio; Callicida; Detebencil Nit; Fuera Bicho; Hexa-Defital Plus; Microsoma Otica; Uze Active; Yalu; **Austral.:** Aci-Jel; Aqua Ear; Ear Clear for Swimmer's Ear; **Belg.:** Aporil; **Braz.:** A Curitybina; Kalostop; Lacto Vagin; **Canad.:** SH-206; Viron Wart Lotion; VoSoL HC; **Chile:** Summer's Eve Vinagre y Agua; **Cz.:** SolcoGyn; **Fr.:** Nitrol; Ysol 206; **Ger.:** Gehwol Huhnraugen-Tinktur; Solco-Derman; **Gr.:** Otocort; **Hong Kong:** Baby Cough with Antihistamine; Solcoderm; **India:** Otek-AC; Per-focyn; **Ind.:** Phytex; **Ital.:** Oleo Calcareo; **Malaysia:** Solcoderm; **Neth.:** Buckleys Kinderhoestsiroop; **NZ:** Aci-Jel; **Aqua Ear; VoSoL; Pol.:** Acifungin; SolcoGyn; **Rus.:** Bubil (Бубил); Solcoderm (Солкодерм); Solcovagin (Солковэгин); **Spain:** Callicida Cor Pk; Callicida Rojo; Keranin; Nitroina; Quocin; **Switz.:** Coruzol; Solcoderm; SolcoGyn; Waruzol; **Thai.:** Baby Cough Syrup Atlantic; Baby Cough with Antihistamine; **Turk.:** Dilan; Tuba;