

FROM OTHER INDIAN MEDICAL JOURNALS

(Abstracts by the Authors)

INDIAN JOURNAL OF MEDICAL RESEARCH

HYPOGLYCAEMIC ACTIVITY OF HAMILTONIA SUAVEOLENS —
A. C. Desai and M. B. Bhide. Ind. J. Med. Res., 1985, 31 : 86-91.

H. suaveolens has been used traditionally to treat diabetes in India. The alcoholic extract of roots (500 mg/kg, po) caused 45 per cent reduction in blood sugar in normal rats and 37 per cent reduction in blood sugar of alloxanised rats (400 mg/kg, po) at the end of 5th h. Similar reduction was observed in normal rabbits, dogs and monkeys. The ethyl acetate soluble fraction of alcohol extract has shown hypoglycaemic activity of similar magnitude in normal rats at 1/10th the dose but was inactive in alloxanised rat. The possible mechanism of action has been discussed.

HEPATITIS A EPIDEMIC IN KERALA STATE (INDIA) IN 1980 — V. K. Joshi, B. N. Tandon and B. M. Gandhi. Ind. J. Med. Res. 1985, 81 : 96-101.

An epidemic of hepatitis was recorded in 1980 in a primary school in one of the small towns near Cochin in Kerala during September-October 1980. Epidemiological background suggested that source of the infection was well water situated in the school campus. A total of

362 of the 778 registered children between 4 and 10 years of age and 14 of 55 teachers had clinically apparent illness. The onset of the disease was acute and prodromal phase was short. The clinical course was mild and no fatality was recorded. All the patients recovered within 4 to 6 weeks and the epidemic subsided within six weeks. Serological markers of hepatitis virus A and B were tested in the blood samples collected during recovery and convalescence phase. The results revealed that 85% of the children and 71% of adults patients were positive for IgM anti-HAV and total IgM levels were elevated in all of them. Thus these serological findings were diagnostic for Hepatitis Virus A infection, and suggested that the epidemic was of hepatitis A. This is perhaps the first etiologically proved epidemic of hepatitis A in India.

ELECTRON MICROSCOPIC STUDIES OF JEJUNUM OF MICE INFECTED WITH GIARDIA LABBLIA — N. K. Ganguly, R. C. Mahajan, V. Radhakrishna and A. G. Bhagwat. Ind. J. Med. Res., 1985, 81 : 102-110.

Detailed electron microscopic, light microscopic and morphometric studies along with an estimation of the brush enzymes were carried out in mice infected with G. lamblia. There was a decrease