PROMACETIN IN TREATMENT OF LEPROSY 1 PROGRESS REPORT

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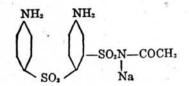
The value of promin, diasone, and sulphetrone in the treatment of leprosy has been reported previously in the medical literature (1, 2, 3). Although any one of these drugs at present might be termed the treatment of choice, the need for more rapidly acting remedies is demonstrated by their exceedingly slow action in effecting a disappearance of the leprosy bacillus from active lesions (4). Furthermore, although these sulfone derivatives are of comparatively low toxicity, they cannot be considered entirely innocuous. Constant medical supervision and periodic laboratory tests are required because of certain toxic manifestations.

Search for a drug of the lowest possible degree of toxicity and of the highest possible therapeutic efficiency in leprosy led to the present clinical evaluation of promacetin.² This drug, at one time referred to as Internal Antiseptic 307, is a sulfone closely related chemically to promin, diasone, and sulphetrone, and has been reported to be of relatively low toxicity (5). The explanation for its low toxicity, perhaps, lies in the evidence that it does not break down into diaminodiphenyl sulfone. Diaminodiphenyl sulfone, the parent substance of promin, diasone, sulphetrone, and promacetin, in comparable doses is a much more toxic product than any one of these derivatives. It is believed, therefore, that the degree of toxicity of the sulfone drugs depends upon the extent to which they break down in the human body into diaminodiphenyl sulfone. Also, for promacetin, studies indi-

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² The drug for this experimental study was supplied by Parke, Davis, and Company, the manufacturers, through Dr. Eugene H. Payne, whose interest stimulated this further investigation. cated that even with massive doses by mouth the blood level of the drug will seldom attain dangerous proportions. These features of promacetin together with evidence (1) collected at Carville in 1943 that it has antileprotic properties on oral administration, even in comparatively small doses, made a further clinical trial of its possibilities in the treatment of leprosy particularly inviting.

Promacetin is sodium 4, 4'-diaminodiphenyl sulfone-2 acetylsulfonamide. It is a white crystalline compound soluble up to 3 per cent in water at room temperature. Its structural formula is as follows:



The therapeutic effectiveness of promacetin compares favorably with sulfapyridine, sulfathiazole, and sulfadiazine in *Streptoccus hemolyticus*, *S. viridans* and *S. pneumoniae* septicemia in mice. Favorable clinical response has been reported in its use for pneumococcus pneumonia in man. Oddly enough, in view of its apparent effectivenes in the acid-fast infection of leprosy in humans, it gives no protection against tuberculosis in guinea pigs (6). Adequate clinical trial in human tuberculosis has not been reported.

CLINICAL MATERIAL

The clinical material for this preliminary evaluation of promacetin included 27 patients—26 of the lepromatous, and 1 of the tuberculoid type (Table 1). Most of the patients were either

1.1.2.2.2.2.2		Lepromatous			
Previous treatment	Nodules, macules and diffuse infiltration	Macules and diffuse infiltration	Residual	Tuberculoid	Total
None	10	6	0	1 State	17
Chaulmoogra oil	2	0	0	0	2
Sulfones	2	0	6	0	8
Total	14	6	6	1	. 27

 TABLE 1.—Classification of clinical material on type of disease,

 type of lesions, and previous treatment.

moderately or far advanced with unfavorable prognoses and, therefore, exceptionally desirable material for treatment evaluation.

Seventeen patients had received no previous treatment for leprosy, two had received chaulmoogra oil, and eight, sulfones. Of the two patients previously treated with chaulmoogra oil, one had not received any treatment for a period of 11 years and presented nodules and heavy diffuse infiltration; the other had not received treatment for 3 years and likewise showed far advanced manifestations, including extensive confluent nodulation with ulceration. Six patients previously treated with sulfones (promin or diasone) showed only residual lesions and were included in the study because, in spite of marked clinical improvement on sulfones, all continued to show after several years of treatment a significant number of leprosy bacilli in the skin scrapings. The intention was to determine the effect promacetin might have in the further reduction of the number of bacilli in the skin of these patients. The remaining two sulfonetreated patients showed active leprous skin lesions consisting of nodules, macules, and diffuse infiltration. One of these represented a clinical relapse; the other, who in addition showed extensive nodular infiltration of the mucous membrane of the palate, tongue and pharynx, represented a clinical progression of the disease several years after the patient had left the hospital and discontinued all treatment against medical advice.

Table 1 further sets forth the type of lesions the patients presented before treatment. Extensive heavy diffuse infiltration, nodules and macules of the skin of the lepromatous type with numerous (4+) or a moderate (3+) number of bacilli present occurred in 13 patients. Moderate diffuse infiltration with associated infiltrated macules showing either numerous, a moderate number, or few (2+) bacilli present occurred in 7 patients. Residual lesions presenting a variable (4 + to 1 + rare) number of bacilli were seen in 6 of the patients previously treated with sulfones, while 2 showed active fresh lesions as already described. The tuberculoid type patient showed plaques and patches of various sizes devoid of bacilli, and a positive lepromin test. All patients, except those showing only residual lesions and the tuberculoid type patient, had extensive involvement of the nasal mucous membrane, and one had involvement of the entire mouth. nasopharynx, and larynx.

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METHODS

Since it is known that the drugs so far found to be effective in leprosy must be administered over a long period of time, the dosage of promacetin was kept comparatively low during the early stages of treatment. Although promacetin has been reported to be of low toxicity when given for short periods of time, it was felt that in this group of patients, where treatment of long duration was contemplated, chances could not be taken with initial large doses. Consequently, the initial daily oral dose of promacetin varied from 0.3 to 0.5 gm. except-for a small number of male patients of good physique who were given an initial daily oral dose of 1.5 gm. Where the initial dose was 0.3 to 0.5 gm. the dosage was increased by 0.3 to 0.5 gm. every 2 weeks until a total daily dose of 1.5 gm. was reached. Then the dosage was increased by either 1.0 gm. or 1.5 gm. up to a maximum of from 3.0 to 4.0 gm. daily. For those patients who were begun on 1.5 gm. daily the dosage was increased by either 1.0 gm. or 1.5 gm. every 2 weeks until the maximum of from 3.0 to 4.0 gm. was reached.

Promacetin was administered at meal time as has been customary at Carville with all other orally administered sulfones. Similarly, rest periods, during which the drug was withheld, were observed at the same intervals by the promacetin group of patients as those observed routinely by all other patients taking orally administered sulfones. The rest periods were observed for 15 days during the latter part of March, July, September, and December.

Careful initial clinical and laboratory examinations were conducted and clinical photographs taken. For follow-up, a weekly clinical examination was done and clinical photographs taken whenever sufficient improvement had occurred in- the skin lesions to make it possible to record such improvement photographically. An erythrocyte and a leucocyte count, hemoglobin determination, and a urinalysis were done on each patient every 3 weeks. Blood and urine levels for promacetin, and skin and nasal scrapings were performed periodically.

Among patients treated with promin, diasone, and sulphetrone at this institution, it is routine practice to administer iron and vitamin therapy when there is only a slight drop in the erythrocyte count, since it is known that there is a tendency on the part of these drugs to produce anemia. In the promacetin group of patients, iron and vitamin therapy, as well as liver and gastric mucosal preparations, were withheld unless the patient

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presented an initial anemia or showed a persistent decrease in the erythrocyte count during treatment. Such a procedure was necessary in order to determine the actual effect of promacetin on the peripheral blood elements. Three patients inadvertently, however, were given blood boosting preparations during insignificant decreases in their erythrocyte counts which were well within the realm of laboratory variations.

This drug evaluation began on March 1, 1948, and data were collected for the purpose of this report up to July 31, 1949.

TOXICITY AND OTHER COMPLICATIONS

Among this group of 27 patients there occurred no severe acute toxic symptoms. Eleven patients had minor complaints of a transitory character occurring either during the first few days of treatment or when the dose of promacetin was increased. Headache, lethargy, and drowsiness occurred in four patients; dizziness in three patients; anorexia and gastric distress in seven; and temporary tinnitus in one (Table 2). Drug fever did not occur. None of the listed symptoms required suspension of treatment and interfered little, if any, with the regular administration of the drug. Sodium bicarbonate taken with the promacetin relieved anorexia and gastric distress.

Symptoms	Number of patients	Per cent	Symptoms	Number of patients	Percent
Headache	4	15	Anorexia and gastric distress	* 7	26
Dizziness	3	11			
Lethargy and drowsiness	4	15	Tinnitus	1	4

TABLE 2.—Minor transitory acute toxic symptoms occurring in 11 patients.

In regard to chronic toxic manifestations, all patients were closely watched especially for anemia, dermatitis, and kidney and liver injury. There was no clinical or laboratory evidence of kidney or liver damage, or of dermatitis.

Initial erythrocyte counts performed prior to treatment with promacetin indicated the need for immediate antianemic therapy in six patients. Since antianemic therapy was begun and maintained, this eliminated any further consideration of these patients in respect to their erythrocytes except that it should be mentioned that their counts gradually rose to normal during active treatment with promacetin. Among two-thirds of the remaining

patients (14 out of 21), a slight depression of erythrocyte counts was noted in the first 2 to 4 weeks of treatment. Antianemic therapy in the form of iron and vitamins was given to four of these patients, but withheld from the remainder. With but three exceptions, the patients who received no antianemic therapy returned as rapidly to their original level of erythrocytes as those who were given antianemic therapy. The clinical course of the disease in these three patients was altered by the development of lepra reactions associated with high fever. These reactions occurred approximately 3 months after inception of treatment, and at the time when a secondary rise in the erythrocyte level had begun. Two of these patients gave a history of similar lepra reactions with severe anemia prior to treatment, making it quite certain that these episodes in at least two of the patients were unrelated to the administration of promacetin. Erythrocyte counts of these patients returned to normal after the subsidence of the reactions with the administration of iron salts, vitamins, and liver extract. A summary of the erythrocyte count behavior follows with the symbol "AT" denoting the administration of antianemic therapy:

Decrease less than 0.5 million per cu. mm	5	patients	(3	AT)	
Decrease between 0.5 and 1.0 million per cu. mm.					
Decrease between 1.0 and 1.5 million per cu. mm.	4	patients	(3	AT)	
No change in erythrocytes	2	patients			
Increase less than 0.5 million per cu. mm.	4	patients			
Increase between 0.5 and 1.0 million per cu. mm.	,1	patient			

Leucopenia was not observed in any of the patients treated. Leucocytosis occurred with the same frequency as would be normally expected in moderately or far advanced leprosy. Mild erythema nodosum occurred in 11 patients. Six of these patients had experienced such reactions prior to treatment with promacetin. Three patients developed lepra reactions during which there was a temporary exacerbation of specific leprous lesions. Two of these patients had experienced similar reactions prior to treatment with promacetin.

One patient who had had frequent previous attacks of iridocyclitis had repeated exacerbations of this condition. Pain from leprous neuritis, although not a common complaint in this group of patients, did persist in a mild form in some patients.

There were six patients altogether in whom treatment was discontinued, but in none of these could the reason for discontinuation of treatment be wholly attributed to promacetin. The reasons were as follows: refusal of patient to cooperate because of psychotic episode unrelated to the drug, 1; irregular discharges (two improved nodular cases, one showing no change), 3; and acute lepra reactions, 2.

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THERAPEUTIC EFFECT

The evaluation of the therapeutic effect of promacetin on leprous skin and mucous membrane lesions was primarily confined to the 21 patients listed in Table 1 as having clinically active lesions when treatment was begun. The patients are referred to as Group I. Those patients, 6 in number, who presented clinically inactive or residual lesions are utilized mainly in this report for a demonstration of bacteriologic response. These patients are referred to as Group II.

Group I patients were treated for periods varying from 4 to 16 months and received a total of 13,811 gm. of promacetin. The total amount for each patient averaged 658 gm. The total amount of the drug taken by each patient may be found in the summary of cases (Table 3).

Early objective improvement in specific skin lesions, as well as in secondary infected skin ulcerations, occurred in all of these patients. The duration of treatment before objective clinical improvement could be detected by careful physical examination varied from 2 to 8 weeks. The earliest change noted was a change in color in the form of a fading or tanning of macules and of the diffusely infiltrated areas of skin. This change usually became evident after about 2 to 4 weeks of treatment. At the same time there was a decrease in the edema of the dermal tissues associated with softening of the skin over the areas of diffuse infiltration and a decrease in the turgidity of the nodules. Definite shrinking of the nodules and decrease in infiltration of the skin did not occur until after at least 1 to 2 months of treatment. Necrosis of nodules before actual decrease in size took place was observed in some patients. Necrosis was followed by ulceration and crusting which rapidly healed. If swelling of the hands and feet were present, this manifestation also responded early and readily.

Mucous membrane lesions of the nose, mouth, and throat showed the effects of early healing in relief obtained from nasal obstruction and hoarseness during the first few weeks of treatment. Objective evidence of healing was observed by the workers in the eye, ear, nose, and throat, and dental departments. The dental officer gave the opinion that promacetin accomplished

cases.
of
3.—Summary
TABLE

Patient	Age	Sex	Type of	Type of skin		Initial smears	Dura- tion of	mum daily	Total		Condition skin end of	Last s	Last smears	Final disposition
No.					Skin	Nasal	treat- ment	dose (gm.)	drug (gm.)			Skin	Nasal	
-							Months	: A)		Weeks				
1920	31	W	L2N	IC pue N	3+	++	16	4.0	1,255	5	Marked improvement	+1	1+	Treatment continued
1931	23	W	L3N	N, DÍ, M	4+	3+	14.5	4.0	1,054	80	do	5+	0	Do.
1932	25	F	L2N2	N, DI, M	++	5+	14.5	3.0	883	eo	do	+ +	0	Do.
1372	(;)	4	L3	N, DI	4+	++	12	3.0	441	9	do	+	4+	Discontinued
1964	35	H	L2N	N, DI	3+	3+	12	3.0	613	4	Moderate improvement	1+	•	Treatment continued
1974	22	W	L2N	N, DI	4+	4+	11	4.0	922	4	do	* 2 +	0	Do.
1966	55	W	L3	N and DI	4+	4+	12	4.0	1,090	4	Marked improvement	4+	+ 5	Do.
1960	38	M	1.2	N, DI, M	3+	3+	11	4.0	1,053	4	op	÷.	(2)~	Absconded
1956	42	M	L2N	N, DI, M	4+	4+	4	3.0	253	4	Slight improvement	4+	(2)	Do.
2010	38	M	L2N	N, DI, M	3+	2 +	4	3.0	256	8	op	3+	1+	Treatment continued
1949	51	W	L2N2	N, DI, M	4+	+	12.7	3.0	181	63	Moderate improvement	2,+	0	Do.
1993	35	M	L2N2	N, DI, M	3+	2+	6.5	2.0	300	61	Slight improvement	++	2+	Do.
2009	65	G4	L3N	N, DI	++	3+	4.3	1.5	175	2	do	4+	+	Do.
1942	42	H	LIN	Id'bas M	2+	4+	10	3.0	382	63	Moderate improvement	+1	0	Discontinued
1959	60	W	II	M	2+	0	6	4.0	758	4	Worse	• 0	0	Do.
1951	24	M	ΓI	M	++	++	13.5	4.0	1,211		Marked improvement	3+	1+	Treatment continued
1953	44	W	H	Plaques	0.	0	13.5	4.0	116	æ.	do	0	0	Do.
1955	15	W	L1	М	2+	1+	13	4.0	1,042	. 2	do	2+	0	Do.
1992	49	P.	L3N2	N, DI, M	4+	4+	1	2.0	163	9	Moderate improvement	4.4	0	Do.
2002	51	F	L1N2	M, DI	2+	++	4.3	3.0	275	.00	Slight improvement	+	0	Do.
2012	25 (T)	Ł	LIN3	M, DI	1+	5 +	4.5	2.0	139	4	do	5+	0	Do.
1695	48	H	L3N	Residual	4+	0	15.5	3.5	924	:	Renewed clearing	+	0	Do.
1947	45	M	L2	Residual	3+	0	e	1.5	118	:	No change	3+	0	Absconded
1759	30	4	LINI	Residual	1+	0	14	1,0	113	:	do	1+	0	Treatment continued
962	55	M	L3N3	Residual	4+	1+	15	1.0	276		Renewed clearing	2+	0	Do.
1902	38	W	L2N	Residual	1+	0	13	3.0	728		do	0	•	Do.
1957	31	H	I.2	Residual	3+	+	12	2.5	454		do	+1.	0	Do.

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the healing of active mucous membrane lesions of the mouth and throat more rapidly than that observed from other sulfones.

Objectively, clinical improvement was progressive throughout the interval of treatment except in one patient.

This patient (No. 1959), whose major skin manifestation was a number of infiltrated lepromatous patches, showed initial improvement which was followed by a temporary outburst of many small erythematous patches. After these lesions subsided, another exacerbation of lesions occurred after 6 months of treatment over larger areas of the body associated with fever, hoarseness, and nasal obstruction typical of an acute lepra reaction. Promacetin was discontinued. After remaining in a reactive stage for about 4 months this patient improved slowly and the skin and mucous membrane became negative for leprosy bacilli. Although there was eventual improvement in this patient he is classified in the summary as in worse condition at the end of the treatment interval than he was when treatment was begun.

Another patient (No. 1942) developed a severe lepra reaction during which there was a temporary increase in the diffuse infiltration associated with high fever, neuritis, and secondary anemia. Promacetin was discontinued because of a continued reaction state and a refractory type of secondary anemia.

Among the patients treated was a psychotic one (No. 1372) who for a period of about 10 months had a remission from the mental disturbance. This patient presented far advanced confluent nodular skin lesions with very heavy diffuse infiltration and, during the remission of the mental state, promacetin was given and taken orally without much difficulty. Improvements in the specific lesions were rapid. By the time the nodules had flattened there was an exacerbation of the mental condition and all medication was refused. Four months later there was a definite return of infiltration and nodulation.

The patient having leprosy of the tuberculoid type (No. 1953) improved markedly and rapidly. This improvement cannot be attributed to promacetin entirely as tuberculoid leprosy generally improves spontaneously. The rapidity with which the lesions regressed in this case, however, suggests an added factor.

Another observation of interest denoting clinical improvement in the skin of some patients was regrowth of hair after about 6 months of treatment. The regrowth was scanty but nevertheless present. It appeared in eyebrow regions where eyebrows has been absent prior to treatment, and on the extremities and chest. Subjective improvement in the sensation of the extremities took place in some patients.

Reduction in the number of leprosy bacilli in the skin did not become noticeable in skin smears until after one year's treatment. A few heavy nodular cases continued to show the same number of organisms in the skin smears although the absolute number of organisms must have been significantly reduced by the decrease in size of the lesions. The mucous membranes showed a reduction in bacilli at an earlier stage and many patients showed negative nasal smears at the end of one year's treatment.

Group II patients, presenting only residual lesions, were treated for periods varying from 3 to 15 months. They received a total of 2,613 gm. of promacetin or an average of 435 gm. per patient. Actual amounts given to each patient may be found in the summary of cases (Table 3).

Group II patients were expected to show little if any change in their skin manifestations. Four of these patients surprisingly, however, began to show renewed clearing of their skin after 3 to 6 months' treatment. One patient left the hospital without permission after 3 months' treatment, and the sixth patient (No. 1759), because of repeated lepra reactions which she also had prior to promacetin treatment, received only interrupted treatment in small doses to the extent of 113 gm. in 14 months. These two patients showed no change in the skin, but the repeated lepra reaction experienced by one of them gradually abated.

There was a reduction in the number of leprosy bacilli in the skin of all of these patients who showed renewed clearing of the skin, and one became negative. While two had positive nasal smears at the inception of treatment, all of them had negative nasal smears at the end of the treatment interval.

The clinical condition of Group I patients at the end of their treatment interval is classified in Table 4. Status in regard to the bacterioscopic condition of skin and mucous membranes of both groups of patients is given in Table 5.

	Clinical status						
Treatment Period	Marked improve- ment	Moderate improve- ment	Slight improve- ment	Worse	Total		
Number patients treated 12 months or more	8	2			10		
Number patients treated 6 months-12 months	1	3	2	1	7		
Number patients treated 3 months-6 months			4		4		
TOTAL	9 (43%)	5 (24%)	6 (28%)	1 (5%)	21		

TABLE 4.—Clinical status of patients (Group I) at end of treatment interval.

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		Ba	cteriolo	gic stat	us	
Treatment period	No cl	- nange	Reduc bac		Neg	ative
	Skin	Nasal	Skin	Nasal	Skin	Nasal
Number patients treated 12 months or more	4 (1)	1	5 (3)	3	(1)	4 (2)
Number patients treated 6 months- 12 months	4	1	2	0	1	3
Number patients treated 3 months- 6 months	3 (1)	0	1	2	0	2

TABLE 5.—Bacteriologic status of patients at end of treatment interval.

Numbers in parentheses represent Group II patients (residual lesions); plain numbers Group I. Discrepancy in number is accounted for by omission of those patients who had negative skin smears or nasal smears at beginning of treatment and remained negative.

Clinical photographs of representative cases serve further to illustrate the effect of promacetin on leprous lesions (Figs. 1 and 2).

DISCUSSION

The final status of these 27 patients at the end of their individual treatment intervals was on the whole improved. Those who had no prior sulfone treatment, in addition to objective improvement, showed the usual subjective improvement manifested by an air of well being, increase in appetite and weight gain. Those who had long periods of treatment with sulfones prior to promacetin seemed to benefit by a change in treatment as shown by the renewed clearing of their skin and by the further reduction of leprosy bacilli in their specific lesions.

The early changes in macules and infiltrations observed following treatment might be looked upon by the experienced leprologist as possibly due to the spontaneous forces of natural regression aided by rest and hospital care. This is not believed to be a tenable explanation for the improvement in all patients. The change in the various lesions was remarkably uniform in time and appearance in all patients. It was sustained as long as promacetin was administered. Withdrawal of the drug was followed by a reappearance of lesions in due time. All of these considerations point to the drug administered as the causative agent for the improvement observed.

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Early improvement in infected skin ulcerations suggests that promacetin, in addition to having antileprotic properties, is capable of combating secondary infections. Relief from nasal obstruction and dryness of the throat sustained by patients taking the drug also is evidence in favor of its ability to combat ordinary infections.

It was found in the determination of promacetin blood levels that the blood level remained fairly constant between 1.5 and 2.0 mg. per 100 cc. of blood on oral doses varying from 3.0 to 4.0 gm. daily irrespective of the length of teatment. Urine levels behaved differently. In the early weeks and months of treatment the urine level on the stated dosage averaged around 25 to 50 mg. per 100 cc. of urine. After 6 to 9 months of treatment the urine levels tended to increase going as high as 200 to 250 mg. per 100 cc. of urine. Eventually, some patients excreted by way of the kidneys almost as much of the drug daily as was administered. An adequate explanation for the increase observed in the urine promacetin level after prolonged treatment while there was very little increase in the blood level of the drug cannot be given at present. After prolonged treatment significant amounts of promacetin were excreted in the urine up to 12 days following discontinuation of the drug.

The opinion expressed by some that sulfones are of no value in tuberculoid leprosy is probably influenced by the feeling that this type of leprosy is not in need of treatment. The improvement noted in the patient of this type treated with promacetin was certainly more striking and rapid than that usually observed without treatment.

CONCLUSIONS

Objective clinical improvement of skin and mucous membrane lesions of lepromatous leprosy is observed to occur following the oral administration of promacetin. The improvement noted is uniform, universal and sustained; therefore, it cannot be wholly attributed to spontaneous factors.

Reduction in the number of leprosy bacilli in the skin and mucous membrane follows clinical improvement. Skin smears commence to show a noticeable reduction of bacilli at the end of one year's treatment while many patients show an absence of bacilli in the mucous membrane at this time.

Promacetin is well tolerated orally even upon prolonged administration of doses as high as 3.0 to 4.0 gm. daily. Slight depression of the erythrocyte count may occur during the first

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few weeks of treatment. Unless there are other complications of the disease present, such depressed counts usually return to the original level spontaneously. Before it can be definitely stated that promacetin does or does not have the property of producing severe grades of anemia when used in the treatment of uncomplicated leprosy, further blood studies on a larger group of patients are necessary.

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Renewed clearing after promacetin therapy of apparently stationary residual lesions in patients previously treated with sulfones suggests that a wider application should be made of alternating or combined methods of treatment in leprosy.

Promacetin apparently possesses chemotherapeutic properties against human leprosy. Its lack of protection against tuberculosis of guinea pigs and its apparent effectiveness in another acid-fast infection, human leprosy, present interesting implications as to the future choice of experimental drugs for trial in both human leprosy and human tuberculosis.

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DESCRIPTION OF PLATE

PLATE 11.

FIG. 1. Photographs showing response to treatment of extensive nodulation of the skin. A, before treatment; B, after 12 months' treatment.
FIG. 2. Photographs showing response to treatment of diffuse infiltration and small discrete nodules. A, before treatment; B, after 4 months' treatment.

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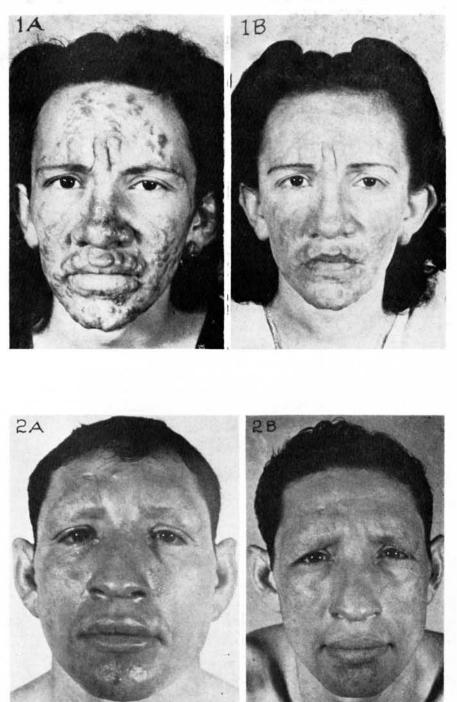


PLATE 11.