

and was maintained. Pulmonary ventilation seemed adequate but the "crowing" persisted during the entire procedure.

Two years later the patient returned for a similar operative procedure. Evipal sodium, 400 mg. in a 4 per cent solution, was used instead of sodium pentothal for induction of anesthesia. Anesthesia proper was again maintained by nitrous oxide at the beginning followed by cyclopropane. There were no respiratory or other complications.

There were at least 20 other patients in whom it was possible to compare the effects of induction of anesthesia by administering sodium pentothal at one time and evipal sodium at another time. In every instance in which sodium pentothal produced signs of respiratory vagal stimulation these signs were either absent or greatly diminished following the administration of evipal sodium.

In the entire series observed during the past three years, it cannot be claimed that the signs of respiratory vagal stimulation in question were never observed following the intravenous injection of evipal sodium. Coughing, laryngeal spasm, and bronchiolar constriction did occur at times, but the rarity of serious complications of this type was sufficiently convincing so that the use of evipal sodium was adopted as the barbiturate of choice to produce induction of anesthesia.

#### SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

A re-evaluation on the use of evipal sodium for the induction of anesthesia has been made. Good results have been obtained by the intravenous injection of 10 cc. of a 4 per cent solution for the average adult patient.

The main advantage of this procedure is the marked decrease in quantity and in severity of signs of respiratory vagal stimulation characterized by coughing, laryngeal spasm and bronchiolar constriction ordinarily observed with other short-acting barbituric acid derivatives.

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#### AMERICAN BOARD OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

Written examinations of the American Board of Anesthesiology will be held in various locations, July 18, 1952. The oral examinations will be held in Swampscott, Massachusetts, September 28-October 1, 1952.