

References

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Anesthesia

UTERINE CONTRACTION Analysis of contractures of rabbit uterine segments produced by cocaine and other local anesthetics showed that potency in producing contractures was unrelated to that in producing local anesthesia. Contractures were not produced by potentiation of endogenous catecholamines or by any mechanism related to stimulation of alpha-adrenergic, oxytocin, serotonin or acetylcholine receptors. The contractures were calcium-dependent and disappeared more rapidly than responses to acetylcholine or noradrenalin in a calcium-free medium. They were restored by strontium and by calcium. It is proposed that cocaine causes labilization of calcium loosely bound in the membrane in rabbit uterine segments and that this leads to contracture. (Daniel, E. E., and Wolowyk, M.: *Contractile Response of the Uterus to Cocaine*, *Canad. J. Physiol.* 44: 721 (Sept.) 1966.)