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Drugs

ETHACRYNIC ACID The acute hemodynamic effects of intravenous ethacrynic acid (100 mg.) were studied in 27 patients. One hour following the drug there were significant decreases in pulmonary blood volume, cardiac output and stroke volume. Urine flow in the study period ranged from 800 to 1,400 ml. The physiologic basis for the beneficial effects of this drug in the treatment of pulmonary edema is related to decreased pulmonary blood volume and previously noted decreased plasma volume. (*Samet, P., and others: Acute Effects of Intravenous Ethacrynic Acid Upon Cardiovascular Dynamics, Amer. J. Med. Sci.* 255: 78 (Jan.) 1968.)

QUININE BLINDNESS Blindness due to quinine overdose can be treated only by producing retinal vasodilation. The most effective known method for producing this is stellate ganglion block. (*Bricknell, P. P., and others: Stellate Ganglion Block in Treatment of Total Blindness Due to Quinine, Brit. Med. J.* 2: 400 (Nov.) 1967.)