used on blood containing halothane, the determinations were used only for $(A\text{-}V)O_2$.[6] This was presumably valid, since in the present study the arterial and venous O_2 determinations were equally affected by Van Slyke analysis in the presence of halothane, and $(A\text{-}V)O_2$ was insignificantly affected.

The blood gas analyses of this study were done by Miss Linda L. Richardson and Miss Rebecca D. Machin.

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Drugs

HEPARIN Quantitative determinations of heparin in blood at various infusion rates were done during treatment of chronic renal failure by hemodialysis. Blood levels of heparin varied between 5 and 10 μg/ml when a single dose of 50 mg heparin was administered, followed 10 to 20 minutes later by a continuous infusion of 0.3 mg heparin per minute. This applied to patients weighing between 49 and 60 kg. One patient wegihing 82 kg received 0.5 mg heparin/minute. The infusions were maintained for 11 to 15 hours for a total of 210 mg heparin in 12 hours, excluding the 50 mg initial injection. Coagulation time averaged 60 minutes at blood levels of 5 μg heparin/ml blood. At the end of the heparin infusion, the rate of decline of blood levels was independent of the initial heparin concentration. At all concentrations heparin had a half-life of two hours. This was true in all patients, including two who had bilateral nephrectomies. The rate of heparin elimination or inactivation was the same for oliguric or anuric patients and normal individuals, indicating a predominantly extrarenal disposition of heparin. (*Somm, P.: A Study of Continuous Heparinization during Intermittent Hemodialysis, Klin. Wschr. 46: 474 (May) 1968.*)

HYPERTHYROIDISM Imipramine, nortriptyline, chlorpromazine, perphenazine, and chlordiazepoxide were more toxic in hyperthyroid than in healthy mice, while meprobamate and reserpine were not. The increased toxicity was not prevented by pretreatment with phenoxybenzamine or pronethalol. All sedative drugs appeared to have greater depressant effects in hyperthyroid than in normal mice. The margin of safety of phenothiazines, and possibly other drugs, may be reduced in uncontrolled hyperthyroidism in man. (*Ashford, A., and others: Toxicity of Depressant and Antidepressant Drugs in Hyperthyroid Mice, Brit. Med. J. 1: 217, (April) 1968.*)