

In the immediate postoperative period the patient had excess secretions. Since no anticholinergics were given, adrenergic blockade producing relative parasympathetic stimulation and the surgical dissection around the trachea probably contributed to secretion formation. At no time preoperatively or postoperatively did the patient have symptoms of postural hypotension.

## REFERENCES

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 Drugs

**ANESTHETICS AND WATER STRUCTURE** Pauling and Miller proposed independently that the presence of an anesthetic gas in tissue induced a cage-like arrangement of hydrogen-bonded water molecules. If during anesthesia the number of hydrogen-bonded water molecules in tissue is increased, then the movement of an average water molecule should be hindered. A change in the flux of tritiated water could not be detected in rat cecum exposed *in vitro* to 20 per cent cyclopropane. However, the histologic injury in this tissue proved to be greater than those in identical tissues not exposed to cyclopropane. When the cyclopropane concentration was reduced to approximately 10 per cent, the histologic appearances were the same in exposed and unexposed tissue, and under these circumstances water flux in exposed tissue was delayed by 12 per cent compared with unexposed tissues. If the mechanism of this decrement is the same as predicted by theory, the present observations indicate that cyclopropane may induce minute hydrate crystals or an "ice cover" in tissues. (Berger, E. Y., Pecikyan, F. R., and Kanzaki, G.: *Anesthetic Gas and Water Structure: Cyclopropane Effect on Water-<sup>3</sup>H Flux across the Gut*, *Amer. J. Physiol.* 217: 414 (Aug.) 1969.)