
The first report of photosensitivity to the germicide 3,3',4',5-tetrachboroalicylanilide (TCSA) came within a year of its widespread use as a soap additive in England and in the United States. Many similar case reports followed, leading to the removal of TCSA from soaps. Since that time the halogenated salicylanilides have been used in research studies of the mechanisms of photoallergy. This monograph reviews that story. While the brief introductory section places photobiology in some sort of perspective and defines phototoxicity and photoallergy, it is too sketchy to instruct those not familiar with the area. A short section on the chemistry of antimicrobial agents serves mainly to illustrate the family of compounds to which the salicylanilides belong.

Some of the mechanisms of soap photodermatitis are filled in by the authors' own investigations. Longwave ultraviolet radiation of salicylanilides in solution resulted in changes in absorption spectra and promoted firm binding to skin and other proteins. Modified immunodiffusion and immunofluorescent techniques detected no humoral immunoglobulin antibodies against either the salicylanilide or its hapten-protein complex, and no contact or phototoxic contact sensitivity could be induced in recipients by transfer of serum from TCSA-sensitive animals. The macrophage migration inhibition factor and the lymphocyte transformation test were used as in vitro methods to demonstrate a cell-mediated immune mechanism responsible for the salicylanilide photocontact or photoallergic dermatitis. Evidence is also presented for the role of TCSA as both a contact and photocontact sensitizer and for the necessity of both hapten and carrier protein in antigen function.

One of the chief contributions of this monograph is the extensive review and criticism of the literature. The remainder of the book presents, expands, justifies and explains in medical journal form the Ph.D. thesis research work of one of the authors. A pleasant and concise means of summarizing some of the major aspects of the halogenated salicylanilide story is combined with one rather long, but readable and informative, research paper.

John A. Parrish, M.D.
Boston, Massachusetts

Allergic Diseases Diagnosis and Management, Edited by Roy Patterson, M.D. J. B. Lippincott Company, Philadelphia, 1972. (649 pp, $23.75)

ALLERGIC DISEASE Diagnosis and Management is an informative text relating primarily to the pathogenesis and treatment of atopic disease. The cohesive style of the chapters reflects each contributor's association with the editor, Dr. Roy Patterson. Lucidly and accurately written, as well as organized, this text is pertinent to all dermatologic disciplines.

The initial chapters comprise a succinct introduction to the immunologic basis of atopy and other disorders of allergy. Immunoglobulin E, including its interaction with the mast cell, is of particular current interest. The mechanism of release, subsequent participation, as well as inhibition of histamine, slow reacting substance of anaphylaxis, and other mediators of the acute inflammatory reaction are described. One section is devoted to a survey of clinically applicable techniques available for distinguishing atopic from nonimmunologic disorders.

The pathogenesis, clinical manifestations, and treatment of anaphylaxis are amply reviewed. Although brief, the chapter devoted to urticaria provides a practical approach to this vexing problem. Atopic dermatitis is succinctly described and includes a review of current thoughts pertinent to its pathogenesis and treatment. The chapter devoted to drug reactions is written in detail noted in few other publications. This section includes descriptions and color plates of various dermatologic manifestations consequent to drug hypersensitivity. Drug interaction, intolerance, and factors influencing immunologic responsiveness to such drugs are included. The clinical patterns attributed to each drug are summarized in a detailed chart at the end of the section. The section on contact dermatitis, including a review of T and B cell relevance to delayed hypersensitivity, also includes recent therapeutic implications.

Attention obviously is directed in great detail to the allergic status. The techniques of allergic extract injection therapy are succinctly described. In fact, no subject in which IgE mediated mechanism has been suggested is omitted. Entities such as allergic conjunctivitis, food allergy, vasomotor rhinitis and difficult diagnostic problems broaden the view of this text.

Printed in lucid type, this book is outlined in an orderly, accurate, and readable style. Occasional