

neuralgia in age and sex incidence. Length of history varied from six months to more than 20 years. Ninety-seven patients were followed up for one to four years, and 34 patients, all early failures, for less than a year.

In 24 cases there were no side effects and in 61 they were mild. In 30 patients the side effects were moderate and persistent but thankfully accepted in return for control of pain. In 16 cases they were severe and treatment had to be stopped. In 13 of these there was a generalized skin reaction, usually within four to eight weeks of starting treatment but in two cases not for six and eight months. The incidence of this complication overall was 10%.

Apart from failure due to side effects there were 12 patients who had made no response at all to treatment and the remainder of the group of early failures were due

to acquired drug resistance. Twenty-four patients were late failures who had broken away from control after a good initial response. The period of control before drug resistance varied from six to 12 months to four years. It seemed clear that there was evidence of a tendency to acquire eventual resistance to Tegretol.

Seventy-nine patients (60%) were classed as successes, there being a very good response in 29, good in 35, and moderate in 15. Seventeen had entered a lasting remission whilst being treated but the remainder had been treated continuously, except for variable and limited remissions, for one to four years.

He felt, however, that this figure was misleading and one should not exclude from the successes many patients who had experienced many months or years of relief from pain before the drug became ineffective.

The August 1966 Issue

THE AUGUST 1966 ISSUE CONTAINS THE FOLLOWING PAPERS

Positive contrast cerebral ventriculography using water-soluble media R. F. HEIMBURGER, J. E. KALSBECK, R. L. CAMPBELL, and J. MEALEY, JR.

Biochemical changes after spontaneous subarachnoid haemorrhage. Part I *The biochemical problem* MONAMY BUCKELL. Part II *The patient on admission* MONAMY BUCKELL, ALAN RICHARDSON, and MARTIN SARNER

Effect of denervation on the red and white fibres of the pectoralis muscle of the pigeon K. M. CHERIAN, F. D. BOKDAWALA, N. V. VALLYATHAN, and J. C. GEORGE

Continuous muscle spasm in intramedullary tumours of the neuraxis P. J. O'CONNOR, C. B. WYNN PARRY, and R. DAVIES

'Intermittent ischaemia' of the cauda equina due to stenosis of the lumbar canal R. JOFFE, A. APPLEBY, and V. ARJONA

Surgical management of congenital spinal lesions associated with abnormalities of the cranio-spinal junction W. BRADFORD DELONG and RICHARD C. SCHNEIDER

Parexysmal dysarthria and other transient neurological disturbances in disseminated sclerosis M. L. E. ESPIR, SYLVIA M. WATKINS, and HONOR V. SMITH

Chloroquine myopathy M. J. EADIE and T. M. FERRIER

Unusual type of benign X-linked muscular dystrophy ALAN H. EMERY and F. E. DREIFUSS

Augmentation bruit of the vertebral artery C. MILLER FISHER

The persistent hypoglossal artery J. G. BLAIN and J. LOGOTHETIS

Decerebrate rigidity with preservation of consciousness JAMES H. HALSEY and ALLAN W. DOWNIE

See-saw nystagmus DAVID A. DRACHMAN

Peripheral motor nerve conduction in elderly demented and non-demented psychiatric patients RAYMOND LEVY and ELMAN W. POOLE

Fluctuating and intermittent facial weakness following a local anaesthetic M. KINSBOURNE and GEOFFREY RUSHWORTH

Effect of L-phenylalanine on central nervous system elements in tissue culture L. LISS and H.-D. GRUMER

Book reviews

Copies are still available and may be obtained from the PUBLISHING MANAGER

BRITISH MEDICAL ASSOCIATION, TAVISTOCK SQUARE, W.C.1, price 18s. 6d.