AS PER PCI REGULATIONS

THIRD YEAR B. PHARM. SEMESTER-VI

EXPERIMENTAL PHARMACOLOGY-III

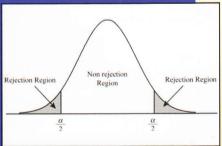
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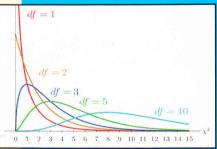
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Contents

Experiment No.	Experiment Title	Pag
	Guide to use this book	
1.	Dose calculation in pharmacological experiments. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	8.
2.	Antiallergic activity by mast cell stabilization assay. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	180
3.	Study of anti-ulcer activity of a drug using pylorus ligand (SHAY) rat model and NSAIDS induced ulcer model. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	1
4.	Study of effect of drugs on gastrointestinal motility. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	1
5.	Effect of agonist and antagonists on guinea pig ileum. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	23
6.	Estimation of serum biochemical parameters by using semi- autoanalyser. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Swaha Satpathy)	Z
7.	Effect of saline purgative on frog intestine. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	38
8.	Insulin hypoglycemic effect in rabbit. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Swaha Satpathy)	4
9.	Test for pyrogens (rabbit method). (Contributed by Dr. Swaha Satpathy and Dr. Arjun Patra)	45
10.	Determination of acute oral toxicity (LD50) of a drug from a given data. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Swaha Satpathy)	45
11.	Determination of acute skin irritation / corrosion of a test substance. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	61
12.	Determination of acute eye irritation / corrosion of a test substance. (Contributed by Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi and Dr. Arjun Patra)	61
13.	Calculation of pharmacokinetic parameters from a given data. (Contributed by Dr. Gourishyam Pasa and Dr. Ghanshyam Panigrahi)	74
14.	Biostatistics methods in Experimental Pharmacology (central tendency) (Contributed by Dr. Gourishyam Pasa)	85
15.	Biostatistics methods in Experimental Pharmacology (student's t test, ANOVA). (Contributed by Dr. Gourishyam Pasa)	98
16.	Biostatistics methods in Experimental Pharmacology (Chi-square test, Wilcoxon Signed Rank test). (Contributed by Dr. Gourishyam Pasa)	110
	Appendices	118
	Bibliography	121

Experiment No. 9

TEST FOR PYROGENS (RABBIT METHOD)

(Chapter Contributed by Dr. Swaha Satpathy and Dr. Arjun Patra)

Purpose:

At the end of practical class, the students shall be able to:

- 1. Know the detail about pyrogen test.
- 2. Know about the samples which should be subjected to pyrogen test.
- 3. Know the in vitro and in vivo methods of pyrogen testing.

Terminology:

Pyrogen: These are the agents that cause rise in temperature which can be polysaccharide or protein in nature.

Endotoxin: It is a type of pyrogen and is a component of outer cell wall of Gram negative bacteria. Chemically it is a lipopolysaccharide.

Description:

Pyrogens are by-products of bacterial metabolism and increases body temperature when administered parenterally. These are produced from all types of bacteria and closely related to bacterial antigens. Chemically they are lipids comprise of complex polysaccharide or polypeptide molecules containing phosphorous and nitrogen. They may enter into any parenteral preparations and make it pyrogenic. Pharmaceuticals such as; sodium citrate solution, dextran and many antibiotics prepared by fermentation process are especially liable to pyrogenicity. Hyperthermia, body aches, chills, rise in arterial blood pressure are the symptoms of pyrogenic reactions. Intravenous preparations before use should be carefully checked for pyrogenicity otherwise it would cause serious adverse effects in the patient. Pyrogenic solutions are either discarded or made pyrogen free (if possible by adsorption on charcoal, heating or distillation).

Objective: To determine the pyrogen free nature of given sample of the parenteral preparation in rabbit.

Principle: Human and rabbits are equally reactive to the threshold level of pyrogenic samples when administered intravenously. The assay is based on the increase in body temperature of rabbit after intravenous injection of the test compound as a sterile solution. As per LP., B.P. and U.S.P. a sample is considered pyrogenic and rejected if the increase in body temperature in rabbits within 3 hours after i.v. administration of the sample exceeds 2.4°C. This test is important because presence of pyrogenic substances (exogenous or