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ACETYLMETHYL-SALICYLATE FOR PAIN RELIEF

Wanda L. Campbell, 123 Jackson Blvd., Terre Haute, Ind.

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My invention relates to a new method for the alleviation of surface pain in the form of itching, hives, rashes and bites and stings of insects, and more particularly, it relates to the alleviation of such forms of pain by the application to the affected areas of the body compositions comprising as an essential active ingredient acetyl methyl salicylate.

Pain occurs in many different forms and degrees as well as in different parts of the body and accordingly many different types of agents are required for the alleviation of these different kinds and forms of pain. My invention is concerned with the alleviation of different forms of pain which normally occur on the surface of the human body in the form of hives, rashes and the like, or by the bites or stings of insects such as bees, ants, wasps, chiggers and the like, which are usually followed by pain in the form of intense itching and the formation of welts. The application of my new anodyne agent to surfaces so affected rapidly and usually completely eliminates such forms of pain. It should however, in no sense be regarded as a curative agent for the basic cause of the pain.

The essential active ingredient of my new anodyne agent is acetyl methyl salicylate used preferably in the form of a 1–20% by weight solution or suspension thereof in a suitable inert pharmaceutical carrier. The inert carrier for the acetyl methyl salicylate can be varied somewhat depending upon the preferred method and form of application, as well as the concentration of the active ingredient and can be employed satisfactorily in either lotion or ointment form. In general, I can use as the inert carrier any agents customarily used in making lotions or ointments suitable for application to the human skin and which are at the same time inert to the actyl methyl salicylate, that is, which do not react with or decompose the actyl methyl salicylate under the conditions of manufacture, storage and use of the anodyne composition. Agents which are also solvents for the acetyl methyl salicylate to the degree required are preferred but suspensions or emulsions of the actyl methyl salicylate can be satisfactorily used. When used in such forms, however, the acetyl methyl salicylate is preferably employed in finely divided form. Suitable inert solvent carriers for the actyl methyl salicylate include ethanol, isopropanol, and polyethylene glycols.

With the active agent of my new anodyne composition, acetyl methyl salicylate, I can also use other ingredients to aid and supplement the effect of the acetyl methyl salicylate, so long as such added ingredients meet the same definition for inertness set forth above. Such ingredients include perfumes to improve the odor of the composition, lanolin to prevent the drying of the skin on which the composition is used, emulsifying and suspending agents if a non-solvent for the acetyl methyl salicylate is employed, agents such as oils and waxes to give body to the composition when used in ointment form, as well as other ingredients well-known to those skilled in the art.

The following specific examples will illustrate the composition and method of producing my new anodyne composition but it is distinctly understood that I am not limited either to the specific methods of manufacture set forth therein or to the specific ingredients used in these specific examples which are given merely to illustrate the production of my new anodyne compositions containing acetyl methyl salicylate using any of the customary methods of making either lotions or ointments.

Example I

An ointment was prepared by thoroughly mixing 20 g. of acetyl methyl salicylate with 80 g. of either Carbowax 1500 or Carbowax 1540 (polyethylene glycols made by Carbide & Carbon Chemicals Corporation).

The resulting composition was in the form of a semi-hard ointment which could be easily spread upon the affected surfaces of the skin.

Example II

A lotion containing acetyl methyl salicylate was prepared in suitable form for application to the skin as follows:

A mixture of 9 g. lanolin, 50 g. stearic acid and 10 g. acetyl methyl salicylate was prepared and heated to 70° C. A second mixture consisting of 1 g. 2-amino-2-methyl-1,3-propanediol, 18 g. propylene glycol and 120 g. of water was prepared, heated to 70° C. and then thoroughly mixed with the previously prepared and heated mixture of lanolin, stearic acid and acetyl methyl salicylate.

Example III

Another suitable form of lotion was prepared as follows:

A mixture of 45 g. stearic acid, 12 g. white oil, 20 g. lanolin and 100 g. amino methyl salicylate was prepared and heated to 70° C. To this was then added a similarly prepared mixture of 15 g. 2-amino-2-methyl-1,3-propanediol, 100 g. glycerine, 150 g. specially denatured B.A. alcohol, and 1,150 g. of water, this mixture being similarly heated to 70° C. before the mixing. To the resulting mixture was then added a mixture of 5 g. Kraystay (a specially purified extract of carrageen or Irish moss) and 500 g. water. This mixture was then added to the mixture of ingredients prepared as above described and gave a highly satisfactory form of lotion.

Example IV

My new anodyne composition in a vanishing cream ointment base was prepared as follows:

A mixture of 9 g. of lanolin, 50 g. stearic acid and 10 g. acetyl methyl salicylate was first prepared and heated to 70° C. A second mixture consisting of 1 g. amino methyl propanediol, 18 g. propylene glycol, 120 g. water and perfume as desired was prepared and similarly heated to 70° C. The two mixtures were then thoroughly mixed with agitation and stirred until cold.

My new anodyne composition in each of the forms illustrated above has been found to be effective in giving immediate relief of the irritation caused by chigger biting and in most cases, no severe hemorrhagic development from the bites. It has likewise been effective in stopping the swelling and pain of wasp stings and mosquito bites. The application of the anodyne agent in ointment form has been found to be particularly effective in stopping the

itching and blistering of the arms and face caused by allergies resulting from wheat, grasses, etc.

Now having described my invention, what I claim as new and novel is:

A method for the alleviation of pain occuring on the surface of the human body and resulting from the bites and stings of insects and from hives and rashes, which comprises applying to the affected areas compositions containing as the essential active ingredient from 1 to 20% by weight of acetyl methyl salicylate.

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