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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

FERDINAND W. NITARDY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO E. R. SQUIBB & SONS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW YORK

RECTAL ANÆSTHETIC

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This invention relates to rectal anæsthetics having an ether-oil base.

As hitherto constituted, combinations of ether with oils, though in some respects advantageous for bringing about rectal anæsthesia, have been seriously defective in speed of action, taking about an hour to induce the required condition.

This invention has for its object the provision of ether-oil rectal anæsthetics characterized by accelerated activity and other valuable properties.

In the practice of this invention, ether-oil combinations are mixed with acetylsalicylic acid. The oil may be any oleaginous material—e. g., liquid petrolatum, olive oil, lanolin—or an equivalent thereof, and is preferably used in the proportion of between one-half and three times the volume of ether. Additional substances, preferably paraldehyde, may also be included.

Presumably by reason of a synergistic effect exercised by the acetylsalicylic acid upon the ether, mixtures constituted in accordance with this invention function with extraordinary rapidity, accomplishing rectal anæsthesia in about ten minutes; and the local insensibility so induced is of exceptional quality and of gratifying safety. Furthermore, the acetylsalicylic acid acts as a powerful analgesic on the painful mucous membranes, and thus, by preventing irritation, forestalls the possibility of ejection of the rectal anæsthetic.

As an example, a rectal anæsthetic constituted in accordance with this invention may comprise:

Ether	5⅓ fluid ounces
Liquid petrolatum	2⅔ fluid ounces
Paraldehyde	2 fluid drams
Acetylsalicylic acid	15 grains

It is to be understood that the foregoing example is merely illustrative and by no means limitative of the invention, which may be variously otherwise embodied—for instance, as to the proportions of the constituents, the specific oil employed, the particular additional substances included—within the scope of the appended claims.

I claim:

1. The method of accelerating the rectal-anæsthetic activity of ether-oil combinations which comprises mixing them with acetylsalicylic acid.

2. A rectal anæsthetic comprising a mixture of ether, an oil, and acetylsalicylic acid.

3. A rectal anæsthetic comprising a mixture of ether, liquid petrolatum, and acetylsalicylic acid.

In witness whereof I affix my signature.

FERDINAND W. NITARDY.