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Changes in Thoracic Size Following the Administration of Broncho-constricting or Broncho-dilating Drugs to Dogs.*

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Report has been made of the intrapleural pressure changes occurring after the administration of typical broncho-constricting or broncho-dilating drugs to dogs.¹ It has been suggested that these alterations in intrapleural pressure may be mediated by variations in thoracic girth accompanying the effects of these drugs on the respiratory mechanism, especially as a result of changes in alveolar and blood carbon dioxide tension following broncho-constriction or broncho-dilatation. The experiments here reported were undertaken to determine directly whether alteration in thoracic size actually occurs after the administration of broncho-constricting or broncho-dilating drugs.

The technique used for intrapleural pressure determination was the same as that previously described. In addition we measured directly the circumference of the thorax about 5 cm. above the xiphoid process, and we obtained records of respiratory movement by kymograph and pneumograph. After the subcutaneous injection of solutions of such broncho-constricting drugs as pilocarpine nitrate (2 experiments) and eserine salicylate (4 experiments), we found uniformly an *increase* in average thoracic girth accompany-

TABLE I.

Effect on intrapleural pressure and thoracic girth of the subcutaneous injection of 6 mgm. atropine sulphate in a 21 kilo dog anesthetized with sodium amytal.

	Intrapleural Pressure in Cm. H ₂ O		Thoracic Girth	
	Inspiration	Expiration	Inspiration	Expiration
Normal	-2.8	0.0	cm. 25.2	cm. 25.1
5 min. after drug	-2.1	+3.0	25.0	24.8
10 " " "	-2.0	+7.0	24.8	24.5
15 " " "	-2.0	+8.0	24.6	24.4

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¹ Brill, S., Prinzmetal, M., and Leake, C. D., *Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. and Med.*, 1930, **27**, 518; 1931, **28**, 617; 1931, **28**, 832.

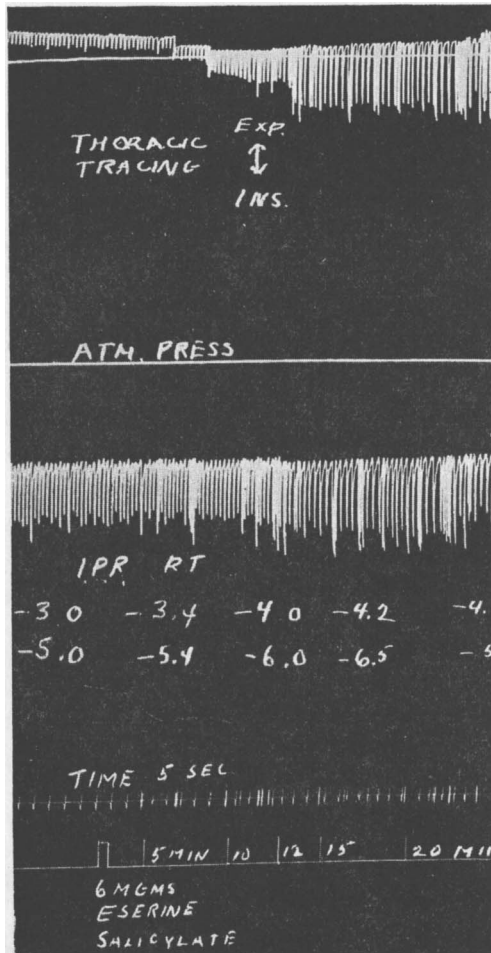


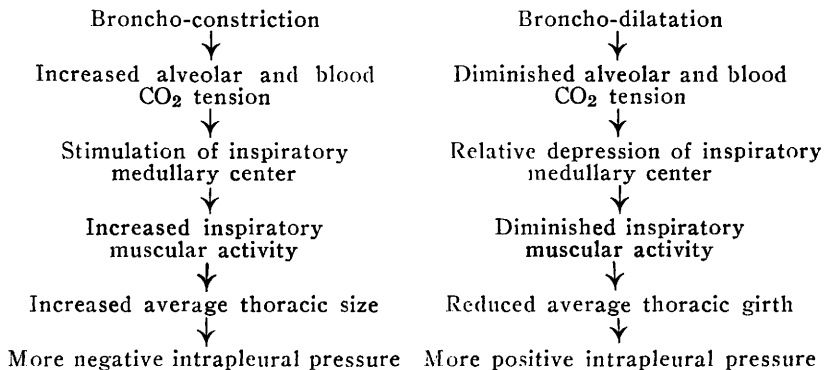
FIG. 1.

Effects of the injection of eserine, a typical broncho-constricting drug, on intrapleural pressure and thoracic girth as determined by pneumograph in a 12 kilo dog lightly anesthetized with sodium amytal. Intrapleural pressure figures are indicated in centimeters of water.

ing a more negative intrapleural pressure (Fig. 1). This corresponds to the change in thoracic size accompanying the more negative intrapleural pressure resulting from the inhalation of 10% CO₂ in oxygen. We found a *decrease* in mean thoracic girth (Table I) accompanying a more positive intrapleural pressure after the administration of such broncho-dilating drugs as atropine sulphate (3 experiments) and epinephrine hydrochloride (1 experiment).

We may postulate that the effects of broncho-constriction or

broncho-dilatation on intrapleural pressure are mediated by a sequence of events, causally related, as follows:



While our experimental evidence presented in this and previous reports does not prove that a causal relationship exists between the sequence of events as listed in these schema, we feel that it is sufficient to establish a working theory in the absence of any significant evidence otherwise.

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Iodochloroxyquinoline (Vioform, N.N.R.) as an Amebicide in Macaques.*

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(Introduced by C. D. Leake.)

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In a previous study of a series of halogenated oxyquinoline derivatives, iodochloroxyquinoline (vioform, N.N.R.) was shown to be an effective balanticide in guinea pigs, with relatively low toxicity on repeated administration to monkeys.¹ The soluble hydrochloride of the basic ether of this compound was found to kill amoebae *in vitro* in high dilutions. On this basis we began to investigate the

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¹ Anderson, H. H., David, N. A., and Koch, D. A., *Proc. Soc. Exp. Biol. and Med.*, 1931, **28**, 484.