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EDITORIAL COMMENT

This report documents the considerable variability of chloramphenicol blood levels achieved in individual prematures even when the intravenous or intramuscular route of administration is used. Observe that several less than week old infants showed signs and symptoms of toxicity while receiving doses currently recommended. Also note the frequent failure to achieve blood levels claimed to be therapeutic when the "cautious" dose is used after the first week. The suspected inability of newborns to absorb adequately the palmitate form of the drug when given by mouth is not dealt with here.

APPENDIX VI

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BACTERIAL MENINGITIS*

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INTRODUCTION

Bacterial infections of the central nervous system still constitute serious medical emergencies, despite the availability of numerous effective antimicrobial agents. Death occurs in at least 10% of these patients, and serious sequellae are frequently seen among those who survive. In spite of the serious nature of these

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