

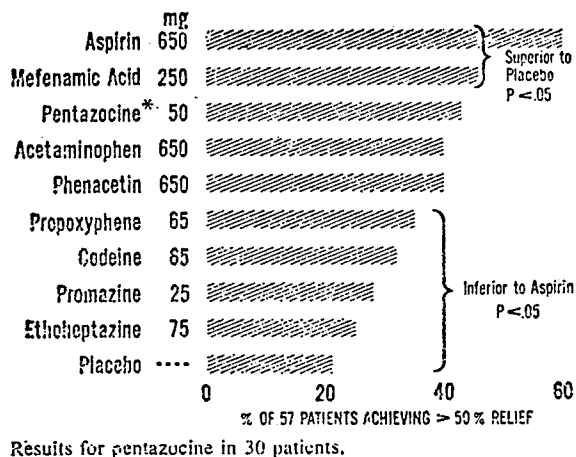


FIGURE 1.—Relative Therapeutic Effect of Oral Analgesics According to Percentage of Patients Achieving Significant (More than 50 per Cent) Relief of Pain (Analysis by Student-Newman-Keuls Method (2)).

TABLE 1.—RELATIVE THERAPEUTIC EFFECT OF ORAL ANALGESICS ACCORDING TO MEAN PERCENTAGE OF RELIEF OF PAIN ACHIEVED IN 57 PATIENTS

Analgesic agent	Dose (mg.)	Relief of pain (percent)
Aspirin.....	650	62
Pentazocine*.....	50	54
Acetaminophen.....	650	50
Phenacetin.....	650	48
Mefenamic acid.....	250	47
Codeine.....	65	46
Propoxyphene.....	65	43
Ethoheptazine.....	75	38
Promazine.....	25	37
Placebo.....		32

*Results for pentazocine in 30 patients (statistical significance calculated on basis of patients receiving pentazocine with use of Dunnett's procedure (1) for multiple comparisons with control).

†Student-Newman-Keuls method (2).

TABLE 2.—RELATIVE THERAPEUTIC EFFECT OF ORAL ANALGESICS ACCORDING TO SUM OF RANKS ACCORDED BY EACH PATIENT

Analgesic agent*	Dose (mg.)	Rank sum
Aspirin.....	650	223.0
Mefenamic acid.....	250	271.5
Phenacetin.....	650	275.0
Acetaminophen.....	650	280.5
Codeine.....	65	284.5
Propoxyphene.....	65	315.0
Ethoheptazine.....	75	335.0
Promazine.....	25	352.5
Placebo.....		374.0

*In 30 patients pentazocine, 50 mg., was in 5th position and significantly superior to placebo ($p < 0.01$).

†Analysis by t-test.

For none of the three methods of analysis did the order in which the drugs were given have a detectable influence on the grade and therapeutic effectiveness accorded any single drug.

Many patients had difficulty adequately timing the onset and duration of relief of pain, especially if relief was incomplete. The median time from drug ingestion to the onset of definite relief ranged between 0.5 and one hour for all study drugs except propoxyphene, which had the longer time to onset of