

[Medical Research Council \(1944\)](#). Clinical trial of patulin in the common cold. *Lancet* 2:373-5.

Key passages

CLINICAL TRIAL OF PATULIN IN THE COMMON COLD

REPORT OF THE PATULIN CLINICAL TRIALS COMMITTEE,
MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL

Recording.—Patients were seen by the MO before receiving treatment from the factory nurse or sick-bay attendant. The MO remained ignorant which of the test solutions the patient received and neither the MO nor the nurse knew which contained patulin.

At the first attendance the MO filled in the record card and satisfied himself that the patient was in fact suffering from the common cold and not from some condition such as hay-fever or “chronic catarrh.” He then detached the counterfoil and gave it to the patient who took it to the nurse in an adjoining room. The nurse gave out the test solutions in strict rotation, each patient receiving his own bottle of solution from which all treatments were given. The distinguishing letter of the particular solution given was ringed by the nurse on the patient’s counterfoil. The record sheet and counterfoil were filed separately by the MO and nurse respectively.

The patient returned to report progress to the MO at 24 hours, 48 hours and one week.. At these attendances the MO ringed on the record card one of the words “cured,” “improved,” “unchanged,” “worse,” or “recurred,” whichever accorded with the patient’s statement of his condition.

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