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posterior pituitary hormones on the uterus. Laboratory scale experiments on human beings have indicated that it can be used with effect in the treatment of various forms of alcoholism, chronic liver diseases, porphyria, excessive lactation, hyperparathyroidism, serum calcium excess, malnutrition, pancreatitis, pregnancy at term, familial hereditary hypomagnesaemia, brain injuries, reactive hypoglycaemic tension and anxiety, manic and severe depressive states, insomnia and waking tiredness in conjunction with the use of diuretics, asthma, hypertension, primary or secondary aldosteronism, rheumatoid arthritis, joint pains, arthritis, hypokalaemia, chronic stress, diabetes mellitus, various forms of infertility, muscular fatigue, osteoporosis, mariestrum-pels, etc.

The magnesium chloride tablet has the advantage over the fluid form of dosage in that it has a slower absorption rate thereby providing a more prolonged action and lessening the chances of loss through retching or in the faeces. Furthermore, the enteric coating ensures that the magnesium chloride passes through the stomach into the intestine, dispensing thereby with the chances of gastric irritation arising. By providing the magnesium chloride in tablet form, dosage units are more easily prescribed and intake is more readily con-

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trolled. At the same time, the difficulties arising out of the deliquescence of the magnesium chloride are largely overcome by the particular enteric layer described in the preferred embodiment.

We claim:

1. A tablet including 150 to 350 milligrams of magnesium chloride contained in an enteric coating.

2. A tablet as claimed in claim 1 in which the magnesium chloride is provided in its hexahydrate form.

3. A tablet including 300 to 700 milligrams of hexahydrate magnesium chloride contained in an enteric coating derived from a solution of cellulose acetate phthalate, castor oil, alcohol and acetone.

4. A tablet as claimed in claim 3 in which a sub-coating is provided beneath the enteric coating, the sub-coating being derived from a solution of polyvinylpyrrolidone in alcohol.

5. A method of treating magnesium-deficient patients which comprises administering to said patient a magnesium-replenishing effective amount of magnesium chloride contained in an enteric coating.

6. A method according to claim 5 wherein the magnesium chloride is in the hexahydrate form.

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