

of tissues using these two enzymes. Aqueous solutions of the drug were incubated with (i) buffer alone, and (ii) buffer and enzyme, prior to extraction and quantitation of indomethacin in the reaction mixture by HPLC. The results proved to be interesting. The concentration of indomethacin in the reaction mixture after enzymatic action by neutral proteinase and subtilisin A revealed that only 67% and 38% respectively of the drug originally present could be recovered. In contrast, incubation with papain showed no degradation of indomethacin and complete recovery (100%) was possible. To test for benzoic acid and its derivatives as possible degradation products the chromatographic method of

Fewster and Hall³ was employed. The results were however negative, pointing out that indomethacin is transformed by neutral proteinase and subtilisin A by an as yet unknown mechanism.

5 May 1988; Revised 28 November 1988

1. Shankar, V., Damodaran, C. and Chandra Sekharan, P., *J. Anal. Toxicol.*, 1987, 11, 164.
2. Shankar, V., Damodaran, C. and Chandra Sekharan, P., *Forensic Sci. Int.*, 1988, 37, 243.
3. Fewster, M. E. and Hall, D. A., *Nature (London)*, 1951, 168, 78.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL INDIA COURSE ON VACUUM SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The course, organized by the Indian Vacuum Society in collaboration with the Centre for Advanced Technology, Indore, will be held at the Centre for Advanced Technology, Rajendranagar, Indore, during October 16-26, 1989. For application forms and details contact: Shri A. S. Raja Rao, Convener, All

India Course on Vacuum Science and Technology, Centre for Advanced Technology, P.O. Rajendranagar, Indore 452 012, India.

Completed forms must reach the Convener before 15 September 1989.

FIRST NATIONAL SEMINAR ON CLINICAL NUTRITION IN VASCULAR MEDICINE

The seminar will be held at M.L. Theatre, KEM Hospital, Bombay, on 17 September 1989. Deadline for registration 2-9-1989. For details please contact:

Dr M. E. Yeolekar, Professor of Medicine, Secretary General, National Seminar on Clinical Nutrition, K.E.M. Hospital, Parel, Bombay 400 012, India.

NATIONAL SEMINAR ON THE ROLE OF SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION IN MODERN AGRICULTURE

The seminar will be held at the Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur, during October or November 1989. For details contact: Dr G. B. Roy,

Organizing Secretary, National Seminar on SWC, Department of Agricultural Energy, Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur 741 252, India.
