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How is it that a very old drug suddenly becomes into widespread use?

Reported by Hakluyt in describing Raleigh's voyage 1595  
Studied in physiology lab. by Claude Bernard 1840-65

Used sporadically clinically  
1st report - N.Y. Med. Record Aug 1879  
reporting case of rabies treated by Oppenberg in Bonn, Germany.

Suddenly in last 4 years - such widespread use that manufacturers take full page ad. in Life + S.F.P.

Reason is no adequate dependable supply of pure drug available until 1938-39

Gill's work + book "White Water + Black Magic"  
Squibb Prof MacIntyre of Nebraska - Intocostin  
+ ER Squibb lab.

Bennett in psychiatric treatment.

L.H. Wright in 1940 told me about it.  
sent some in Dec 1941 - 4 years ago.

Now used it in 600 cases - Bullen in many more.  
Work confirmed by many workers.

Clinical use not described now by me: exist as follows

1. Used i.v. in combination with anas or hypnotic
2. Rapid action
3. Rapid elimination
4. Dosage depends on (a) factors in patient  
(b) what anas. is being used.
5. How curare works. (a) Peripheral action  
neutralization of acetylcholine reaction at myo neural junction.  
(b) central action - based on:  
1. clinical work of Whitacre  
2. studies of Pick + Unna.
6. complications  
  - { Resp. depression
  - { Bronchial spasm.

When needed, and it does fill a need 40%

Safeguards -

Always be able to maintain respiration with care.

Read Lancet article from "Opinions -

May be used in poor risk cases.

Dosage - use enough.

Bronchial spasms.

- Bleeding - Macintosh