Specific Desensitization with Purified Allergens Adsorbed onto Aluminium Hydroxide

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Allergenic material of house dust and pollen extracts was adsorbed onto aluminium hydroxide gel or calcium phosphate gel and an antiseptic added. Skin tests were then performed and found to be mostly negative in patients highly sensitized to these allergens, indicating that the active material had been fully adsorbed on to the adjuvant. Desensitization was carried out using the subcutaneous route, the release of the antigen being slow, progressive and equivalent to a great number of injections with the aqueous extract. The schedule therefore was considerably shortened, only 4 or 5 injections being required for each patient. In some cases, aqueous extracts followed by adsorbed material were used. With the house dust adsorbed extract, focal reactions were rare and mild. With the pollen adsorbed extract, systemic reactions were mild and more than 80% of the cases gave favourable results. The possibility of continuing treatment during the pollinating season is discussed.