Clinical Pharmacology Update

A new feature in the *Cleveland Clinic Quarterly*, Clinical Pharmacology Update, will present current reviews of new drugs or new classes of pharmacologic agents. These reviews will concentrate on current, practical information regarding new drugs and their utilization by the practicing physician. From time to time, clinically important drug-drug interactions or newly reported adverse effects may be featured on these pages.

In this issue of the *Quarterly*, we are pleased to initiate this series with a review of new agents in the treatment of arterial hypertension. It is clear that the availability of many new, effective, well-tolerated antihypertensive agents has helped facilitate a more aggressive approach to the treatment of hypertension and has led to the marked reductions in morbidity and mortality noted in recent decades. *New* is not necessarily better, and the clinician must therefore be familiar with the practical clinical pharmacology of these agents in order to make the appropriate choice for the patient.

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