Q

Quinalbarbitone (c). Barbiturate hypnotic usually prescribed in combined preparation with AMYLOBARBITONE. No major differences from AMYLOBARBITONE.

Quinapril. Antihypertensive with actions, uses and adverse effects similar to CAPTOPRIL.

Quinidine. Antidysrhythmic agent, with local anaesthetic activity. Depresses myocardial contractility and impulse conduction. Reduces cardiac output. Used to prevent recurrent dysrhythmias or to convert established dysrythmias back to normal sinus rhythm. Dosedependent effects include vertigo, tinnitus, deafness, blurred vision, confusion, gastro-intestinal symptoms, cardiac arrhythmias, and cardiac arrest. Rashes and bruising are dose-independent. Contraindicated when dysrhythmia is due to DIGOXIN or when there is heart block.

Quinine. Antimalarial agent. Used to reduce skeletal muscle spasms. Adverse effects include vomiting, psychosis, visual and auditory disturbances, haemolytic anaemia, and thrombocytopenia. Toxic doses may cause abortion.

P. Turner et al., *Drugs Handbook 1991–92* © Paul Turner and Glyn N. Volans 1991