APPLIANCE

MAGNETIC ORBITAL IMPLANT*

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THIS implant was developed with the object of increasing the degree of movement obtained with the Allen type of buried orbital implant. The satisfactory way in which these implants are retained in the orbit is demonstrated by the large number which have now more than fulfilled the 2-year follow-up period suggested by Choyce (1952). The retention of the magnetic form of implant appears to be as good as that of the non-magnetic form.

The magnetic implants are manufactured † from acrylic resin rod (Perspex) by turning on a lathe to shape and radius. The side slots for the

muscles are machined through on a milling machine, as is also the recess into which the magnet is fixed. The magnet is then inserted into the recess and the hole is plugged with a plug of similar material. The implant is then carefully sanded and polished so that there are no sharp edges. The slot for the magnet is made in the side of the implant as near to the anterior surface as possible so that attraction to the magnet placed at opposite poles in the prosthesis is maintained as strongly as possible (Figure).

FIGURE.—Implant incorporating magnet.

In a preliminary survey the degree of movement with this magnetic form of the Allen implant was 50 per cent. greater than that obtained with the Allen implant alone.

REFERENCES

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ROPER-HALL, M. J. (1954). *Trans. ophthalm. Soc. U.K.*, **74**, 337.

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† The implant is manufactured by Messrs. E. Elliot Ltd., 315 Summer Lane, Birmingham, 19.