

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of Handbook of Chromatography: Drugs, Vols. III and IV

REFERENCE: Gupta, R. N., Ed. *Handbook of Chromatography: Drugs, Vols. III and IV*, CRC Press, Boca Raton, FL, 1986.

These two volumes contain a comprehensive synopsis of referred articles published between 1979 and 1986 on the chromatographic analysis of drugs. They present a laboriously accumulated mass of information on all the procedural details for the analyses. The gas chromatography data include extraction techniques, column size and type, temperature program, detector, retention time, internal standards, and derivatization procedures. Similar data are presented for liquid chromatography procedures, which also include data on the developing mixture and column packing materials. When available, thin-layer chromatography procedures are also included. Extensive references are part of each drug monograph. These two volumes include drugs listed alphabetically from A through F. Presumably, similar volumes for the remaining drugs are in process.

These desk-side references have tremendous value. They can help resolve questions of how to analyze for drugs that are not part of the usual laboratory standard analysis operating procedures. The many essential analytical details they present facilitate the choice of which novel method is best adapted to the needs and resources of each laboratory. Not only is a literature search obviated, but the information is immediately available without searching for or requisitioning the original articles. The editor has presented a most valuable resource.

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