

BOOK REVIEW

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Review of 1989 Yearbook of Toxicology

REFERENCE: *1989 Yearbook of Toxicology*, I. Sunshine, Ed., CRC Press, Inc., 2000 Corporate Blvd., Boca Raton, FL, 1989, \$59.95.

This book is a compilation of abstracts of articles published in the fields of toxicology between July 1987 and June 1988. Each abstract has a critical comment by one of 15 members of the editorial board. The abstracts are categorized into 9 subunits (for example, Animal Studies, Clinical Studies, Pharmacokinetics and Therapeutic Drug Monitoring (TDM), Treatment of Poisoning, Analytical Toxicology).

The volume is not intended to be comprehensive of all articles published, but the articles were selected to be representative of works published in each of the 9 areas during this year. Perhaps indicative of some editorial bias, 45% of the 257 articles chosen were in the categories of Analytical Toxicology, which will certainly enhance the usefulness of this reference for those of us who are forensic toxicologists.

The Analytical Toxicology unit is further subdivided into two sections: Analytical Toxicology and Analytical Techniques. The first of these includes articles that are concerned primarily with principles and procedures involving drugs of abuse, while the second unit describes analytical techniques, and includes environmental toxicology studies, TDM, and some specific procedures for selected new drugs and agents of current interest. It is noteworthy that the first section of Analytical Toxicology emphasizes new drug abuse issues, such as anabolic steroids (6 articles) and "designer" drugs.

Dr. Sunshine's preface reminds us that keeping abreast of the flood of published articles in toxicology is a real challenge. His book was designed to provide the reader with an easy reference to noteworthy articles in the various areas of toxicology published during this year. It is my belief that he has met his goal, with the bonus of providing a brief evaluation of each article by toxicology experts in each field covered.

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