

BOOK REVIEW

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A Review of Instrumental Data for Drug Analysis

REFERENCE: T. Mills, C. Roberson, H. H. McCurdy, and W. W. Wall, *Instrumental Data for Drug Analysis*, Elsevier Science Publishing, New York, 1992, 628 pp.

This volume continues in the same vein as the first 4 volumes of this reference set, which were issued in 1987. Volumes 1–3 contain alphabetical listings for approximately 1200 drugs, showing for each drug on two pages the reference spectra by ultraviolet, infrared, nuclear magnetic resonance and mass spectrometry analysis. Volume 4 contains an index and several appendices, with sequential page numbering of all 4 volumes for a total of 2682 pages.

Volume 5 is really an update on the series and is self-contained, with its own index, pagination and appendices. It has similar data on another 200 drugs, and also has mass spectra on approximately 280 commonly prepared drug derivatives. This volume deals with many new drugs, as well as steroids that were overlooked in previous volumes, and does an excellent job of making the set current.

This reference set is in frequent everyday use in the author's laboratory, and I feel secure that the newly published volume 5 will receive a similar degree of attention.