

## BOOK REVIEW

### CHROMATOGRAPHIC ANALYSIS OF PHARMACEUTICALS

(Chromatographic Science Series/49)

Edited by: John A Adamovics

Published: Marcel Dekker Inc., New York 1990, 688pp.

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\$150.00 (Other Countries)

This book contains excellent information on the use of chromatographic methods in the pharmaceutical industry. It starts with an overview of regulatory considerations appropriately ensuring relevant subjects such as method validation, sample handling and some treatment of results. However, other important topics such as FDA regulations and impurity profiling, though mentioned, are not adequately indexed. The chapter on Robotics is interesting and up-to-date. It may also provide the reader with a number of ideas about automation in the pharmaceutical analytical laboratory. A chapter is devoted to each of the three most common chromatographic techniques, namely thin layer chromatography, gas chromatography and high-performance liquid chromatography. A wide ranging discussion of the recent advances in these areas of chromatography is given. However, again the various topics covered in these chapters (for example, capillary techniques and chiral selectivity) are rather unsatisfactorily indexed, making it more difficult as a reference book on general methodology.

The final chapter deals with application and is almost two-thirds of the book. It gives a detailed tabulation of the chromatographic methods that have been used in the analysis of about 1300 pharmaceuticals. Drugs are listed in alphabetical order making it more easy for the reader to refer to the specific topic of interest. In most cases enough information about the analytical method is given to allow assay of a particular compound. Besides the chromatographic method used, the sampling procedure, the mobile and stationary phases, and the mode of detection are listed for each drug. In summary, pharmaceutical analysts will find this book generally useful as it contains a wealth of information on the main chromatographic techniques and numerous examples on the application of these methods in the drug industry.

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