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BOOK REVIEW

"Blood Drugs and Other Analytical Challenges"

E. Reid (Editor)
Ellis Harwood Ltd., Chichester, England
1978, 355 pages

"Blood Drugs and Other Analytical Challenges", is a collection of articles from a Bioanalytical Forum which was held at Surrey University in 1977. The book is divided into these main sections: The framework, subtle gas chromatography, mass-spectrometric, HPTLC, TLC, and non-chromatographic approaches, followed by notes and comments related to the foreign topics. (Each of the main sections is divided into subsections which constitute a chapter in the book.)

The book offers useful information about the use of chromatography, primarily gas chromatography. The section dealing with HPLC, TLC, and other non-chromatographic methods deals mainly with HPLC and its application to drug analysis. Although TLC is widely used in pharmaceutical and drug analysis, it is discussed only once in the above section. Some of the statistical discussion and mass-spectral approach is basic and useful.

The format is one aspect of the book which is somewhat troubling. Much of the material has been literally stuffed on one page, i.e., pages 123, 172, 172, 226, 264, 297, and 298. It is not unusual to find a figure, a figure caption, a table, and a discussion on the same page. In addition, some of the figures are not very clear due to photo-reproduction. Overall, the book is of value to workers in the field of drugs and analysis and is useful as methodology and application reference.

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