

Book Reviews

Progress in Medicinal Chemistry. Volume 1. Studies in Medicinal Chemistry. Edited by M. Iqbal Choudhary. Harwood Academic Publishers, Newark, NJ. 1996. xiv + 390 pp. 18 × 25.5 cm. ISBN 3-7186-5795-3. \$150.00.

Volume 1 of *Progress in Medicinal Chemistry*, entitled *Studies in Medicinal Chemistry*, is a collection of reviews (eight chapters) of selected topics in medicinal chemistry. Chapter 1 (49 pp) provides an overview of the biology and SAR of 14- and 16-membered ring macrolides related to erythromycin and tylosin. Chapter 2 is an in-depth review (124 pp) concerning the design and activity of the lexitropsins, which bind to the minor groove of DNA. Chapter 3 (66 pp) provides a detailed summary of the SAR of the quinolone class of antibacterial agents, whereas Chapter 4 (32 pp) reviews the field of boron neutron capture therapy for tumors. Chapter 5 (48 pp) examines the "frozen analog" approach in medicinal chemistry, outlining the utility of this approach in the development of verapamil analogs. Chapter 6 (12 pp) deals with the biological activity of the polyether toxin Bistratene A, and Chapter 7 (24 pp) reviews the anticonvulsant and neuroprotectant activity of analogs of dextromethorphan and carbetapentane. Finally, Chapter 8 (32 pp) discusses approaches using plasma proteins as drug carriers for hepatic and renal targeting.

Overall, this book provides a good overview to a selected number of topics of current interest in medicinal chemistry, exemplifying the diversity and vitality of medicinal chemistry in the 1990s. The chapters are well written and adequately referenced, although this reviewer takes exception to the statement in the preface that the chapters represent comprehensive reviews. For instance, no mention is made in Chapter 1 of the ketolide class of macrolides currently under investigation in a number of pharmaceutical companies, and in Chapter 3 no mention is made of novel classes of quinolone-derived analogs (e.g., pyridones) developed in the last several years. Nonetheless, readers with particular interests in one or more of the chapter subjects will find this book useful and informative; chapters dealing with areas less familiar to the reader serve well to educate. Unfortunately, the high price tag (\$150.00) may limit this book to the bookshelves of only the more affluent readers, but price aside this book would be a worthwhile addition to the shelves of either personal or academic and industrial libraries.

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JM970010J

S0022-2623(97)00010-1

Books of Interest

Receptor Dynamics in Neural Development. Edited by Christopher A. Shaw. CRC Press, Inc., Boca Raton, FL. 1996. 344 pp. 18.5 × 26 cm. ISBN 0-8493-7817-6. \$129.95.

Molecular Diagnostics. For the Clinical Laboratorian (Pathology and Laboratory Medicine). Edited by William B. Coleman and Gregory J. Tsongalis. The Humana Press, Totowa, NJ. 1996. x + 390 pp. 18.5 × 26 cm. ISBN 0-89603-373-2. \$79.50.

Thrombopoiesis and Thrombopoietins. Molecular, Cellular, Preclinical, and Clinical Biology. Edited by David J. Kuter, Pamela Hunt, William Sheridan, and Dorothea Zucker-Franklin. The Humana Press, Totowa, NJ. 1997. xviii + 412 pp. 18.5 × 26 cm. ISBN 0-89603-379-1. \$150.00.

Current Research in Magnesium. Edited by M. J. Halpern and J. Durlach. John Libbey & Co. Ltd., London. 1996. xv + 378 pp. 17 × 24 cm. ISBN 0-86196-549-3. \$110.00.

Crystal Growth of Organic Materials. Edited by Allan S. Myerson, Daniel A. Green, and Paul Meenan. American Chemical Society, Washington, DC. 1996. xi + 291 pp. 18.5 × 26 cm. ISBN 0-8412-3382-9. \$119.95.

Immobilization of Enzymes and Cells (Methods in Biotechnology). Edited by Gordon F. Bickerstaff. The Humana Press, Totowa, NJ. 1996. xiv + 367 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. ISBN 0-89603-386-4. \$74.50.

Methods in Molecular Biology. Volume 70. Sequence Data Analysis Guidebook. Edited by Simon R. Swindell. The Humana Press, Totowa, NJ. 1996. ix + 324 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. ISBN 0-89603-358-9. \$69.50.

Chromatographic Analysis of Pharmaceuticals. Second Edition, Revised and Expanded. Volume 74. Edited by John A. Adamovics. Marcel Dekker, Inc., New York. 1997. x + 527 pp. 16 × 23.5 cm. ISBN 0-8247-9776-0. \$165.00.

Glossary of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology. Revised Edition. By David M. Glick. Portland Press Ltd., London. 1997. 214 pp. 13 × 19.5 cm. ISBN 1-85578-088-7. \$26.50 (pbk).

JM970008S

S0022-2623(97)00008-3