

**Textbook of Organic Medicinal and Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Tenth Edition.** Edited by Jaime N. Delgado and William A. Remers. Lippincott-Raven, Philadelphia, PA. 1998. xv + 974 pp. 22 × 28.5 cm. ISBN 0-397-51583-9. \$69.50.

This latest edition of a standard textbook contains chapters by 24 contributors, covering a broad spectrum of medicinal chemistry-related areas. Overall, the book maintains the quality of previous editions. It continues to be arranged according to pharmacological categories. The chapters are well-written and contain a considerable amount of biological/pharmacological information in addition to the chemical discussions, and the biology and chemistry are generally well-integrated. Contemporary (and, hopefully, future) therapeutic and drug discovery trends are reflected in discussions of combinatorial chemistry, QSAR, biotechnology, and immunology, *inter alia*. These newer and occasionally somewhat esoteric topics are presented at a level appropriate to novice readers. There appears to be an appropriate expanded coverage of aspects of physicochemical properties of drugs and of the chemistry and biology of drug metabolism. Chemical structures and abundant illu-

strations and diagrams are well-reproduced throughout and add considerably to the value of the narratives. Relatively few misprints or errors were noted. The index at the end of the book is inclusive and helpful.

As is probably inevitable in a multiauthored work, some of the chapters seem to be longer and more detailed than the subject perhaps warrants, reflecting the enthusiasm of the authors for their subjects. However, this reviewer does not consider this to be a major defect. Each chapter ends with documented references, and most of the chapters supply lists of selected additional readings.

The book was written as a text for pharmacy students, and it can serve admirably for this purpose. Additionally, it may be a useful reference for beginning graduate students in medicinal chemistry and pharmaceuticals. Practicing chemists with little or no background or experience in medicinal chemistry or pharmacology will find this book helpful for initial, introductory reading on unfamiliar topics.

**Staff**

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