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BOOKS

REVIEWS

International Aspects of Drug Evaluation and Usage. Edited by A. J. JOUHAR and M. F. GRAYSON. Longman Inc., 72 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10011, 1973. 374 pp. 14 x 23 cm. Price \$21.00.

The book records the proceedings of the International Meeting of Medical Advisors in the Pharmaceutical Industry held April 17-20, 1972 in London. The meeting was conceived as an attempt to assess the current state of the evaluation of drugs around the world. The major contributors to the book were medically qualified people working in the pharmaceutical industry. Because of the broad spectrum of contributors, the book is worthwhile reading for anyone involved in drug development in the pharmaceutical industry. Due to the international nature of the symposium, much of the material concerning, directly or indirectly, the regulatory aspect of drug development is not entirely applicable to requirements in the United States. The book does provide, however, via its international contributors, an interesting overview of the data required by drug regulatory agencies outside the United States. The book's most useful aspect is its exchange of experiences in drug development by people intimately involved in the work on a world-wide basis. It is always useful and consoling, if not profoundly informative, to be made aware of the approaches and frustrations of others involved in drug evaluation and development. The many chapters in this vein are quite useful in confirming one's approach to drug development, and in demonstrating that one's unanswered questions are also unanswered questions by others working in the same area.

One particularly noteworthy chapter is by C. Maxwell. Maxwell provides some extremely worthwhile comments and philosophy in his opinion and overview on the preclinical screening of new drugs, the proper philosophy for the clinical testing of drugs, and the use of statistics in clinical efficacy decision making.

Overall, the book outlines a very practical, realistic approach to drug testing and clinical evaluation. "International Aspects of Drug Evaluation and Usage" is, therefore, recommended reading by anyone involved in the clinical testing and/or supervision of clinical testing of new drugs.

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USAN 10 and the USP Dictionary of Drug Names, 1974 Supplement. Published for the USAN Council by the U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention, Inc., Rockville, MD 20852, 1974. vi + 100 pp. 21 x 28 cm. Price \$4.75.

This recently published Supplement contains 5747 entries including all entries from the 1973 Supplement. Seventy-three new USAN names are incorporated into this Supplement and 125 new code designations are included. The USAN books also provide information on USP and NF official names, FDA established names, and brand names, abbreviations, and trivial names.

The USAN publications are a most important aspect of the effort to bring uniformity to the area of drug nomenclature. As such they should be available to and utilized by all persons involved with pharmaceuticals.

Staff Review

Everything You Wanted To Know About Drug Abuse . . . But Were Afraid To Ask. By C. L. WINEK. Dekker, New York, NY 10016, 1974. 213 pp. 15.5 x 23.6 cm. Price \$12.75.

The material in this book is presented in an easy to read form of questions and answers and is divided into 14 sections generally by category of abused drug.

The book is based on the author's experience in dealing with the drug problem on a daily basis over the past 6 years. The material is based on real experiences obtained during the author's various activities concerned with the drug problem including investigating drug-related deaths and conducting toxicological analyses.

The questions included in this book are those put to the author during various speaking engagements and seminars by students, teachers, and various health-care professionals.

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