

clearance rate for females, which is hampered somewhat by insufficient practice problems of this type at the end of the chapter.

"Some Calculations Involving Parenteral Admixtures" is another new chapter. The material covers the application of the milliequivalent and millimole concepts to the use of additive solutions in parenteral therapy. The use of various solutions obtained from ampuls or vials and the constituting of total parenteral nutrition or hyperalimentation fluids are included, as are computations of the flow rates of intravenous solutions.

"Pharmaceutical Calculations" has been a standard text for many years. Its clear but concise explanations, numerous examples, and various practice problems have made it so. The new materials are good additions to an already excellent book.

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**Sustained Release Medications.** Edited by J. C. JOHNSON. Noyes Data Corp., Mill Rd. at Grand Ave., Park Ridge, NJ 07655. 1980. 412 pp. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$54.00.

In the foreword, the editor gives an excellent and precise description of the information contained in the book. The information is based on U.S. patents issued since January 1974 in the field of sustained-release medications. The editor indicates that the book is a data-based publication, providing information retrieved and made available from the U.S. patent literature. Thus, it serves a double purpose in that it supplies detailed technical information and can be used as a guide to the patent literature in this field. By indicating all the significant information and eliminating legal jargon and juristic phraseology, this book represents an advanced, commercially oriented review of recent developments in the field of sustained-release medications. The book is composed of 14 chapters; it contains 263 patents covering 204 processes.

The first chapter deals with patents describing the preparation of excipients used in the manufacture of these medications. Included are controlled-release tableting media (talc, ethylcellulose, methyl stearate mixtures, hydrated hydroxyalkylcellulose plus aliphatic alcohol, and salts of polymeric carboxylates), polymer gels (chelated hydrogels and water-insoluble hydrophilic copolymers), enteric-coating materials (cellulose ether compositions, partial esters of acrylate-unsaturated anhydride copolymers, and water-soluble coating resins), and polyesters (polymers with oxacycloalkane units, polymers with alkoxy or oxacycloalkane substituents, bioabsorbable polyglycolic acid polyester condensates, and bioerodable partial esters of polycarboxylic acids).

Patented processes involved in the preparation and coating of microcapsules is covered in Chapter 2. Chapter 3 includes processes for preparing capsules as well as tablet cores and tablet coatings. Patents dealing with films and webs are discussed in Chapter 4. The fifth chapter describes 10 processes utilized in the design of diffusion devices containing medications soluble to some extent in the polymeric material. Chapter 6 includes 16 processes involved in the preparation of osmotic devices that use polymeric materials permeable to water and body fluids but not permeable to the drug.

The next four chapters describe devices such as implants, ocular inserts, intravaginal and intrauterine inserts, and devices for use in the GI tract. These devices utilize bioerodable polymers selected so that the device and the medication are absorbed by the body. Chapters 11–13 deal with various sustained-release medications such as heart and circulatory drugs, antispasmodics, antibiotics, aspirin, and analgesics and GI tract drugs. The final chapter describes veterinary preparations.

The book is a must for individuals interested in sustained-release technology. It is well written and would be a great timesaver and a source of many excellent ideas.

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## NOTICES

*Synthetic Peptides, Vol. 5.* By GEORGE R. PETTIT. Elsevier Scientific Publishing Co., 52 Vanderbilt Ave., New York, NY 10017. 1980. 404 pp. 14 × 22 cm. Price \$109.75.

*Annual Reports in Medicinal Chemistry, Vol. 15.* HANS-JÜRGEN HESS, Editor in Chief. Academic, 111 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003. 1980. 346 pp. 17 × 25 cm.

*Progress in Drug Metabolism, Vol. 4.* Edited by J. W. BRIDGES and L. F. CHASSEAUD. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016. 1980. 335 pp. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$72.00.

*Bioenergetics and Thermodynamics: Model Systems.* By A. BRAIBANTI. D. Reidel Publishing Co., 160 Old Derby St., Hingham, MA 02043. 1980. 471 pp. 16 × 24 cm. Price \$58.00.

*Manuel de Préparation en Pharmacie d'Officine.* By MICHEL BARANCOURT. Masson, 14 E. 60th St., New York, NY 10022. 1980. 550 pp. 16 × 24 cm. (Also available from Masson, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75280 Paris Cedex 06, France.)

*Handbook for Prescribing Medications During Pregnancy.* Edited by RICHARD L. BERKOWITZ, DONALD R. COUSTAN, and TARA K. MOCHIZUKI. Little, Brown, 34 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02106. 1981. 257 pp. 11 × 20 cm. Price \$11.95.

*Solids Handling.* Edited by KENNETH MCNAUGHTON and the staff of chemical engineering. McGraw-Hill, 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020. 1981. 263 pp. 21 × 28 cm. Price \$29.50.

*Abrégé de Matière Médicale (Pharmacognosie), Tome I.* By M. PARIS and M. HURABIELLE. Masson, 14 E. 60th St., New York, NY 10022. 1981. 339 pp. 13 × 21 cm. (Also available from Masson, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75280 Paris Cedex 06, France.)

*Abrégé de Pharmacie Galénique, 3rd ed.* By A. LE HIR. Masson, 14 E. 60th St., New York, NY 10022. 1981. 354 pp. 13 × 21 cm. (Also available from Masson, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75280 Paris Cedex 06, France.)

*The Safety of Medicines: Evaluation and Prediction.* By PETER I. FOLB. Springer-Verlag New York, 44 Hartz Way, Secaucus, NJ 07094. 1980. 103 pp. 12 × 21 cm. Price \$12.90.

*Abrégé de Pharmacologie: Générale et Moléculaire, 2nd ed.* By JACQUES WEPIERRE. Masson, 14 E. 60th St., New York, NY 10022. 1981. 203 pp. 13 × 21 cm. (Also available from Masson, 120 Boulevard Saint-Germain, 75280 Paris Cedex 06, France.)

*Progress in Pharmacology, Vol. 3, No. 2. Presynaptic Mechanisms/Vasodilator Drugs.* Edited by P. A. van SWIETEN and E. SCHÖNBAUM. (Proceedings of a symposium organized by the Dutch Pharmacological Society in Amsterdam, The Netherlands, 1979.) Gustav Fischer Verlag, D-7000 Stuttgart 72, Postfach 720 143, West Germany. 1980. 146 pp. 16 × 24 cm. Price DM 78.00.

*The Analysis of Dietary Fiber in Food.* Edited by W. P. T. JAMES and OLOF THEANDER. Dekker, 270 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. 1981. 276 pp. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$35.00 (20% higher outside the United States and Canada).

*The Biochemistry of Psychiatric Disturbances.* Edited by G. CURZON. Wiley, 605 Third Ave., New York, NY 10016. 1980. 144 pp. 15 × 23 cm.

*Clinically Important Adverse Drug Interactions, Vol. 1: Cardiovascular and Respiratory Disease Therapy.* Edited by J. C. PETRIE. Elsevier/North-Holland, 52 Vanderbilt Ave., New York, NY 10017. 1980. 243 pp. 16 × 24 cm. Price \$48.25. (Available from Elsevier, P.O. Box 1527, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.)

*Introduction to Bioinstrumentation. With Biological, Environmental, and Medical Applications (A Volume of Contemporary Instrumentation and Analysis).* By CLIFFORD D. FERRIS. Humane Press, Crescent Manor, P.O. Box 2148, Clifton, NJ 07015. 1978. 330 pp. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$29.50 hardcover and \$14.50 softcover.

*Metal Carcinogenesis Testing: Principles and In Vitro Methods.* By MAX COSTA. Humane Press, Crescent Manor, P.O. Box 2148, Clifton, NJ 07015. 1980. 163 pp. 15 × 23 cm. Price \$29.50 (\$39.50 outside North America).

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