

This article was downloaded by:

On: 24 January 2011

Access details: *Access Details: Free Access*

Publisher *Taylor & Francis*

Informa Ltd Registered in England and Wales Registered Number: 1072954 Registered office: Mortimer House, 37-41 Mortimer Street, London W1T 3JH, UK



Journal of Liquid Chromatography & Related Technologies

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713597273>

A review of: “The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics, Alfred Goodman Gilman, Louis S. Goodman, Theodore W. Rall and Ferid Murad, Seventh Edition, MacMillan Publishing Co., New York, 1985, 1736 pp”

To cite this Article (1989) 'A review of: “The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics, Alfred Goodman Gilman, Louis S. Goodman, Theodore W. Rall and Ferid Murad, Seventh Edition, MacMillan Publishing Co., New York, 1985, 1736 pp”', *Journal of Liquid Chromatography & Related Technologies*, 12: 5, 881 – 882

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/01483918908049214

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/01483918908049214>

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN FOR ARTICLE

Full terms and conditions of use: <http://www.informaworld.com/terms-and-conditions-of-access.pdf>

This article may be used for research, teaching and private study purposes. Any substantial or systematic reproduction, re-distribution, re-selling, loan or sub-licensing, systematic supply or distribution in any form to anyone is expressly forbidden.

The publisher does not give any warranty express or implied or make any representation that the contents will be complete or accurate or up to date. The accuracy of any instructions, formulae and drug doses should be independently verified with primary sources. The publisher shall not be liable for any loss, actions, claims, proceedings, demand or costs or damages whatsoever or howsoever caused arising directly or indirectly in connection with or arising out of the use of this material.

BOOK REVIEW

"The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics," Alfred Goodman Gilman, Louis S. Goodman, Theodore W. Rail and Ferid Murad, Seventh Edition, MacMillan Publishing Co., New York, 1985, 1736 pp.

For over 40 years, Goodman and Gilman's "The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics" has been the bible of textbooks for students and practitioners of pharmacology. The seventh edition of this illustrious textbook certainly follows in the footsteps of earlier editions. The editors state three primary objectives for the seventh edition: 1) the correlation of pharmacology with related medical sciences; 2) the reinterpretation of the actions and uses of drugs from the viewpoint of important advances in medicine; 3) the placing of emphasis on the applications of pharmacodynamics to therapeutics. Upon reading this edition, most will agree these objectives have, indeed, been achieved.

With the release of the seventh edition, there have been extensive revisions to this text. The ten years which have elapsed between the sixth and seventh editions have seen many advances in both applied and basic pharmacology. The new edition reflects these changes. During the past several years, dozens of new pharmacologic agents have become available to the clinician, and these agents receive in-depth coverage in the text. There are completely new sections on calcium channel blockers, hyperlipoproteinemias, endorphins and enkephalins, and immunosuppressive agents. Other editions have been extensively updated, including those sections covering antidepressants, benzodiazepines, neuroactive peptides, antihypertensives, antimicrobial agents, antiarrhythmic agents, anaesthetics, opioid agonists, neuromuscular blocking agents and antiproliferative substances.

Overall, the seventh edition places much more emphasis on pharmacokinetics. Three chapters on general pharmacological principles give thorough coverage to the topics of drug absorption, distribution and elimination. There is a full chapter addressing mechanisms of drug action and the relationship between drug concentration and effect. Throughout the book, there is ample discussion of practical principles in the determination of dosage regimens for patients.

Most of the remaining text is divided into three sections covering various "groups" of related pharmacologic agents. Within each section, space is devoted to individual agents, with emphasis upon the

pharmacologic properties, as well as the clinical aspects, of each agent. Overall, this volume is extremely well organized, with information of primary importance in large print and background information set back in smaller, lighter print. This allows one to quickly scan the text to locate important information concerning a specific drug, such as absorption or interactions with other drugs.

The final chapters presents a brief description of the principles of toxicology. Although one would find more extensive information in a volume devoted exclusively to toxicology, these chapters are, nonetheless, a valuable reference resource. There are also excellent appendices dealing with prescription order writing, design of dosage regimens and drug interactions. Extensive tables are included which contain detailed pharmacokinetic data for approximately 200 substances.

During the revision of this edition, the editors have eliminated or reduced data for many older, less frequently used agents while, at the same time, devoting extensive space for discussion of newer, more commonly used agents. These include many which have either been recently approved or are still in developmental stages, yet show great promise.

This reviewer believes this seventh edition of "The Pharmacological Basis of Therapeutics" will serve as an invaluable tool for students, educators, clinicians and researchers of pharmacology, whether it is used as a textbook or as a reference resource. It is certainly worthy of the esteemed status achieved by earlier editions.

Elliot E. Cazes
The University of Maryland
School of Medicine
Baltimore, Maryland 21201
January, 1989