

Book Review

Handbook of Toxicology—Vol. IV, *Tranquilizers*, by Maxwell Gordon, R. F. J. McCandless and eight Contributors. Committee on the Handbook of Biological Data, Division of Biology and Agriculture, National Academy of Sciences (U.S.A.), National Research Council. W. B. Saunders Co., Philadelphia, 1959. 120 pp., 21.5 × 27.5 cm. \$4.00.

In this documentary volume 26 clinically used psychotherapeutic drugs—including several antidepressants (not all tranquilizers, as indicated in the title)—are reviewed. For each compound generic and trade names are listed, and the structural formula is given. The physical properties of the drug are detailed next, and this is followed by a brief but pertinent description of its human, animal, and clinical pharmacology, by toxicity data in man and animals, antidotes, and remarks on its mode of action. A list of representative references concludes each survey.

The condensed data presented in this volume will be of value to clinicians in selecting any of these drugs for therapy, and in coping with emergencies arising from their use. Pharmacologists will find the data useful as an overall guide in this relatively new field of drugs.

The book is printed by an offset process from typed manuscript and is bound in a flexible cover.

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