

I was a little disappointed with the chapter on postoperative care. In the first place, Figure 27 shows a patient being transported from the operating room to the recovery room *on her back*. The emesis basin is pictured, but the position of the patient is most conducive to aspiration of vomitus. The section on recovery room care, and related parts of the book, are deficient in proper application of oxygen therapy and in care of the patient having had an elective thoracotomy. The proper application of humidity in the postoperative patient is not mentioned, nor is any reference made to the care of patients who have had operations performed under hyperthermia.

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Handbook of Toxicology. Volume 2. Antibiotics. WILLIAM S. SPECTOR, EDITOR.

Prepared under the Direction of the Committee on the Handbook of Biological Data, Division of Biology and Agriculture, The National Academy of Sciences, and the National Research Council. Pp. 264. Report 55-16, Wright Air Development Center, Air Research and Development Command, United States Air Force, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, 1957.

This publication is a compilation of physical, chemical and toxicological properties of 340 antibiotics compiled from more than 2,500 literature references. Data and references to source of information are given for each antibiotic were known concerning the following topics: source, nature, molecular formula and weight, form and color, melting point, optical activity, ultraviolet absorption maxima, solubility, stability, other chemical reactions, quantitative determination, biological activity *in vitro* and *in vivo*, clinical activity, veterinary use, acute toxicity, chronic toxicity, absorption and excretion, resistance, mode of action, and other miscellaneous properties of importance.

This compilation is unusually complete, not only with respect to the selection of antibiotic compounds, but also with the coverage of each. A bibliography at the back of the book is divided into sets of references to literature citations, with one set for each antibiotic in the same sequence as the compounds appear in the volume. Two appendixes supplement the text. One is an antibiotic efficacy listing by organism and the other is a compendium of antibiotic source-micro-organisms. The book also contains a cross index of synonyms for proprietary names and official designations for the compounds involved.

This handbook should be of value to all research workers in the field of antibiotics and to anyone else who needs to find information on antibiotics in condensed form. It is extremely valuable for reference to publications in this field.

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NEW PUBLICATION

Acta anaesthesiologica scandinavica. Iusn Societatis anaesthesiologicae Scandinavicae.

Editor: Eric Nilsson, Lund. Universitetsforlaget i Aarhus, Aaboulevarden 49, Aarhus, Denmark, Publishers. (Volume 1, Pp. 1-80 (Oct.) 1957.)

This new anesthetic journal is published in one volume annually, each volume normally consisting of four issues. Dr. Eric Nilsson, Department of Anaesthesiology, University Hospital, Lund, Sweden is Chief Editor. Co-editors are Bjørn Ibsen, Copenhagen, and Henning Poulsen, Aarhus, and in addition there are associates and collaborators in Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden.

All manuscripts are published in English with an English summary. The five manuscripts in this first issue deal with investigative studies concerned with hypothermia, muscle relaxants, and barbiturate intoxication. Each article is clearly illustrated and is followed by an extensive list of references. This journal appears in a handy size (6¼ by 9¼ inches), and both the quality of the paper and the printing are excellent. The annual subscription rate is Danish Kroner 40. post-free. Copies of available back issues will be sold at Danish Kroner 15—each. This new journal is an excellent addition to the anesthetic literature and should have widespread distribution.

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