**Handbook of Nonprescription Drugs: An Interactive Approach to Self-Care, 17th Edition**


Published by the American Pharmacists Association, 2215 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20037, 2012. 1051 p. Price $179.95 (hard cover)

**Description:** This book is designed to support pharmacists and pharmacy students involved in helping patients with self-care using nonprescription medications. It is divided into sections based on human body system disorders, such as reproductive system disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, etc. Each chapter in each section covers a different topic related to that body system. The previous edition was published in 2010.

**Purpose:** It is intended to be a comprehensive and authoritative reference on self-care and nonprescription medications. This is an important objective as more and more medications can be obtained without a prescription.

**Audience:** The book is particularly suitable for pharmacists and pharmacy students as they represent an on-the-spot resource for individuals choosing nonprescription products.

**Features:** Each section covers a body system and is made up of chapters on the various conditions that can occur in that system. Each condition is further broken down into presentation and treatments. The book includes cases, tables for patient education, comparison tables, and algorithms that make the information very accessible. The patient education sections are particularly useful and the language is simplified for delivery to patients. However, the book is large and cumbersome.

**Assessment:** This is an excellent, comprehensive book on self-treatment and nonprescription medications. This update is necessary as prescription medications are being converted to nonprescription status every year.

**Rating:** ★★★★★

Reviewed by Judith Klevan, B.S.Pharm., Jeanes Hospital