

## Book review

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### CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST DIRECTORY 1974

The Directory is a well-established reference source in general practice pharmacy; such sources could easily become outdated nowadays but the Chemist and Druggist Directory tries hard to avoid this. Some features are of specialized interest to pharmacists and medical practitioners, such as the comprehensive guide to tablet and capsule identification. Other sections are of more general utility, covering perhaps a wider range of information than that provided by the equivalent compendia specially prepared for use in the laboratory. For example, the Manufacturers & Suppliers Index includes chemical and machinery suppliers as well as manufacturers and distributors of packaging components and photographic goods; past experience suggests that the index, though not exhaustive, is helpful in providing details of the most likely sources for many laboratory needs, even rather

off-beat ones; the 'buyer's guide' section is effectively classified in this respect, making it quite easy to locate suppliers for miscellaneous items like cycloserine, lobelia herb, metering pumps, laboratory mixers, rubber stamps and surgical dressings.

Other information of possible value to cosmetic chemists, includes details of a wide variety of professional and trade organizations and of the larger retail and wholesale outlets. The section giving forensic and general information might also prove useful at times, including as it does a good deal of information on the Poisons Rules and the Medicines Act. Sadly, the last page of the Directory, giving Postal Information, has already been outdated by the process of inflation.

Obviously there are some features of little interest to cosmetic chemists but a good deal, on the other hand, is certainly relevant and not always easy to locate elsewhere.

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