

## PREFACE

Because the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves approximately 20 to 30 new chemical entities annually, keeping current with new drug products is a continuing concern for pharmacy technicians as well as pharmacists. *The Pharmacy Technician's Pocket Drug Reference* is the first drug information reference designed especially to help pharmacy technicians quickly identify drug products, their uses, and their dosage forms. The drugs included are categorized by generic names, trade names, therapeutic drug classes, general FDA-approved therapeutic uses, and commercially available dosage forms.

Kept concise for quick and easy access, the book can be used at work or during study for examination. When more in-depth drug information is required, referral to other drug information resources and consultation with the supervising pharmacist are always recommended.

Although several trade names are listed for most generic drugs, please note that this is for identification purposes only and does not infer or imply therapeutic or generic equivalency. In addition, all dosage forms may not be available for every trade name listed.

Special care has been taken to include the top 200 most commonly prescribed drugs. In addition, most drugs marketed since 1997 have been included in an attempt to create a resource that is useful in the practice setting.

Note that the information on most injectable formulations is presented in final dose amounts of the container (e.g., syringe, vial, ampule) and not as the concentration of the drug. Amounts provided for injectable formulations are not to be construed as appropriate doses. Some amounts are larger than typical doses because the container is a multidose vial. This resource is not intended as a dosing guide; an appropriate resource should be used in making patient care decisions. The inclusion of more

than one trade name and product description in the same monograph does not imply therapeutic equivalence.

We hope this is a useful addition to your library and optimizes the efficient and safe practice of pharmacy.

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