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Abstract

Diseases and their treatment, substances that are in our natural environment and can work therapeutically from the beginning of history, synthetic medicines from their first administration to the present day, are the subject of this project. The concepts related to the therapeutic action of drugs, whether synthetic or natural, are mentioned in as simple a form as possible, and information is provided on how to develop new medicinal products as well as the methods used to ensure their safe and effective use. Even in the first decades of the 21st century, 80% of people (as announced by the World Health Organization) base their primary health care on herbal products. The same WHO announcement states that about 21,000 natural products are used for pharmaceutical use. Some of the categories of natural products that have biological effects such as alkaloids, glycosides, amino acids, terpenes, steroids and hormones are the chapters of this book. For reasons of completeness, but also to understand the effect of the structure of substances on their biological effectiveness, in most cases the structural chemical formula of these compounds is mentioned as well as the change in their activity that causes any modification of this structure. Briefly, at the end of the book are presented alphabetically registered and with a small development all the basic concepts and terms that were developed throughout the book.



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