

EDITORIAL

When I was a student at what was then known as Chelsea School of Pharmacy, I took a course on instrumental methods of drug analysis. Sometimes I could not get the equipment to work and on many occasions the fault was mine and it was politely pointed out to me:

WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS -- READ THE INSTRUCTIONS

This sage adage applies not only to analytical equipment but also to preparing a paper for submission for publication in Drug Development and Industrial Pharmacy. It is absolutely imperative that the current Instructions to Authors, which appear on the rear inside cover of all issues of our journal, be meticulously followed; papers which do not meet this requirement will not be sent for review until they comply fully. Since we publish by photo-offset it is especially important that authors supply us with high-quality copy.

A significant number of papers which are received in this office are substantially at variance with current Instructions to Authors. Some of the more common problems are:

1. poor quality typing,
2. lack of contrast between the black of letters and the white of paper,
3. incorrect spacing,
4. figures of poor quality or too small,
5. typed area too wide

We strongly recommend that a Word Processor using some program such as Word Perfect be used, whenever possible in the preparation of the manuscript.

This makes changing the manuscript in response to our reviewers' comments a relatively easy task.

It is only when a paper meets fully with current Instructions to Authors that we can forward it to our reviewers who can consider the scientific aspects of the paper.

C.T. Rhodes