

materials that have the potential to serve as biomaterials. They can obtain a number of good hints what the needs and the potential applications for new materials are. To those who are more familiar with biological systems and medical problems, the book can give some guidance regarding the current availability of materials or the possibilities we have to develop new materials for medical and biomedical applications. For the expert finally it is a summary of the recent developments and concomitantly here and there a source of inspiration.

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***Homöopathisches Arzneibuch 2000 (HAB 2000)***

Amtliche Ausgabe 2000, Fortsetzungswerk 1552 Seiten. Loseblattausgabe. 2 Ringordner. Grundwerk DM209.50. ISBN 3-7692-2253-9

Since August 1, 2000 the new Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia (Homöopathisches Arzneibuch 2000) is valid in Germany and replaces the first Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia (1. Homöopathisches Arzneibuch der Bundesrepublik Deutschland) published in 1978. All homeopathic medicaments registered in the Federal Republic of Germany have to be produced according to the new Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia. The German law of medicaments states that the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia has the same legal status as the European and the German Pharmacopoeia. The newest

regulations of the European Community regarding homeopathic medicaments are considered.

The structure of HAB 2000 is as follows: general tests and methods, reagents, techniques for the production of homeopathic medicaments and monographs. Part 1 (general tests and methods) describes only those methods which are not included into the European or German Pharmacopoeia. The techniques for the preparation of homeopathic medicaments were completely revised. In principle there are still 50 different descriptions for the production of homeopathic medicaments. The first 17 of them are directly based on Hahnemann's 'Organon' which was first published in 1796. The other methods are descriptions for anthroposophic medicaments, methods of spagyrik and organ preparations. The single monographs of the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia 2000 describe the plant itself, the dosage forms and the prescription for their preparation, the properties, identity and purity as well as the storage conditions. They are adequate compared to monographs of the European Pharmacopoeia. Compared to the first Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia from 1978, 22 new monographs were included in the 2000 edition. Therefore, the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia 2000 of the Federal Republic of Germany should be worldwide the most complete collection of homeopathic prescriptions and monographs. It is the basis for all people working with homeopathic medicaments in industry, hospital and retail pharmacy. From the reviewers point of view the Homeopathic Pharmacopoeia 2000 of the Federal Republic of Germany is the leading pharmacopoeia in the field of homeopathy worldwide. This explains the high level of interest from foreign countries to this book.

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