

## Antimicrobial Drug Action

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David Edwards

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# Preface

While teaching the action of antimicrobial drugs to B.Sc. students studying microbiology I was struck by the absence of an adequate text which included a general review of the principles of drug action and their mechanisms. In writing a suitable book I have collated material which is not only relevant but which gives a suitable background to drug action. Consequently, the book may be studied in a logical sequence starting with the principles of drug action and thence progressing to the more rigorous biochemical treatment of the mechanisms of drug action.

In adopting this approach I hope that the student will realise that drugs are regarded in the context of the disease which they attempt to control and not merely as interesting problems of biochemistry and molecular biology. It should also be realised, nevertheless, that the study of such drugs has enabled significant advances to be made in biochemistry and provides a foundation upon which medicinal chemists can build to produce new and better drugs. The overall approach in preparing the book is therefore the presentation of a balanced view of drug action which encompasses both the medical and biochemical aspects. In this I hope I have succeeded and trust that students will find the book useful.

D. E.

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