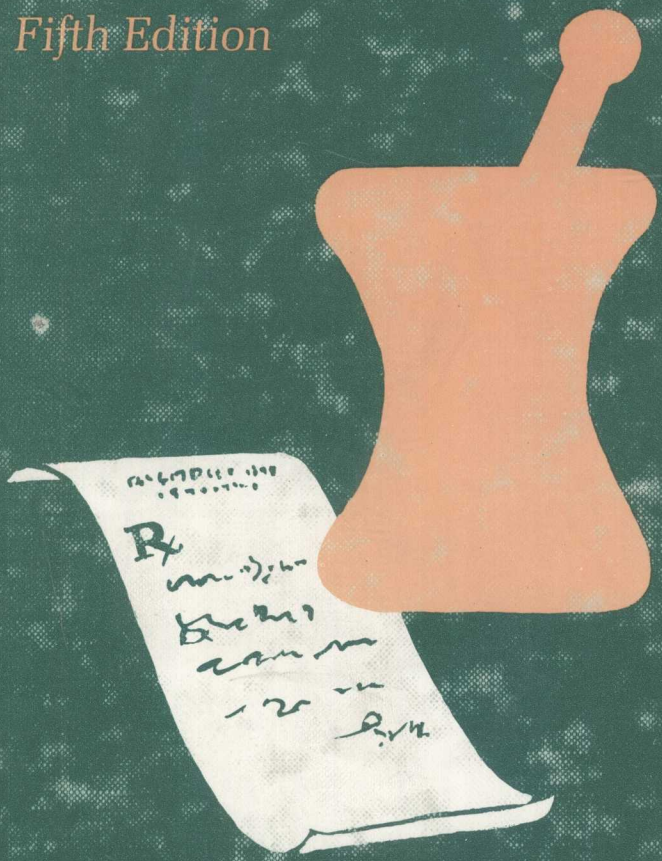
HOSPITAL PHARMACY

Fifth Edition



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HOSPITAL PHARMACY

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PREFACE

Since the publication of the first edition of *Hospital Pharmacy* in 1965, the institutional practice of pharmacy has made great progress. Professional hospital and clinical pharmacists now practice in hospitals, extended care facilities, nursing homes, neighborhood health centers and satellite clinics. Within these environments, pharmacists contribute to the triad of *patient care, teaching* and *research* through clinical programs involving the taking of patient drug histories, maintaining patient drug profiles and providing surveillance for drug interactions. Also, of great importance are programs in unit dose dispensing, preparation of hyperalimentation fluids, drug abuse education, drug utilization review, the development of systems for the control of drugs, poison control centers and post-marketing surveillance of prescription drugs.

Notwithstanding the above cited developments within the profession, the original purposes and scope of the book as well as my philosophy relative to the methodology of presentation have not changed. Thus, new material has been added and no longer pertinent subjects have been deleted. Hopefully, the end result is a useful text which permits the teacher the opportunity to provide the student with academically cogent supplementary data via classroom lectures, yet provides the practitioner guidance in the development of a pharmaceutical service to meet the needs of the particular institution served.

Thanks and appreciation are hereby extended to all of my friends, colleagues and organizations who have offered their counsel and suggestions for the improvement of the book. All material quoted from the American Society of Hospital Pharmacists, Joint Commission on Accreditation of Hospitals and National Association of Boards of Pharmacy is copyrighted and used with their permission.

Boston, Massachusetts WILLIAM E. HASSAN, JR.

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1 Introduction

The specialty of hospital pharmacy has been defined as follows:[1]

> . . . the department or service in a hospital which is under the direction of a professionally competent, legally qualified pharmacist, and from which all medications are supplied to the nursing units and other services, where special prescriptions are filled for patients in the hospital, where prescriptions are filled for ambulatory patients and out-patients, where pharmaceuticals are manufactured in bulk, where narcotic and other prescribed drugs are dispensed, where biologicals are stored and dispensed, where injectable preparations should be prepared and sterilized, and where professional supplies are often stocked and dispensed.

Although the above definition may have been applicable at the time that it was written, the modern practice of hospital pharmacy involves much more. The computerization of the pharmacy department makes it possible for the staff to participate in patient education programs, poison control center activities, preparation of patient drug use profiles, parenteral nutrition program participation, cooperating in the teaching and research programs of the hospital, communicating new product information to nursing service and other hospital personnel and dispensing radiopharmaceuticals.

With such a broad definition of purpose, one might wonder about the origin of this branch of the profession of pharmacy. According to Urdang,[2] the hospital pharmacist was the first recognized representative of the pharmaceutical profession. He states that hospital pharmacists were employed in the hospitals which were a part of many early monasteries. Many of the descriptions of these old hospitals include a description of the "apothecary shop" and its garden for the cultivation of medicinal herbs.

From this ancient period, hospital pharmacy passes into the early American era, 1752 to be exact, when Pennsylvania Hospital, the first in North America was opened, with Jonathan Roberts as its hospital pharmacist. Since this historic date, two hundred and twenty-nine years have passed, and a number of outstanding persons associated with the hospital pharmacy have received professional recognition and the accolade of pharmaceutical historians.

The greatest strides in the profession were made in the early 1940s.