

**PHYSICIANS' MANUAL OF THE  
PHARMACOPEIA AND THE NATIONAL  
FORMULARY: AN EPITOME OF ALL THE  
ARTICLES CONTAINED IN THE U. S. P.  
(EIGHTH REVISION) AND THE NATIONAL  
FORMULARY (THIRD EDITION.)**

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Physicians' Manual of the Pharmacopeia and the National Formulary: An Epitome of All the Articles Contained in the U. S. P. (Eighth Revision) and the National Formulary (Third Edition.)  
by C. S. N. Hallberg & J. H. Salisbury

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An Epitome of all the articles contained in the U. S. P. (Eighth Revision) and the National Formulary (Third Edition.)

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## Introductory

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**THE PHARMACOPEIA.**—The Pharmacopeia is a book fixing standards for the identity, purity, strength and quality, and giving directions for the preparation, valuation, compounding and preservation, of drugs, chemicals, medicinal substances and their preparations. Originally compiled in 1820 by a convention of physicians, it is revised decennially by a Committee on Revision composed of chemists, pharmacognosists, pharmacists and physicians elected by a convention, which meets each decennium in Washington, and which includes delegates from medical and pharmaceutical societies and colleges and from the medical departments of the Army, the Navy and the Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service. While the United States Pharmacopeia has been the legal standard for drugs through pharmacy acts in a few individual states, it did not become a legal standard for the United States until January, 1907, at which time the Food and Drugs Act went into effect.

**NATIONAL FORMULARY.**—There are many preparations extensively employed, which, from their more or less ephemeral or polypharmaceutical character, are not admitted to the U. S. Pharmacopeia. They include many solutions, elixirs, syrups, mixtures and pills. The same confusion in strength and consequently in dosage which attached to official medicines before the adoption of pharmacopeias applied also to these various mixtures. Thus preparations of potent substances such as elixirs of strychnin, solutions of arsenic, syrups of morphin, etc., varied in strength as made by different manufacturers, until in 1887 the National Formulary was issued by the American Pharmaceutical Association. This work contains nearly 500 formulas for chemical and pharmaceutical preparations and had largely superseded private formularies until the third edition (1908) was made a legal standard through the National Food and Drugs Act. The National Formulary now assures

the same uniformity in these preparations as does the Pharmacopeia and affords physicians the safeguard that preparations made after its formulas will be the same throughout the United States.

While the preparations of the N. F. are mostly suggested by the formulas of physicians, there are also a number of formulas for preparations similar to the advertised proprietary medicines. While, for obvious reasons, these are not always identical in appearance or flavor with the proprietary article, they are equal, if not superior, to the particular proprietary medicine they are intended to replace. They have the advantage of non-secrecy and uniformity of composition.

The present work is intended to supply physicians with a convenient reference to the official preparations of various remedies. Reference to the name of any drug will show at a glance the preparations which may be prescribed; further information regarding strength and composition of the preparations is furnished under the special titles. It is suggested that prescription of these preparations by their Latin titles will often avoid lay criticism and also greatly reduce if not prevent the use of such medicines by the public for self-medication.

A therapeutic index has been devised for the purpose of giving a comparative view of the resources of the official remedies. This is not intended as a complete guide to treatment nor as an exhaustive list of remedies for various diseases, but to present such a selection and classification of remedies as will be helpful and suggestive as an aid to extemporaneous and emergency prescriptions.

While the objection may be justly raised that the Pharmacopeia contains remedies that might be termed obsolete and the National Formulary includes formulas which in the judgment of many might well be omitted, it has been deemed wisest to retain them all as representing the best effort of the representatives of the united professions of medicine and pharmacy. The wisdom of this course is the more apparent when we remember that experience shows that half-forgotten remedies are sometimes revived, and it is well to hold



fast to the old remedies which have served past generations, while making fair trial of more recent ones.

It is probably unnecessary to say that one of the reasons for the publication of this manual, containing in a compact and cheap form a list of official and National Formulary preparations, is to supply physicians with information regarding preparations that can be used in place of the vast number of proprietary medicines now on the market, the great majority of which are typical nostrums. Proprietary medicines are not necessarily objectionable, *per se*, especially if the proprietorship is controlled by a patent, for such medicines become free when the patent expires, as in the case of such chemicals as antipyrin, salol, phenacetin (acetphenetidin), sulphonal (sulphomethanum), trional (sulphonethylmethanum), etc. Originality and scientific research in their production were rewarded for a limited period through the patent laws, after which they became common property. Most of the proprietary medicines, however, are simple mixtures and show no originality and, therefore, can not be patented. These are controlled by trade-marked names. They are usually secret in composition or, if the formula is given, it is often fictitious or deceptive, and is sometimes changed to suit the whims of the manufacturer. There are, however, mixtures, proprietary in character, that are not secret and which may possess properties which recommend them to physicians. To differentiate those preparations that are true to name and that are honestly manufactured and exploited, the American Medical Association, through its Council on Pharmacy and Chemistry, issues a book known as "New and Non-Official Remedies." This names and describes such medicinal articles, chemicals and preparations not comprised in the U. S. P. or N. F., and this book, combined with the Physicians' Manual of the U. S. P. and N. F., furnishes physicians with information about practically every medicine, proprietary and otherwise, which they will find it necessary to use.

Pharmacopeia articles are in black-faced capitals, while those of the National Formulary are in black-faced small letters. For instance, **BISMUTHI CITRAS**

is official in the Pharmacopeia, while **Bismuthi Oxidum Hydratum** is a National Formulary article.

The Dosage throughout is the *average adult dose* as given in the U. S. P. and the N. F. and as such implies the range customary in practice.

Common names of drugs appear in the list of synonyms, so that the reader who fails to remember the official title can find it under the common name.

120  
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120  
121

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**ACACIA**—Gum Arabic.

**Uses:** Demulcent; chiefly as vehicle to suspend resinous and other insoluble substances in liquid mixtures; as emulsifying agent for oils in emulsions and as excipient in pill-masses and troches.

**ACETANILIDUM**—Acetanilide.—Phenylacetamide; Anti-febrine. Monacetyl derivative of Aniline.

**Uses:** Analgesic, antipyretic, cardiac depressant; in powder, capsules, cachets; should not be massed or formed into pills, except when mixed with extracts and substances intended for slow intestinal action; externally as a Dusting Powder.

**Dose:** 0.25 Gm., or 4 grains.

**Pulvis Acetanilidi Compositus, U. S.**

This prescription indicates the usual form of mixtures of Acetanilide with alkalies and caffeine.

<b>R.</b>	Acetanilidi		
	Sodii bicarb. ꝑ. ꝑ.	grs. xxii	1 5
	Ammonii carbonatis	grs. xi	75

Make ten powders of about 0.3 Gm. (5 grains) each, one being given every three or four hours to reduce fever. For headache one is given and repeated, if necessary, in an hour.

A migraine elixir that is being exploited by a number of manufacturers may be given as follows:

<b>R.</b>	Acetanilidi	gr. xxx	2
	Caffeina	gr. iii	2
	Sodii bromidi	ʒi	8
	Alcoholis	ʒi	4
	Elixir aromatici, q. s.	ʒi	100

Average dose 5 c.c., or 1 teaspoonful. If 20 c.c. of tincture of cardamon be added to this, or if adjuvant elixir (which is also official), be used instead of the aromatic, the appearance of the mixture will be much enhanced and the psychical effect increased.

**CAUTION.**—Acetanilide is the chief constituent in many proprietary articles and in the popular Headache Remedies. It often produces untoward effects manifested through cyanosis and general debility, and should therefore be used with care and since it is liable to cause habit its continued use should always be discouraged.