
Preface

In the 5 years since publication of the first edition of the *Handbook of Drug–Nutrient Interactions*, new perspectives have emerged and new data have been generated on the subject matter. We have attempted to capture this in the current chapters which have all been revised or are completely new to this edition.

This book is intended for use by physicians, pharmacists, nurses, dietitians, and others whether in training, in clinical practice, in academia, or in research. The book has retained the goals of the previous edition which include improving recognition and management of drug–nutrient interactions. The topic of drug–nutrient interactions is significant for clinicians and researchers alike. For clinicians in particular, the book offers a guide for understanding, identifying or predicting, and ultimately preventing or managing drug–nutrient interactions to optimize patient care. The book provides a scientific look behind many drug–nutrient interactions, examines their relevance, offers recommendations, and suggests research questions to be explored. Although not inclusive of every potential interaction, we hope that the breadth and depth of the book will challenge readers to actively engage in improving the quantity and quality of data in the field. This will help increase the profile of drug–nutrient interactions to that comparable with drug–drug interactions in the care of patients.

We appreciate the dedication of our many authors and those who have provided encouraging comments in the continued development of this reference work. While we welcome new authors who have contributed their expertise and perspective to the book, we remain indebted to the authors from the first edition who set the book in motion, many of whom have worked to revise and update their chapters for this second edition. We were, however, saddened by the loss of Mary Berg, who contributed the original chapter on the *Effects of Antiepileptics on Nutritional Status*, and by the loss of David Fleisher, who helped prepare the chapter on *Drug Absorption with Food*. Each was a leader in the respective subject matter of their chapter and will be greatly missed. As we look forward to the ongoing emergence of new information concerning drug–nutrient interactions, we continue to welcome comments from readers that will improve this book and the care of patients.

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<http://www.springer.com/978-1-60327-363-3>

Handbook of Drug-Nutrient Interactions

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2010, XXVIII, 824 p. 11 illus., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-1-60327-363-3

A product of Humana Press