Textbook Basic Knowledge Pharmacology

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The knowledge in pharmacology is increasing and is getting more and more complex. Consequently, pharmacology textbooks are becoming more and more voluminous, and the number of authors is increasing. This situation constitutes a major challenge for teaching pharmacology, particularly for medical students. In many countries, pharmacology is taught in the format of compact courses of 4-5 weeks. In the morning, students have classes, and the afternoon is free for reading. At the end of the course, students have to pass an exam. But how can a student read a textbook of 1,000-1,500 pages during such a short course to foster understanding of pharmacology? A partial solution is that many universities provide students with course scripts. However, course scripts generally do not provide comprehensive coverage of the material but rather consist of power point slides from individual classes. In an effort to overcome this problem, the author of this abstract has written a compact and comprehensive textbook encompassing experimental and clinical pharmacology comprising 35 chapters. Each chapter is about 10-15 text pages long and is suitable for afternoon reading during a 4-5 week pharmacology course. Every chapter provides a summary, key statements, pathophysiology and disease-oriented pharmacotherapeutic diagrams and summary table on key properties of the most important drugs. The book additionally contains multiple choice questions and clinical case studies with explanations and a systematic list of drugs. The book written in German language has been peer-reviewed by numerous professors for pharmacology and will appear this fall with Springer-Verlag GmbH, Germany. The author has distributed the manuscript of the German version of the textbook among international colleagues to explore whether a concise pharmacology textbook is also suitable for pharmacology classes abroad. The general feed-back has been that there is high demand for such a textbook. Accordingly, the author is currently translating the textbook from German into English language and adapting it to the needs of an international audience of students. At the WCP, the author will present the general concept of the textbook and discuss it with colleagues to implement suggestions from the international community of pharmacologists.