

**SYMPOSIUM ON DRUG EVALUATION
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**A BRIEF STATEMENT ON THE STRUCTURE AND ACTIVITIES
OF THE DRUG REGULATORY AUTHORITY IN IRAQ**

by

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Ladies and Gentlemen members of the symposium,

It is a great honour for me to represent my country "IRAQ" in this meeting, in which we hope to discuss the problems of mutual interest in the fields of Selection, Licencing, Utilization and Quality control of Drugs.

Back in 1969, I was in Samarra drug industry, in charge of the Quality control labs. I noticed the absence of a higher quality control on the National level which has the ability to check the quality of Samarra products, as well as other products of small scale privately owned drug firms. On the other hand it should have the ability to check the quality of the imported drugs. Therefore, we drew the attention of the Ministry of Health to this matter and we were asked officially to act as the Central Public Health Labs. For the ministry, until there will be enough time to plan building these labs. Now and only few days ago a new building for the central quality control labs was finished. It is equipped reasonably well with the necessary analytical tools, glassware, chemicals, high performance instruments like I.R. and U.V. spectrophotometers, Gas chromatograph, etc..

The task of the central quality control labs. which are a section of the central public health labs. in Baghdad is very wide, as we intend to cover in the near future the control of the local manufactured drugs, as well as the imported drugs, especially the drugs prior to their registration for the first time.



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We know that this work will be tough and needs a great deal of efforts and hard work, also time and experience to handle it fully and well, as we need to train enough personnel to handle the analysis in the chemical, microbiological and pharmacological fields.

Therefore, we will be seeking the assistance of the W.H.O. in many aspects, especially at the beginning of our work; I like to mention some of these needs:

- 1- Getting approved or certified standards for antibiotics, vitamins and hormones.
- 2- Information about methods of analysis and checking new drugs, methods of tracing their impurities & and decomposition products.
- 3- To help in having the access of getting new books and journals related to drugs and analysis.
- 4- Seeking the assistance some of our staff in similar but advanced control labs.

Before the Samarra control labs. were founded and for the last thirty years, some of the drugs used to be analyzed mainly the imported drugs, in the Chemical Institute, but the analysis was widely done on the official products only, leaving a small share unanalysed.

A.J. Antwan