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## Evaluating and Standardizing Therapeutic Agents, 1890-1950

Edited by: Christoph Gradmann , Jonathan Simon

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CHRISTOPH GRADMANN is Professor in the History of Medicine at the University of Oslo, Norway, since 2006. He took his doctorate as a historian from the University of Hannover in 1992, and has held positions at the University of Heidelberg and the Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science in Berlin. His research interests cover the history of infectious diseases in modernity, the history of antibiotic resistance, medical biography and the history of standardisation in twentieth century medicine. His most recent book publication is *Laboratory Disease: Robert Koch's Medical Bacteriology*.

JONATHAN SIMON teaches history of science at the University of Lyon, France. After receiving a PhD from the University of Pittsburgh he has studied and taught in Berlin, Paris, Sydney and Strasbourg. He has worked and published in both the history of pharmacy and the history of chemistry; most recently he is the co-author (with Bernadette Bensaude-Vincent) of *Chemistry: The Impure Science*.

This book treats the history of the evaluation of medicine in terms of testing for efficacy as it evolved from the late nineteenth century onwards. Starting with the use of serum as a specific treatment for diphtheria and tetanus in the 1800s, such testing procedures brought industrial and medical cultures into contact over the production and use of medicines. The result was the elaboration of standards that covered the production of medicines and their clinical use. The handling of therapeutic sera thus became a model for the evaluation and marketing of other medicines such as cardiacs or hormones in the twentieth century. *Evaluating and Standardizing Therapeutic Agents, 1890-1950* helps us to understand the historical roots of certain aspects of today's pharmaceutical industry as well as modern medical practice, which have both become increasingly technically exigent, integrating high standards of quality and efficacy in every aspect of their functioning.

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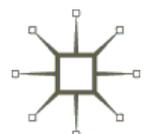
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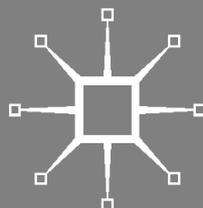
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