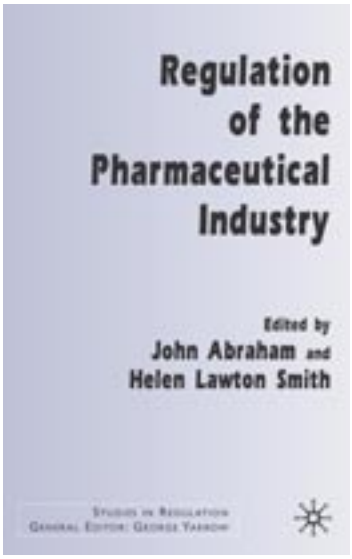

REGULATION OF THE PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY

EDITED BY JOHN ABRAHAM AND HELEN LAWTON SMITH

How are pharmaceutical technologies developed and controlled in our societies? To what extent should the availability of these technologies be determined by scientific experts, a democratic state, the interests of final users, or ethical principles? This unique collection brings together the work of social scientists, ethicists, lawyers and policy analysts on regulation, ethics and innovation in the pharmaceutical industry. Regulatory systems and their implications for public health in North America, Europe and developing countries are discussed, including case studies of norplant, interferon and anti-fertility vaccines.

The book combines original historical and philosophical analysis of pharmaceutical regulation with some of the latest empirical social scientific research in the field. It reveals both the scope and depth of the challenges to society in understanding and engaging with regulation and innovation in this vast industry. The contributors analyse several key dimensions of the debate: national political culture; the Europeanization of regulatory decision-making; the globalization of scientific standard-setting and intellectual property rights in drug development; the impact of industrial innovation strategies on regulatory practices; secrecy and public accountability of regulatory agencies; the regulatory influence of users on medical technology; the ethics of drug development and research and the oligopolization of the industry. This book will be of great interest to all those concerned about how pharmaceuticals and medical technologies should be developed and controlled.

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