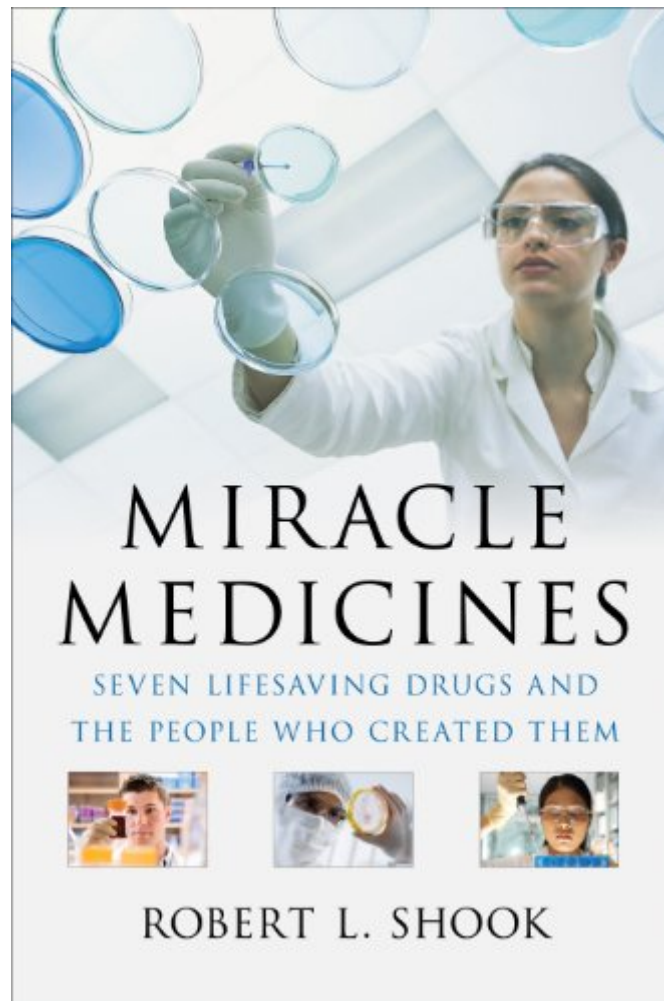


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# Miracle Medicines: Seven Lifesaving Drugs And The People Who Created Them



## Synopsis

Itâ€™s the business of saving lives.Â Miracle MedicinesÂ goes behind the scenes of the pharmaceutical industry and into the high-security laboratories to tell the stories of the men and women---chemists, physiologists, medical and clinical researchers, engineers---who have chosen to toil for years in the lab in order to transform scientific theories into new lifesaving medicines.Â Youâ€™ll witness the day-to-day labors, victories and defeats of the dedicated professionals who are waging a war against the diseases that still plague mankind. From the confines of their laboratories, these pharmaceutical adventurers explore unknown territories in health and science.Â Miracle MedicinesÂ reveals what really happens during the long and uncertain journey that each new drug and its creators must endure from theory, to research, to testing and, finally, FDA approval and delivery to the public. Itâ€™s a very human story within the context of fascinating scientific innovation.Â Through first hand interviews youâ€™ll also meet the patients who benefit from these manmade miracles and learn how, within their bloodstreams, an ongoing battle is raging. The drugs profiled are: Advair: GlaxoSmithKlineâ€™s revolutionary asthma medication, the first packaged as both a control and emergency drug. Gleevec: The Novartisâ€™ chronic myeloid leukemia treatment born from decades of medical research in a field of study that was once considered hopeless. Humalog: Eli Lillyâ€™s reinvention of insulin to control diabetes has been described as being better than nature. Lipitor: Pfizerâ€™s miracle antidote for high cholesterol that was nearly lost to the pharmaceutical vaults and has since become the worldâ€™s top-selling medicine. Norvir: Abbottâ€™s contribution to the fight against HIV that nearly erases all traces of the disease from the bloodstream and prolongs the life of patients. Remicade: Created for the treatment of Crohnâ€™s disease, rheumatoid arthritis and other Immune Mediated Inflammatory Diseases, Johnson & Johnsonâ€™s revolutionary biomedicine was developed from technology that once was only found in science fiction. Seroquel: AstraZenecaâ€™s treatment for both schizophrenia and bipolar mania that has given millions of psychiatrists a new lease on life. This compelling and truth-revealing book will forever change the way you view the medicines in your medicine cabinet, and the people who create them.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Everyone lately has been attacking Big Pharma and at last an author has written a positive book about one of the world's most important industries. Robert L. Shook's *Miracle Medicines* discloses what every American needs to know about what our big pharmaceutical companies do that results in saving millions of lives and relieves pain and suffering for still millions and millions more people. Yes, people complain about the high cost of medicines, but what's a drug worth that inhibits HIV or a terrible cancer? Shook tells the story of Humalog, a manmade insulin produced by Eli Lilly that controls diabetes. This medicine costs only a couple of dollars a day, but without it, or another insulin, all diabetics would be doomed to suffer a horrendous slow death by eventual starvation. So for less than the cost of a Big Mac each day, I think this drug is an incredible value. Another medicine that's featured in this book is Remicade, a biotech medicine made by Johnson & Johnson. The story of this medicine reads like fiction. Against all odds, its scientists and company executives refused to accept defeat. Remicade is truly a miracle medicine. It inhibits diseases that attack our immune systems. Taken by infusion, only a few times a year, it relieves the pain and agony of rheumatoid arthritis, and later it was approved for other indications including Crohn's disease, ankylosing spondylitis, psoriasis and ulcerative colitis. There is also the story that the author tells about Gleevec, a drug that he calls a designer medicine that targets cancer cells. Yes, the scientists at Novartis figured out how to make a molecule that goes into the cell and hits a specific defective chromosome causes a rare form of chronic myeloid leukemia (CML).

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