

## CLIO MEDICA

### Volume 22: Essays in the History of Therapeutics.

Edited by W.F. Bynum and V. Nutton. Amsterdam/Atlanta, GA 1991. 146 pp. ISBN: 90-5183-266-4 Hfl. 65,-/US-\$ 32.50

The history of therapeutics has been central to the medical enterprise in all times and all places. It is also, as Guenter Risse points out in his introductory essay, a subject which is all too often neglected by historians. He analyses some of the reasons for this and urges historians to take this complex and important theme more seriously. The essays which follow range in chronology from antiquity to the 1980s and in geography from the Mediterranean Basin to the New World. They touch on such matters as diet and drugs, magic and surgery, orthodox and unorthodox approaches. What they share is an attempt to get beyond the easy dismissal of almost all therapeutics before the twentieth century as meaningless and harmful and to examine concrete dimensions of the therapeutic encounter in its social, professional, religious and scientific reverberations.

Contents: Guenter B. Risse: The History of Therapeutics. Vivian Nutton: From Medical Certainty to Medical Amulets: Three Aspects of Ancient Therapeutics. Luis Garcia-Ballester: Dietetic and Pharmacological Therapy: A Dilemma among Fourteenth-Century Jewish Practitioners in the Montpellier Area. Christa Habrich: Characteristic Features of Eighteenth-Century Therapeutics in Germany. Renate Wittern: The Origins of Homoeopathy in Germany. John Harley Warner: Science, Healing and the Physician's Identity: A Problem of Professional Character in Nineteenth-Century America. Ulrich Trohler: "To Operate or not to Operate?" Scientific and Extraneous Factors in Therapeutical Controversies within the Swiss Society of Surgery 1913-1988.



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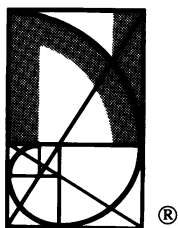
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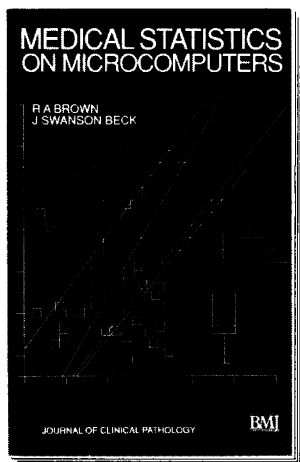
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