

Drug Prescriptions tried on Patients in the 17th Century of the Ottoman History

E. E.Vatanoglu Lutz

Yeditepe University Medical Faculty,
Kayisdagi cad., 34755, Istanbul,
Turkey
drvatanoglu@yahoo.com

As the Ottoman law and moral rules protected patients against being harmed by new medical treatments and operations, the rule of not ignoring the current medical principles oriented medical practitioners to be cautious and careful against the professional ethics of the Ottoman medical practitioner. The belief that remedy to every disease except death could be found in nature and that nature has a healing property led to the priority of herbal treatment and accentuated the importance given to drug therapy. In the classical Ottoman, medical treatment was based on treating the imbalanced temperament and consequently the administration of a proper drug. Therefore, it was required in the trust of deeds of the Ottoman hospitals that the physician should know which drug would be proper to administer to a patient of a certain temperament and a certain illness and the effect of it; and he was expected to be skillful and experienced in the composition and preparation of drugs. In this paper describing the basic characteristics of the Ottoman prescribed drugs, archive documents and medical manuscripts are used as primary sources.

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