Ibn Zuhr Encyclopedia Article

Ibn Zuhr

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Ibn Zuhr

1091-1161

Arab physician, known in Latin as Avenzoar, credited as the first parasitologist, who was the first to describe scabies. Ibn Zuhr, who practiced in Seville, emphasized observation and experimentation, and as a result of dissecting numerous corpses, was widely knowledgeable regarding anatomy. He gave the full clinical description of a tracheotomy operation, as well as of scabies, an itch caused by a mite. His most influential work, whose title in English is *The Book of Simplification Concerning Therapeutics and Diet,* was written at the request of Ibn Rushd (Averroës; 1126-1198), and remained in use among European scholars until late in the eighteenth century.