William Buchan Encyclopedia Article

William Buchan

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1729-1805

Scottish physician who wrote the most popular general medical guidebook of the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Intended for a lay audience, *Domestic Medicine, or the Family Physician* was first published in Edinburgh in 1769. In the next 80 years this home remedy manual appeared in over 100 British and American editions with over a dozen subtitles. It is the second best selling medical book of all time after Benjamin Spock's *Baby and Child Care*.