

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-40049-7 - The French Paracelsians: The Chemical Challenge to Medical and Scientific Tradition in Early Modern France

Allen G. Debus

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

Contents

<i>List of illustrations</i>	<i>page</i> ix
<i>Preface</i>	xiii
1 Paracelsism and medical tradition	1
The Galenic revival	1
Hermeticism and natural magic	5
Paracelsus	6
The chemical philosophy	8
Educational reform and the growth of iatrochemistry	15
2 Chemistry and medicine in France: the early years	17
Setting the stage	17
Paracelsism in France: the opening debate	21
Chemical practice	30
Le Baillif and the Parisian Galenists	38
Conclusion	44
3 Paris and Montpellier: the great chemical debate	46
The Parisian debate	48
The chemical philosophy and the new philosophy	65
Medical chemistry and Paracelsism in the 1630s	74
Guy de la Brosse and the Jardin des Plantes	80
Théophraste Renaudot and the Bureau d'Adresse	84
The triumph of antimony	95
Conclusion	99
4 Chemical continuity and the new philosophy	102
Van Helmont and a "new" chemical philosophy	103
Van Helmont and the French	115
The alchemical tradition	119
The teaching of chemistry	123
Chemical physiology	134

Cambridge University Press

978-0-521-40049-7 - The French Paracelsians: The Chemical Challenge to Medical and Scientific Tradition in Early Modern France

Allen G. Debus

Table of Contents

[More information](#)

viii	<i>Contents</i>	
	Chemistry and the universities	141
	Chemistry and the new philosophy	146
	Chemistry, the Parisian Academy, and the <i>Journal des Sçavans</i>	150
	Conclusion	153
5	Alchemy in an Age of Reason: the chemical philosophers in early eighteenth-century France	156
	Étienne François Geoffroy and the alchemical charlatans	156
	Alchemy and the chemical philosophy beyond the establishment	157
	The eighteenth-century French Paracelso-Helmontians	164
	Alchemy and the scholarly world: the Académie Royale des Sciences	173
	The <i>Journal des Sçavans</i>	177
	Conclusion	181
6	Postscript	183
	Two centuries of medical chemistry: the results	184
	The development of a nonmedical chemistry and a nonchemical medicine	189
	The persistence of alchemy	201
	Conclusion	207
	<i>Bibliography</i>	209
	<i>Index</i>	237