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THE HISTORY OF HOMEOPATHIC MEDICINE IN TERMS OF THE HISTORY OF THE VIENNA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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The history of homeopathy forms part of the history of medical sciences in Central Europe during the 18th century. Antoine Stoerk's experimental method for analysing the properties of medicinal substances influenced Dr Hahnemann, who was the founder of homeopathic therapy. The young Hahnemann, who was a student in Leipzig, went to Vienna as it was renowned in Europe at the time for its modernist work in the field of medicine. The Vienna School of Medicine left its mark on the young Hahnemann in terms of his medical examinations performed at patients' bedsides as well as in terms of his experimental method for analysing the properties of medicinal drugs. These influences helped Hahnemann to develop a rigorous and accurate method at the end of the 18th century for indicating medicines. He took the data developed by the ancient doctors, gathered the data of his precursors and conceptualised the method for prescription in accordance with the similitum. In this way he developed the therapeutic method which he called homeopathy in 1808. Thanks to his skills as an observer and researcher he was a man of his time seeking rigour and results to contribute to improving health for all.