

Hisp. Qu. 62

Binding:

Simple binding made of parchment. It can be assumed that the binding is original. The volume underwent renovation work, as evidenced by protective cards added at a later period. The spine was reinforced with a print in Spanish, perhaps during the same works.

History:

The collected historical data referring to the manuscript is rather meagre. Some information on the earliest period of its history is found in several specialized studies. The sum of the most important ones, the handwriting and watermark, results in a dating of the manuscript to the half of the 14th century (1440-1460). It was made on Italian paper. It is an anonymous compilation of texts of medical nature, belonging to the group of Catalanian manuscripts prepared by physicians for their own use. They usually combine works on anatomy, surgery or other medical problems with medical prescriptions in one volume. The location of the manuscript is not exact (Catalonia). The volume entered the Berlin Königliche Bibliothek collection in 1885. It was obtained in an antiquarian purchase from Joseph Baer in Frankfurt am Main. Other data on the volume's history remains unknown.

Content:

Manuscript I contains the first book of the famous work *Chirurgia: vel Inventarium seu collectorium in parte chirurgicali medicinae*, also known as *Chirurgia magna* (1363), by the French physician Guy de Chauliac (ca. 1300 – ca. 1368). The treatise was translated into Catalan, probably in the first decades of the 15th century, and was published in print in Barcelona in 1492. The manuscript deposited in Krakow is a copy of the book devoted to anatomy. Part II of the volume is not a running text, but notes scattered over a dozen cards, probably made on various occasions. They are mainly medical prescriptions or fragments on the medical properties of specific plants. Manuscript III, *Tractat d'orines*, refers to a medieval diagnostic method involving the examination of urine in order to identify an illness and introduce the correct medical treatment. The work is connected to the name of Antonio

Ricardo (s. XIV-XV – a. 1422), the physician to the kings of Aragon, to whom the authorship of two Catalan works on medicine is attributed: *Tractat de coneixença de polsos* and the currently discussed *Tractat d'orines*.