

GENEALOGY DATABASE ENTRY

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Rolfinck, Werner

1599 - 1673

DEGREE: MD

DATE: 1625

PLACE: Padua

TEACHER/RESEARCH ADVISOR: Spieghel

first professor of chemistry in Jena; also taught anatomy, surgery, and botany; gave lectures that involved dissection of executed criminals - an innovation that aroused controversy; first to demonstrate the location of cataracts in the lens of the eye; wrote texts on pharmaceutical chemistry; opposed alchemical and superstitious thinking, and wrote book on chemical impossibilities such as the transmutation of metals to gold, the resuscitation of a plant from its ashes, obtaining oils from precious stones, etc.

1. *Dictionary of Scientific Biography*; Charles Scribner's Sons: 1970-1990; vol. 11, p511.
2. Partington, J. R. *A History of Chemistry*; Macmillan: 1961; vol. 2, p312-314.
3. *Biographisches Lexikon der hervorragenden Ärzte*; Urban & Schwarzenberg: 1962; vol. 4, p861-862.
4. *Biographie Medicale*; Bayle, G.-L.; Thillaye, J. B.-J., Eds.; B. M. Israel: 1967 Reprint; vol. 2, p45-46.
5. *Dictionnaire Historique de la Médecine*; Bechet Jeune: 1828-1839; vol. 4, p8-14.