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Synopsis

The materia medica were important sources in the ancient world, full of information on combating and preventing illness. This manuscript (Codex Vindobonensis 93 in the Austrian National Library) was written and illustrated in southern Italy in the 13th century although we do not know who commissioned it or why. This reduced-size facsimile reproduction of the complete manuscript is accompanied by an introduction and commentary by Peter Murray Jones. The stunning array of illustrations depict different types of plants and animals, and scenes of medical treatment.

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