Record Nr. UNINA9910778273903321 Autore Madden Deborah <1970-> Titolo 'A cheap, safe and natural medicine' [[electronic resource]]: religion, medicine and culture in John Wesley's Primitive Physic / / Deborah Madden Amsterdam,: Rodopi, 2007 Pubbl/distr/stampa **ISBN** 94-012-0495-0 1-4356-1423-2 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (320 p.) Clio medica (New York, N.Y.) Collana Wellcome series in the history of medicine 610.9 Disciplina Soggetti Medicine - History Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Description based upon print version of record. Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di contenuto Preliminary material / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine --Dedication / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Preface / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Acknowledgements / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Introduction: Primitive Physic Explain'd in an Easy and Natural Method / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- John Wesley's Hermeneutics of Primitive Christianity and Practical Piety / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Experience and the Common Interest of Mankind: Physic. an Art or Science in Eighteenth-Century England? / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Preserving Health, or a Few Plain and Easy Rules / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Primitive Physic: Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine for Health and Long Life / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Conclusion: The Search for Pristine Purity / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine --Bibliography / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine -- Index / Editors A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine. Sommario/riassunto John Wesley's Primitive Physic (1747) achieved twenty-three editions in his lifetime, ensuring its popular – and controversial – status in

eighteenth-century medicine. This is the first full-length study to

examine the theological, intellectual and cultural background to one of the period's most successful medical texts. By exploring Wesley's work in the context of his theology, 'A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine' extends the on-going reconfiguration of the relationship between religion and medicine. Wesley was on a theological mission to recover the primitive purity of the first Christians. Yet the remedies contained within Primitive Physic suggest a pragmatic thinker, whose concern for spiritual health did not prevent him from providing practical assistance to those who needed it. The evolution of Wesley's thinking also demonstrates some of the struggles he faced as leader of the Methodist movement, such as the way he handled contemporary criticism of Primitive Physic when religious 'enthusiasm' was often conflated with medical 'quackery'. 'A Cheap, Safe and Natural Medicine' will be of interest not only to medical and literary historians, but to anyone who is interested in the way religion influences medicine.