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Panagiota Sarischouli, Hope for Cure and the Placebo Effect: The Case of the Greco-Egyptian Iatromagical Formularies.

Trends in Classics 13 (2021) pp. 254-284.

Focuses on healing rituals from Greco-Roman Egypt, where medicine and religion were inextricably linked to each other and further connected to the art of magic. The majority of healing spells or other types of iatromagical papyri dating from the Roman period are written in Demotic, following a long tradition of ancient Egyptian curative magic. The extant healing rituals written in Greek also show substantial Egyptian influence in both methodological structure and motifs, thus confirming the widely accepted assumption that many features of Greco-Egyptian magic were actually inherited from their ancient antecedents.

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